

**4 R Kids ECI
FY14 Annual Report Highlights**

Lutheran Services In Iowa

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Contract Information \$125,000 grant award New Parent Program - Serving Adair, Dallas, Madison, and Warren County Intensive home visitation - Health Families American National Accreditation Benchmark Targets 720 home visits 40 families 4 group parent education 2.58 FTE</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$107,533.66 or 86% ECI funds expended \$2,114 other outside funds expended (not ECI) \$128,647.66 total cost of program \$255 Cost per visit \$2,885 Cost per child \$2,885 Cost per family</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 38 children served 38 families served (2 Adair, 17 Dallas, 4 Madison, 15 Warren) 430 home visits completed (19 Adair, 147 Dallas, 91 Madison, 173 Warren) 6 parent education meetings offered 25 families enrolled prenatally 21 first time mothers 80% of scheduled home visits that were completed 100% of newly enrolled families met one or more of the family support eligibility criteria</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets Program has exceeded the number of group meeting completed. this continues to be due to the collaboration between the young parents group of warren county as well as the PAT program from partners in family development. The program was only two away from meeting the goal of serving 40 during this reporting timeframe.</p> |
| <p>Successes The program continues to see success in the growth of services in Dallas County. This is the first year of program service to the multi county area that Dallas county participants outnumbered those in Warren county. The relationship between Dallas County Public Health and New Parent Program has improved and has aided in this growth.</p> | <p>Challenges The program had continued to have staff turnover be a challenge for the program during this past year. From this challenge a new approach was developed and implanted as a way to gain program stability into the future. The full time position vacancy was redesigned to be a full time staff with duties covering both supervisory and family support worker roles. This shift in program design will allow more flexibility in coverage of required weekly supervision of staff as well as coverage for community meetings. The 4RKids ECI area is a large geographic area with diverse needs and various community meetings. The success of the program is dependent on program staff being present in the community, collaborating with other programs and providing outreach of participants. The Program Coordinator needs to prioritize all of these tasks in each of these communities on an on-going basis. The Program Coordinator and family support workers share the responsibility of attending various meetings. Attending these meetings needs to be balanced out with the needs of implementing a quality program.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Success Story</p> <p>Program has seen the success of a particular young mother in Madison county. When program first started to work with mom she had just given birth to her son and was struggling to maintain balance between school and personal life. With the aid and support of her family support worker, this young mother was able to get back on track with school and develop a plan to graduate a semester early. During program services this mother also demonstrated an increase in her understating of appropriate child development milestones and was able to provide age appropriate activities and a safe environment for her child. This mother has achieved her goal of graduating a semester early and plans on attending the local community college in the fall.</p> | |

