

28.2 Purpose and scope.

1. The purpose of creating the community empowerment initiative is to empower individuals and their communities to achieve desired results for improving the quality of life in the communities in this state. It is expected that the empowerment of individuals will strengthen the individuals' sense of responsibility for their neighbors and promote partnerships in order for all to succeed. It is believed that the desired results identified by individuals and their communities, with the support of the state, will be achieved as individuals, governments, and agencies work collaboratively within communities. It is believed that local individuals in local communities working together will identify and implement the best means for attaining the desired results for themselves and their neighbors. The role of the Iowa empowerment board, the state, and local governments is to support and facilitate growth of individual and community responsibility in place of the directive role that the public has come to expect of government.

2. It is intended that through the community empowerment initiative, by June 30, 2005, every community in Iowa will have developed the capacity and commitment for using local decision making to achieve the following initial set of desired results:

a. Healthy children.

b. Children ready to succeed in school.

c. Safe and supportive communities.

d. Secure and nurturing families.

e. Secure and nurturing child care environments.

3. To achieve the initial set of desired results, the initiative's primary focus shall first be on the efforts of the state and communities to work together to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of early care, education, health, and human services provided to families with children from birth through age five years.

4. It is anticipated that the scope of the initiative will expand as additional desired results are identified and agreed upon by communities and the state. It is the intent of the general assembly to identify from time to time the additional desired results in statute.

99 Acts, ch 190, §2, 19, 20; 2005 Acts, ch 148, §2