

**Early Childhood Iowa Local Area
Annual Report
State Fiscal Year 2013
July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013**

Name of Early Childhood Area: Buena Vista, Crawford, Sac Early Childhood Iowa
Website: bvcsempowerment.com

Counties/Area Served: 1. Buena Vista 3. Sac
 2. Crawford

Current Board Chairperson: Name: Randall Kuhlman
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Assurances: I hereby affirm and certify that:

1. The information in this annual report is accurate, to the best of my knowledge.
2. The Board reviewed all indicator data, trends and analysis during this fiscal year.
3. The local ECI Board has conducted an annual review of the ECI Area Director contract with regards to state required performance measures.
4. The Community Plan was reviewed by the ECI Area Board on 8/28/2013.
5. This Annual Report was approved by ECI Area Board on 8/28/2013.

Signature of ECI Board Chairperson

Date

Signature of Current Fiscal Agent

Date

ECI Chairperson's Name (print or type)

Fiscal Agent (print or type)

Community Plan Updates

Name of Early Childhood Area: Buena Vista, Crawford, Sac Early Childhood Iowa

Iowa Code chapter 256I requires that local ECIA boards report progress toward and achievement of desired results identified in the Community Plan.

Provide a narrative of the ECIA's progress in the last year towards the priorities and strategies identified in the most recent Community Plan. Success and/or challenges to meeting the ECIA goals may also be included.

FY 13 Community Plan Priority Areas and Progress Toward Achieving Results

Children Ready to Succeed in School

Community Indicators:

a) Preschool Settings achieving a quality standard Quality Rating System (QRS)

In July 2009 10% of preschool participated in the voluntary QRS Preschools. July 2011 participation increased to 39.5% due to a requirement for documentation of a quality standard for Preschool Scholarships. This year the area has seen a 9.3% drop this may be due to the fact that more Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program is achieving the Quality Preschool Program Standard or Head Starts are working on Accreditation.

Goal is to increase to a 3 star or above on the QRS by 5% each year. The goal has not been reached.

b) Preschool Settings achieving a quality standard Quality Preschool Program Standards (QPPS).

Preschool programs within school systems are participating in the State Wide Voluntary Preschool Program as their quality indicator. Unable to find statewide data for programs that have received QPPS Verification Certification. Goal is to have 85% of preschool programs QPPS verified.

Healthy Children

Community Indicators:

a) Rate of children immunized by age two.

Each county is below the state percentage for Up-To-Date Coverage Percent the goal is to increase the percentage in each county to 70%. Immunization Annual Report covers: (4) DTaP, (3) Polio, (1) MMR, (3) Hib, (3) Hep B, (1) Varicella, and (4) PCV.

The Family Support Program serving the BVCS ECI area (Family STEPS) reminds families to have their child/ren immunized. Family STEPS serves 6% of the children under the age of 5 in Buena Vista, Crawford, and Sac Counties. Goal is to increase immunization rate to 70% by 2015 and has been met.

b) Percentage of births under 5.5 pounds.

The percentage of babies born under 5.5 pounds in 2010 was the highest percentage at 7.02%. In 2012 the percentage dropped to 5.40%. The goal is to reduce low births percentage by four percent the baseline was set in 2006 and was 5.67%. The goal to reduce to 4% by 2015. Progress is being made toward the goal.

c) Dental treatment age 1-5 receiving preventative dental services

The Dental Services Report change in format in FFY 2010 to include: 0-5 by Non-Dentist. A steady increase in BVCS ECI area 33%, but continues to be under the state percentage of 36.27%. The goal is to increase children receiving dental treatment by 5% by the year 2015 has been met.

Secure and Nurturing Families

Community Indicators:

a) Confirmed or founded abuse reports of children 0-17.

The BVCS ECI area has seen a fluctuation of confirmed or founded child abuse, but remains over the state rate. Rank in rate of abuse in each county in 2012: Buena Vista 22, Crawford 41, and Sac 61. The goal is to reduce to 10% by 2015, progress toward goal is decreasing.

b) Birth rate for females ages 20 and younger.

The numbers for teen pregnancy have increased in the area. This may be due to new immigrants to the area. Some cultures do not believe in birth control/prevention or the age for adulthood. The rate for teen pregnancy is above the state rate. 32 out of 143 (22%) involved in the Family STEPS Program are considered teen moms. The goal set is to reduce by 4% by 2015 the rate fluctuates each year.

Safe and Supportive Communities

Community Indicator:

a) Poverty rate estimated percent of people in poverty all ages.

The increase in poverty rates in our counties indicates that families may be at an increased need for services. In 2006 the percentage was even or 2% above the state. In 2010 the average percentage in the three counties has increased to 2.4% over the state poverty level. 100% of families involved in the Family Support in-home visitation program meet the Family Support criteria. 94% of families applying for Preschool Scholarships were approved meeting the financial requirement.

Secure and Nurturing Child Care Environments

Community Indicators:

a) Number of slots available in a registered /licensed childcare setting.

The number of registered child care providers fluctuates. Two child care centers closing in the Buena Vista County is a result for the reduction in child care slots by 407 from 2008 (1,509) to 2012 (1,102). Family care and Child Development homes have increased. A business reported on an average they have more workers call in daily for sickness than lack of childcare after the center closed. The community does not seem to support the need for a licensed child care facility. 79% of families in Buena Vista, Crawford and Sac Counties have all parents in family in the labor force. The goal is to increase or maintain quality child care slots to cover the need in the area. Do to the decrease in child care slots the goal is not met.

b) Child care home setting participating in the Quality Rating System Level 3 or above.

The area has a 4.75% increase from July 2009 to July 2012 with Child Care Home Providers achieving a QRS level 3 or higher. They struggle with the reason and resources to participate. Due to the economy they are unable to increase fee, and the reimbursement does not cover the cost needed to make improvements at their sites. The Child Care Consultant and Child Care Nurse Consultants continue to encourage participation to improve quality. As of July 2012 there are two home providers participating below a QRS level 3. The goal is to have 85% of child care providers participate by 2015; the goal has not been met in 2013, the area will continue to encourage child care providers.