Partners in Family Development

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Contract Information \$252,641.58 grant award Parents as Teachers - Serving Dallas, Madison, and Warren County Long term home visitation Iowa Family Support Credential</p> <p>Benchmark Targets 1,050 home visits 125 families 12 group parent education 2.625 FTE educators .9 FTE supervisor</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$217,837.95 or 86% ECI funds expended \$13,970.00 other outside funds expended (not ECI) \$231,807.95 total cost of program</p> <p>\$239 Cost per visit \$1,380 Cost per child \$1,869 Cost per family</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 168 children served 124 families served (56 Dallas, 20 Madison, 48 Warren) 969 home visits completed (428Dallas, 147 Madison, 394Warren) 22 parent education meetings offered 18 families enrolled prenatally 49 first time mothers 84% of scheduled home visits that were completed 90% of newly enrolled families met one or more of the family support eligibility criteria</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets Overall, in spite of the many challenges the Program faced during FY2014, the Program met or exceeded the majority of its anticipated benchmarks with the exception of home visits completed. While the number of home visits did not meet the benchmark, the completion rate for home visits was 84% (Goal 85%). 100% of the staff providing direct service met their professional development requirements and were re-certified as Parent Educators by the PAT National Center. 68% of participating families are at 200% or below of poverty, 83% are married or partnered, 62% have less than a 4 year college degree and 87% of age eligible children were screened.</p> |
| <p>Successes While this Program year was characterized by more challenges than successes, we did experience success in transitioning a new Parent Educator into the Program without an interruption in services and also maintaining a substantial number of program participants. Some families chose to exit rather than transition to a new Educator but the majority chose to remain in the Program. We received funding for the expansion of the Program in Madison County from Prevent Child Abuse Iowa (ICAPP and CBCAP) funds and have formed a strong partnership with Madison County Community Resources and Service to People CRISP) and the child abuse prevention councils in all three counties as we partner on programs and share resources. After many years of dreaming about it, we were able to have 7 people trained in the <i>Blockfest</i> model and became the first certified <i>Blockfest</i> hosts in Iowa. Finally, one of our Program participants was nominated for the first family support participant award which was conferred at the Prevent Child Abuse Iowa conference. She also provided a touching testimonial at the annual 4RKids reception.</p> | <p>Challenges A major challenge during this program year was learning and meeting the new State reporting requirements for family support programs (Redcap) as well as blending two new funding streams into the PAT program and meeting all of the required data management and reporting requirements for each one. In addition, new PAT standards and protocols went into effect this program year as well. Direct service staff and program management staff experienced a significant increase in indirect service time dedicated to learning and successfully mastering multiple systems. At the same time, the Program experienced an increase in participants requiring more intensive services. Referrals from community partners significantly declined for most of the program year but we did experience a slight increase in referrals during the fourth quarter as efforts were made to re-establish connections with traditional partners and also form new partnerships. Participant attendance at group parent connections continues to be a challenge. The Program incorporated two new programs – one on financial literacy and another on balanced living – and the Program is actively working on other formats to attract parents to these opportunities.</p> |
| <p align="center">Success Story</p> <p>“First I would like to share how much I learned and enjoyed the Healing Broken Hearts training in Creston. I have shared some of the information with all families since the training Jan 10th. I have a young dad with anger issues and my being able to explain his son’s brain development in a way he could understand will potentially make him a more patient father. He admits giving the 8 mo old a bottle and putting him in his bed to be safe before he hits a wall, etc. so arming him with solid information is helpful – not that most people would think an 8 month old is being willful anyway – but this young man loves his son very much – just has no clue what to expect with development, etc. They have an apartment by themselves now – have taken safety measures as he (baby) is very mobile now. They still have no car but both walk to work consistently. Dad understands that his son may have a similar temperament to him and that he is modeling for him how to deal with life, either in a positive manner or a negative one”.</p> | |

Southwestern Community College

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Contract Information \$72,543.29 grant award Parents as Teachers - Serving Adair County Long term home visitation Iowa Family Support Credential "pending" Benchmark Targets 360 home visits 30 families 10 group parent education 1 FTE educator and .25 FTE supervisor</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$64,544.31 or 89% ECI funds expended \$9,127.60 other outside funds expended (not ECI) \$73,671.91 total cost of program</p> <p>\$320 Cost per visit \$1,841 Cost per child \$2,455 Cost per family</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 40 children served 27 families served 230 home visits completed 14 parent education meetings offered 0 families enrolled prenatally 11 first time mothers 75% of scheduled home visits that were completed 92% of newly enrolled families met one or more of the family support eligibility criteria</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets We were excited that the number of families (27) served was almost to our goal of 30. Lyndsie and the PAT staff worked hard to recruit families and make connections with community partners. As we had many new families come in the last quarter, our number of visits was lower than we hoped. We also exceeded the number of group connections offered, with 4 of those in Adair County. Our Love and Logic parenting class went very well and at least one family was recruited from that! We believe we are making great inroads into this community. The Greenfield Rumble Tumble we organized in April was a great success with many community partners participating. We plan to hold that again next spring.</p> |
| <p>Success Our Iowa Family Support Credential Visit was held on June 23-25th. We have a couple of minor things to work on but have just received the report with the details. We have two areas to correct: Review of service plans with goals linked to the assessments and linking families to services demonstrated through the aftercare plans. All our policies were in compliance. We received 9 '1's', 107 '2's' and 9 '3's'. The threes must be brought up to a 1 or 2. We are beginning that process with our mentor now! Areas of Strength notes were our Conflict of Interest policy (exceeds standard!); Grievance policies/procedures; and Governance. We are excited to make these few improvements and then move forward to make our program even better!</p> | <p>Challenges Finding and keeping families continues to be a challenge in Adair County. However, we are making significant inroads toward that goal. With increased enrollment we will be able to meet our number of visits benchmark for next year. We also had a partnership with MATURA and Adair County Home Health to provide Well Baby visits. Neither organization was able to complete any with our funding. Adair Home Health did not hire a nurse until after Christmas and she was very negative about doing the visits and collaborating with our Parent Educator.</p> |
| <p align="center">Success Story</p> <p>Parent noted that she has concerns about the speech development of one of the twins and that she feels she is reading to herself more than the children. Educator encouraged parent to continue this process w/ children. Parent noted w/in a few weeks that child was across the room and as she was reading a book the child repeated back to her what she had just said-beep beep! Parent was very excited and is now more motivated to read books even if child isn't sitting still on her lap. Child has also begun carrying books he "prefers" along w/ him as he plays etc. ~ Lyndsie Wagoner, SWCC Parent Educator</p> | |

