



## Early Childhood Iowa Leadership Agenda and Strategic Progress Report FY 2007 to FY 2009

**Vision: Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.**

### Desired Results

- Healthy Children
- Children Ready to Succeed in School
- Secure and Nurturing Families
- Safe and Supportive Communities
- Secure and Nurturing Early Care and Education Environments

### Purpose

Be a catalyst in the development of Iowa's comprehensive, integrated early care, health, and education system.

### Guiding Principles

- Broad Based Representation
- Respect
- Responsiveness
- Informed Decision Making
- Agent of Change

### Who we are:

Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) is an alliance of stakeholders in early care, health, and education that affect children age zero to five in the State of Iowa. Its purpose is to support a comprehensive, integrated early care, health and education system for Iowa. All activities of the system are aligned around a common vision for Iowa: *Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.*

### How we do our work:

Membership is voluntary and open to anyone self-identifying as a "stakeholder" in Iowa's early care, health, and education system. The process for membership will be with as few barriers or constraints as possible. Individuals seeking membership should agree to the vision for an early care, health, and education system in Iowa and to the principles and core beliefs of the ECI Stakeholders.

The structure of ECI includes six system component groups that describe the necessary elements of an effective and comprehensive early care, health, and education system, as well as a State Agency Liaison group and a Co-chairs group. Membership in each component group is open to anyone with an interest in the unique responsibilities of a implementing an early care, health and education system.

**Early Childhood Iowa  
Desired Results and Priority Goals:**

**Desired Result**

Healthy Children

Children Ready to Succeed in School

Secure & Nurturing Families

Safe & Supportive Communities

Secure & Nurturing Early Care & Education Environments

**Priority Strategic Goals (SFY 2007 – SFY 2009)**

- Increase access to and utilization of social, emotional and mental health services
- Increase access to and utilization of preventive health care services
- Increase access to affordable quality early learning environments for all children
- Increase the capacity of schools to be ready to meet the educational needs of all children
- Increase positive relationships between child and parents
- Increase effective opportunities to learn about child development and parenting skills
- Increase the safety of young children and families in their communities
- Increase community investment in the early care, health and education system
- Increase the number of quality early care and education environments for all children
- Increase parent and community demand for quality in early care and education environments

*These ECI Strategic Plan goals were prioritized by the Early Childhood Iowa stakeholders on September 12, 2006 and updated on September 11, 2007.*