

HOPES-HFI

Program name: HOPES-HFI (Healthy Opportunities for Parents to Experience Success-Healthy Families Iowa)

History: Established in 1992 through legislation
Program developed by IDPH with assistance from other partners
Ten counties were identified to receive funding

Purpose: To promote healthy, safe and self-sufficient families.

Goals: (as described in legislative language)

- Promote optimal child health and development
- Improve family coping skills and functioning.
- Promote positive parenting skills
- Prevent child abuse/neglect and infant mortality/morbidity.

Program Description:

- Voluntary home visiting program following the HFA standards (critical elements).
- Provides support to overburdened (high risk) families - prenatal and with children up to age 4 years.
- Identifies families through a standardized screening process.
- Identify barriers and develop an individual family support plan (family goals) based on the family's strengths and needs.
- Support given to families:
 - Advocate for and link families to community services.
 - Establish a medical home.

- Obtain preventative health services for target child.
- Teach parents how to care for child.
- Promote parent-child interaction.
- Teach/model appropriate parental behaviors and discipline.
- Teach stages of child development.
- Provide prenatal information/education/support.
- Presently there are 13 sites in nine counties: Black Hawk, Buchanan, Clinton, Hamilton, Lee, Muscatine, Polk, Scott, Woodbury
- 917 target children and 984 families served in FY04 (target children < families due to prenatal)
- 17% of program funding was provided through community resources

Indicators of quality: 11 out of 13 state grant funded programs have received National HFA Accreditation. The remaining 2 are actively engaged in obtaining HFA accreditation.
All Family Support Workers have received HFA training and participate in ongoing education and supervision.

Early Childhood

- Community Empowerment (CE) -- 10 out of the 13 HOPES-HFI programs receive additional funding from CE.
- Technical assistance is provided to HOPES-HFI and HOPES-like programs that are funded through Community Empowerment Areas.
- HOPES-like programs are invited to, and participate in/attend quarterly Program Managers meetings facilitated by IDPH.
- HOPES-like programs are invited to, and receive HFA training.

- HOPES-HFI programs are aligned with the vision and goals of the ECI Strategic Plan
 - Common goals - School ready (refer to Early Access referrals under outcomes)
Healthy children (refer to medical home, preventative health exams, health ins coverage, social/emotional under outcomes)
Secure and Nurturing Families (refer to child abuse rate for participating families under outcomes)
Secure and Nurturing Early Care and Education (linked with community resources for child care, all FSWs are HFA trained)
Safe and Supportive Communities (link with community resources for employment, education, domestic violence, family activities, etc)
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Performance Measures (outcomes achieved)

- 84% of pregnant women on caseload had > 5 prenatal visits.
- 96.7% of all target children on caseload have Health Care Insurance Coverage
- 99% of Target children have established a medical home.
- 88% on target children obtained preventative health exams per the recommended periodicity schedule.
- 80% of children referred, accessed Early Access
- 93% of participating families were not confirmed for child abuse/denial of critical care