Dallas County Public Health

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Contract Information \$78,266 grant award Maternal Child Health - serving Dallas County Short term home visitation Iowa Family Support Credential</p> <p>Benchmark Targets 760 home visits 105 families 1.18 FTE</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$78,262.68 or 99% ECI funds expended \$5,656.00 other outside funds expended (not ECI) \$83,919.68 total cost of program</p> <p>\$98 Cost per visit \$723 Cost per child \$865 Cost per family</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 116 children served 115 families served 854 home visits completed 97 families enrolled prenatally 45 first time mothers 91% of scheduled home visits that were completed 94% of newly enrolled families met one or more of the family support eligibility criteria</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets Our numbers indicating changes in conditions for our clients are down from last fiscal year. This is an indication of the documentation practices of our staff who were not doing their own documentation in the past. Moving forward, these numbers should be more reliable and accurate. We feel the numbers in this report represent an accurate picture of this indicator for our clients. We show just 1.02 FTE in this report and our benchmark was 1.18. This is due to change in staff and modification of the work within the program. The Director's time spent in the program from October through June is not accurately represented and if it were, the benchmark would have been met.</p> |
| <p>Success Due to the staff turnover, the program team was restructured and the direct service staff has now taken more ownership of the program. This has resulted in direct service staff having more knowledge about the overarching results the program strives to achieve and a clearer picture of what the program can accomplish. Direct service staff have been moved into reporting positions for a client by client basis; this allows them to collaborate with each other on a more regular basis about clients as well as stopping some duplication of efforts with data collection.</p> | <p>Challenges In FY2014 DCPHNS faced many challenges. We had a large amount of staff turnover in the MCH program, especially staff in charge of compiling data and reports. This caused reporting in general, and specifically use of the RedCap database, to be our biggest trial. Unfamiliarity with the reporting components plus duplication of data due to differing outcome measurements has resulted in multiple revisions to make sure that everything required of the team was actually reported in the correct place. The MCH team at DCPH has also found a lack of incentive for women to remain in the program post-partum a challenge. Many of our reporting procedures are based upon a 2 month post-partum client visit, but many women who give birth with no issues drop out of the program before the 2 month mark. On top of our reporting and staffing issues, Dallas County population growth continues to outpace every other county in the state of Iowa and many in the United States. The growth has brought many new cultures to Dallas County from all over the world, which has caused some growing pains for our program as well.</p> |
| <p align="center">Success Story</p> <p>Both the social worker and the nurse provided services to a mother and baby who had delivered by C-section. The social worker had seen the client first and found her to be tired and struggling with depression. Through encouragement by the social worker, mom agreed to counseling and getting some help. Additionally, the client's own mother, who lives in the home, was referred to a health care provider. When the nurse arrived a few days later the client stated that she still did not feel well. A return visit was made to the physician and found that the client's labs were off and mom was anemic. When the client did not improve the nurse continued to encourage mom and her follow-up appointments. The client ended up having two blood clots, one in her leg and the other underneath her lung. Mom is now on daily injections of a blood thinner and medication for depression. The last visit found the client in much better spirits and feeling more like herself. She is talking about returning to work when three weeks earlier she didn't want to get out of bed. We continue to feel that the work we do, even though can seem small to us, can make a big difference in someone else's life.</p> | |

