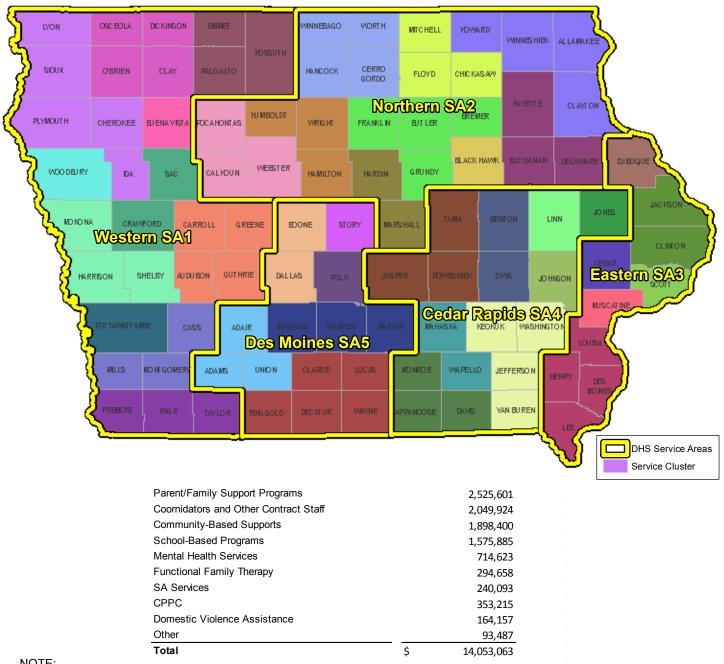
CHILD WELFARE DECATEGORIZATION PROGRAM – 2016



NOTE:

- 1) The Child Welfare Decategorization Program was authorized by the Iowa General Assembly in 1987 as an initiative designed to deliver more effective service to children and families. Decategorization is an effort to significantly change the child welfare system to one that is need-based, family-focused, easily accessible, more intensive, less restrictive, and cost-effective by "decategorizing" services from a state level to a local level.
- 2) Decategorization is designed to redirect child welfare and juvenile justice funding to services that are more preventive, family-centered, neighborhood and community-based in order to reduce use of restrictive approaches that rely on institutional, out-of-home, and out-of-community placements. Decategorization promotes community planning, collaboration, and governance of service systems that more accurately reflect the needs of children and families within the communities served.

Source: Department of Human Services