Dallas County ISU Extension

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------|--|--|---|
| <p>Contract Information \$15,325.24 grant award Group Parent Education - serving Adair, Dallas Madison and Warren County (utilized Together We Can Curriculum and Family Nutrition Curriculum)</p> <p>Benchmark Targets</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><i>Family Nutrition Program</i></td> <td><i>Group Parent Education</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>24 families</td> <td>16 families</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24 group parent education</td> <td>16 group parent education</td> </tr> </table> | <i>Family Nutrition Program</i> | <i>Group Parent Education</i> | 24 families | 16 families | 24 group parent education | 16 group parent education | <p>How much was produced? \$13,272.19 or 87% total ECI funds expended (\$6,626.14 GPE & \$6,646.06 FNP) \$0 outside funds (not ECI)</p> <p>\$276 Cost per session for Group Parent Education \$473 Cost per family for Group Parent Education</p> <p>\$265 Cost per session for Family Nutrition Group Parent Education \$511 Cost per family for Nutrition Group Education</p> | | | | |
| <i>Family Nutrition Program</i> | <i>Group Parent Education</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 families | 16 families | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 group parent education | 16 group parent education | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Who were served?</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><i>Family Nutrition Program</i></td> <td><i>Group Parent Education</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>24 group parent education sessions</td> <td>25 group parent education sessions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 children served</td> <td>18 children served</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 families served</td> <td>13 families served</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(0Adair, 4 Dallas, 5 Madison, 5Warren)</td> <td>(0Adair, 5 Dallas, 3 Madison, 5Warren)</td> </tr> </table> <p>67% of newly enrolled families met one or more of the family support eligibility criteria</p> | <i>Family Nutrition Program</i> | <i>Group Parent Education</i> | 24 group parent education sessions | 25 group parent education sessions | 20 children served | 18 children served | 14 families served | 13 families served | (0Adair, 4 Dallas, 5 Madison, 5Warren) | (0Adair, 5 Dallas, 3 Madison, 5Warren) | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets Each of the curriculums offered included 8 sessions. It is hard to get families to commit to that many meetings. IA connection with an established group helped with attendance. We were able to complete all the groups in the three counties. We did send marketing materials to Adair County for the Madison County Together We Can.</p> |
| <i>Family Nutrition Program</i> | <i>Group Parent Education</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 group parent education sessions | 25 group parent education sessions | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 children served | 18 children served | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 families served | 13 families served | | | | | | | | | | |
| (0Adair, 4 Dallas, 5 Madison, 5Warren) | (0Adair, 5 Dallas, 3 Madison, 5Warren) | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Success The Waukee Family YMCA was very receptive to having Raising a Thinking Child presented in their facility. They allowed nonmembers to use the child care to attend the sessions. Together We Can had three males participants in the series.</p> | <p>Challenges Research shows to have behavior change there needs to be multiple contacts with the parents. This need for series curriculum is a challenge because we are asking parents to commit to, in this case, 8 sessions. Working with other groups helps with the recruiting process and increases attendance.</p> | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p align="center">Success Story</p> <p>A mother of two pre-school age boys completed a post survey. She often stayed after class to discuss her family's eating habits, recipes, and various issues pertaining to the classes. Some of her quotes and answers to the survey; Due to this series of Family Nutrition Program Classes, what will be beneficial for your family in terms of;</p> <p><u>Meal Planning</u>- <i>It is important to provide at least 3 food groups at each meal. Now I will be mindful about planning meals. I also know how much of each food group my husband, me and my children need every day. Even if they don't eat them I will provide them. It will be written on the meal planning form and my grocery list is made from that.</i></p> <p><u>Inventory of your kitchen</u>- <i>Now that I have the meal planning form I will use things on hand, because there is a place to write down what foods are in your frig, freezer, and cupboards to use up first. I won't bring home foods I already have because I will be looking before I make my meal plan and grocery list. This will save me money too.</i></p> <p><u>Eating more fruits and vegetables</u>- <i>Pre-cutting fresh veggies is something I do now so they get eaten and don't turn mushy. Sara taught us how to do this for snacks and meals. My boys like raw veggies in the little snack bags. My husband likes having them washed and cut up for quick grilling.</i></p> <p><u>Staying physically active</u>- <i>I will be less likely to put off exercise now that I know how much I need and that I can split up the exercise throughout the day, not all at once because I am busy with the boys. So if I play with the boys outside for 15 minutes I know that goes toward the minimum 30 minutes I need I don't have to go all at one time.</i></p> <p><u>How was the facilitator helpful?</u> <i>*Willing to answer questions in class and over the phone. * Shared personal and realistic examples.</i></p> <p><u>What would you do to improve this series?</u> <i>Nothing. I wish I could take it again next fall.</i></p> | | | | | | | | | | | |

Warren County Health Services

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Contract Information \$31,018.04 Child Care Nurse Consultant - Serving Madison and Warren County</p> <p>Benchmark Targets 100 nursing visits 100 technical assistance contacts 3 trainings 30 providers served .4FTE nurse</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$30,130.069 or 97% total ECI funds expended \$2,272.49 other outside funds expended (not ECI) \$32,402.55 total cost of project</p> <p>\$289 Cost per visit \$810 Average cost per program</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 112 nursing visits (11 Madison and 101 Warren) 156 technical assistance contacts 7 trainings conducted (2 Madison and 5 Warren) 40 programs with 106 providers served .4 FTE nurse 67% of children with special health care needs with a special needs care plan in place at the child care facility</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets All benchmarks met and exceeded</p> |
| <p>Success A major success is the continued and ongoing partnership and consultation with many providers. The current CCNC has been providing services in this area for almost 8 years. In that time, the CCNC has established relationships with mutual trust and respect. Many providers consistently contact the CCNC and seek this consultation expertise in health and safety in guiding health and safety policy decisions.</p> | <p>Challenges The greatest challenge continues to be motivating providers to continue or to initiate the QRS (Quality Rating System) quality initiative and onsite nursing visits. Many veteran QRS providers have shared frustration over the QRS process and feel that the extra work and time involved is not appreciated by parents and therefore not worth the extra effort. Many providers already spend 10-12 hours per day providing care and additional time cleaning, shopping, and prepping for child care. Several new providers are intimidated by the QRS process and additional expectations. It has been challenging to motivate providers to help them to see the value in the QRS system, especially related to health and safety, and acknowledge their value and worth in initiating or continuing the QRS process. In my experience, most providers truly want to strive for quality and will do whatever they need to do to accomplish this, they just feel overwhelmed with the QRS process and requirements, especially when they do not feel acknowledged and appreciated for their efforts.</p> <p>Another ongoing challenge is engaging Madison county providers in participating with the CCNC program and QRS. The CCNC currently communicates with ISU and CCRR staff to recruit new providers and to reach out to providers who may have needs that would benefit from expertise in health and safety areas.</p> |
| <p align="center">Success Story</p> <p>One provider was initially changing diapers on the floor. After consultation with the CCNC discussing the risks of sanitation and potential disease and contamination spread, the provider purchased a changing table prior to the next visit with the CCNC. This change in practice will result in reduced spread of contamination and also better body mechanics for the provider resulting in less personal injury.</p> | |

New Opportunities

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Contract Information \$34,983.35 grant award Child Care Nurse Consultant - Serving Dallas County</p> <p>Benchmark Targets 115 nursing visits 4 trainings 40 providers .5FTE nurse</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$33,282.10 or 95% total ECI funds expended \$3,072.00 other outside funds expended (not ECI) \$36,354.10 total cost of program</p> <p>\$413 Cost per visit \$1,136 Cost per provider</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 88 nursing visits 72 technical assistance contacts 5 trainings 32 providers .5 FTE nurse 100% of children with special health care needs with a special needs care plan in place at the child care facility</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets We did see an increase from our visits last year. We are still short of our benchmark of 115 visits. We provided an additional training.</p> |
| <p>Success I have had 2 home care providers who have raised their QRS rating to the next level higher(2 to 3; 3 to 4). I encouraged one child care center to have a garden in their outdoor space for the school age summer program. The center received publicity from the project. I visited the center last week and the children were very enthusiastic about the food they were growing. All of the centers participating in the QRS program are Level 4 or 5</p> | <p>Challenges The challenge is there are more providers who are not interested in participating in the QRS.</p> |
| <p align="center">Success Story</p> <p>This past fiscal year I consulted with the owner of the 3 centers-2 child care centers and a before/after school center. The centers had not participated in the QRS program for several years. The 2 child care centers have now applied for a Level 5 with the assist of CCR&R and the CCNC.</p> | |

Dallas County ISU Extension

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Contract Information \$78,978 grant award for professional development and coordination \$16,900 grant award for quality improvement mini grants Quality improvement project for early learning environments - Serving Adair, Dallas, Madison, and Warren County</p> <p>Benchmark Targets <i>Professional Development Training</i> 50 trainings 720 providers 158 provider contacts 420 parent contacts 1.25 FTE</p> | <p>How much was produced? <i>Training and coordination</i> \$74,741.55 or 95% total ECI funds expended \$2,865.00 other funds expended (not ECI) \$77,606.55 total cost of program</p> <p><i>Mini grants</i> \$16,900.00 total ECI funds expended \$92,548.85 other funds expended (not EC) \$109,448.85 total cost of program (\$8,000 Adair, \$48,548.83 Dallas, \$8,900 Madison, \$44,000.02 Warren</p> <p>\$1,437 Average cost per training \$1,226 Average cost per mini grant</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 54 trainings (7 Adair, 16 Dallas, 11 Madison, 20 Warren) 841 providers (82 Adair, 279 Dallas, 85 Madison, 262 Warren, 77 Polk, 56 other) 222 provider contacts (20 Adair, 83 Dallas, 23 Madison, 96 Warren) 943 parent contacts (96 Adair, 285 Dallas, 106 Madison, 456 Warren) 112 mini grants (10 Adair, 42 Dallas, 11 Madison, 49 Warren) 99% of ratings/certifications/credentialing that were a direct result of professional development opportunities 47% of programs that improved or maintained at the highest level, their rating in a quality initiative</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets We used a new method of using postcards to contact parents about our quality improvement grants, which worked well and the providers seemed eager to help with.</p> |
| <p>Successes During the visits I made to child care centers in the Dallas County area, I encountered 3 child care directors who expressed a need for a Directors Administrative Support group to help work through new regulations and current administrative issues. In May I was able to meet with 5 center directors in attendance and have 4 others who have expressed an interest. This summer we began meeting and will continue once a month with discussion around administrative issues. We have started with a book called Leadership in Action; How Effective Directors Get Things Done. Through additional dollars from Dallas County Extension, we are able to provider directors with the materials needed to get started. This group is currently in one county of the 4RKIDS area, but open to all providers wishing to attend. We will be promoting it more in the other three counties. If enough interest is shown, we will offer meetings in more than one county. I believe that if directors are involved more, they will get their staff more involved in participating in early childhood education and events.</p> | <p>Challenges The one main challenge with training this year, was the fact that more and more webinars and on line training were available to providers which cut back on the actual enrollment and attendance of several providers in our training classes. We had to make much more of an effort to recruit participants to our trainings. We used several ways to contact providers including emails, face book, class flyers, phone calls, and newsletters. I did do one radio broadcast for extension and included several of the special events we had planned. Our class schedule is broadcasted every week on Saturday morning at the local radio station in Dallas County. Another challenge this year was that we scheduled an informational meeting in the fall to kick off the grants available in Adair and Madison counties. We had only a few show up and then we got countless phone calls wanting the information. It was frustrating to not have things go as planned, but we learned from it that we need to seek other forms of communication with the majority of providers.</p> |
| <p align="center">Success Story</p> <p>Two quality improvement grant recipients in Madison County used funds to meet standards required for QRS. Both providers told our educators that they would not have achieved their QRS level as quickly without the assistance from the grant. These providers were both relatively new to the child care home provider system. It was really great to see the efforts they made to succeed with enthusiasm and the desire to move forward. As a result of the quality improvement grants, another provider in Madison County chose to participate in structured quality improvement efforts. She has contacted CCRR to begin the QRS process as well as enroll in the FCCERS classes.</p> | |

Orchard Place/Child Care Resource and Referral

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Contract Information \$4,751.00 grant award Child care provider training and incentives to attend training - Serving Adair, Dallas, Madison, and Warren County (note - contract amendment was approved to provide for cash incentives for providers during the fiscal year) Benchmark Targets Up to 25 hours of training Cash incentives for attending ChildNet</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$4,198.02 or 88% total ECI funding expended of which \$1,400 was expended on cash incentives (\$0 Adair, \$400 Dallas, \$400 Madison, \$600 Warren) \$2,798 Average cost per training \$200 Average cost per cash incentive</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 9 providers who attended 24 hours of training (all Dallas) 7 providers received cash incentives (0 Adair, 2 Dallas, 2 Madison, 3 Warren)</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets None</p> |
| <p>Success One Child Care Consultant continued to promote the QRS and assist providers with their initial or renewal application. All eleven providers have received their rating and already have plans to continue to work with the CCC on increasing or maintaining their Level. This included assisting: six providers with their initial QRS rating and five providers with their renewal application.</p> | <p>Challenges Some providers in the area have opted to not renew their ChildNet Certification. Two ChildNet series were held this fiscal year in the 4R Kids ECI area, CCR&R requested and was approved to use a portion of training funds to provide ChildNet Certification incentives. To quality, a provider must complete the series and become certified. Seven Child Development Home providers achieved ChildNet certification and received \$200 each.</p> |
| <p align="center">Success Story</p> <p>The consultant worked with a provider who attended the ChildNet series this spring. The provider has been providing registered care for about six months, so is still new to the family child care business. After completing the ChildNet series the provider decided she wanted to arrange some interest areas in her home, but didn't know where to start.. At the initial consultation visit the consultant asked the provider for a tour of the home to see the space where the children are throughout the day.. The provider's main goal was to have interest areas available for all ages throughout the day, but didn't know how to arrange her environment to reflect that. The consultant asked open-ended questions, and together the provider and consultant began rearranging the space based on the children's needs.. The consultant also showed the provider examples of what possible interest areas can look like and as a result the provider was able to create a space unique to her environment and the needs of the children in care.</p> <p>Another consultant provided support to a child care center who had enough points to apply for a QRS Level 5 but needed help in preparing for assessment visit. Many times the staff simply needed clarification as to what an ERS indicator was asking for and could implement changes on their own. However, in other items, staff needed to know exactly how an indicator looked like in action in the classroom., Much time was spent offering suggestions for room arrangement, activities, display, program administration, and health and safety. The CCC asked clarifying questions, presented options, and helped programs to problem solve. This program has applied for a QRS level 5 and will have their assessment visit before September.</p> | |

Dallas County ISU Extension

**This is a comprehensive contract with many preschool service components.
The contractor is granted as much flexibility as needed to meet the needs of families.**

Due to demand of certain preschool services, funded allocated to preschool literacy project and preschool professional development was not implemented. These funds along with unused funds from transportation was utilized to cover the other services.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Contract Information Preschool services coordination \$52,847.00 grant award</p> <p>Benchmark Targets 85 visits to preschools 35 preschools 3 preschool staff director meetings 1 FTE</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$52,945.01 or 100.5% total ECI funds expended</p> <p>\$206 Average cost per preschool application</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 96 visits to preschools 34 preschools served 2 director meetings conducted 1 FTE 257 preschool tuition scholarship requests 95% of preschool applicants were contacted within 72 hours of receipt of preschool tuition assistance application</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets None</p> |
| <p>Success Parent engagement was more evident this year than in the past. Families were very willing to share their stories during the Annual Reception. 3 families volunteered to speak and a couple others sent letters to share their experiences. An on-line survey was done on the services this year. Every response was very positive. Families thought the process was very easy and staff very helpful. It minimized the financial strain that families face on a daily basis.</p> | <p>Challenges Transportation project was a challenge the entire fiscal year. The subcontract agencies were difficult to work with to get the project started. The lack of interest in the most populated areas proved frustrating.</p> |

Success Story

I would like to thank the 4RKids program and staff for the amazing help they have provided my family over the last few years. Four years ago when the recession was affecting many families, my husband lost his job in Missouri where we resided at the time. We moved back to my husband's home town in Iowa after losing our house and using all our savings. My husband works full time while continuing to search for a "family supporting" career, and I have been working for the Woodward-Granger School District; but we continue to struggle financially. Thanks to the tuition assistance that the "4RKids" program offers we have been able to send both of our children through preschool programs with less financial hardship. We are truly appreciative of this program and hope it continues to help people in need as it has done for us!
Thank you! The Finesteads

Two programs in Adair received their QRS Level 5 rating and 1 in Warren received a 5 rating. This is a 1st for Warren County.

| Dallas County ISU Extension | |
|--|--|
| <p>Contract Information Preschool tuition scholarships \$149,197.13 grant award</p> <p>Benchmark Targets 175 families 180 children</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$180,496.94 or 121% of ECI funds expended</p> <p>\$813 Average cost per preschool tuition scholarships</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 215 families (27 Adair, 90 Dallas, 43 Madison, 55 Warren) 222 children (30 Adair, 92 Dallas, 43 Madison, 57 Warren) 92% of children demonstrated age appropriate skills</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets We had significant growth in Dallas & Madison county this past school year. Attendance was an issue in all counties with the long winter and numerous delays and cancellations.</p> |

| Dallas County ISU Extension | |
|--|--|
| <p>Contract Information Preschool transportation (Subcontracts with Red Rock Community Action, Southern Iowa Trolley Dallas County Home Care Services and Madison County Public Transportation)</p> <p>Benchmark Targets 25 preschool aged children</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$7,694.43 or 30% of ECI funds expended</p> <p>\$249 Average cost per child</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 29 preschool aged children (11 Adair, 2 Dallas, 16 Madison, 3 Warren) 3,757 transportation trips provided 8 Preschools served (1 Adair, 2 Dallas, 3 Madison, 3 Warren) 85% of days that children attended preschool that were provided transportation</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets None</p> |

| Dallas County ISU Extension | |
|---|--|
| <p>Contract Information Preschool Dental Screenings (subcontracts with Matura, New Opportunities & Warren County Health Services)</p> <p>Benchmark Targets 350 preschool aged children</p> | <p>How much was produced? \$9,004.87 or 118% of ECI funds expended \$1,692.12 other funds expended (Medicaid) \$10,696.99 total cost of program</p> <p>\$34 Average cost per dental screening</p> |
| <p>Who were served? 314 preschool aged children (113 Adair, 109 Dallas, 45 Madison, 47 Warren) 38% of children screening were referred to additional treatment 65% of those referred received additional treatment</p> | <p>Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets The 2nd half of screenings were not completed in Madison and Warren County due to lack of a dental hygienist.</p> |

| Dallas County ISU Extension | |
|--|--|
| Contract Information Preschool lead screenings (Subcontracts with Matura and Warren County Health Services) Benchmark Targets 25 preschool aged children | How much was produced? \$415.40 or 20% of ECI funds expended \$38 Average cost per preschool lead screening |
| Who were served? 11 preschool aged children served 0% of children were referred for additional lead services | Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets None |

| Dallas County ISU Extension | |
|--|---|
| Contract Information Preschool quality improvement mini grants Benchmark Targets 30 preschool programs | How much was produced? \$21,000.00 total ECI funds expended \$13,800 .00 other funds expended (United Way) \$34,800.00 total cost of program \$2,320 average cost per preschool mini grant |
| Who were served? 15 preschool programs (3 Adair 4 Dallas, 3 Madison, 5 Warren) 100% of programs that improved or maintained the highest level, their rating in a quality initiative | Comments regarding meeting benchmark targets None |

| ECI Director | |
|---|--|
| Contract Information Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center - Employer of Record ECI Direct - Debra Schrader | How much was produced? \$73,896.72 total ECI funds expended for salary/benefits \$10,873.19 total ECI funds expended for expenses (mileage, professional dev, office, etc) \$84,769.91 total cost of program |
| Who were served? 87 community collaboration meetings convened 93 community collaboration meetings attended (not hosted by ECI) 292 community partners received regular communication 100% of all contracts met contract compliance | Comments The 4 R Kids ECI Area board went through the Levels of Excellence process and of the four levels possible, was awarded the highest level which is Model status. |

| 4 R Kids ECI Board | |
|---|---|
| Contract Information Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center - Fiscal Agent 81% of the payment vouchers processed was complete; no contact was needed and was processed for payment; 11% of the payment processed required a call/email/contact for clarification and then was processed for payment 18% of the payment vouchers processed had issues and required correction and then was processed or payment; 0% of the payment vouchers processed were rejected, were incomplete and was not processed for payment | How much was produced? \$17,503.87 or 70% total funds expended 112 hours of volunteer time from board members 4,566 website hits to date 10 presentations provided by programs for board professional development 11 advocacy, marketing, public awareness, events & presentations conducted year to date (<i>Rumble Tumble, Warren County Toddlerfest, Madison County Toddlerfest, Dallas County Toddlerfest, 4th of July Parade, Mental Health Community Conversation, Presentation to Matura Head Start, 3rd Annual Appreciation Reception, Presentation to Greenfield Optimist Club, Presentation to Dallas County Human Services Coalition, Dexter Children's Day</i>) |

