

# Buena Vista, Crawford, Sac, Early Childhood Iowa (BVCS ECI) Executive Summary



## BVCS Early Childhood Iowa Overview

Early Childhood Iowa Vision: “*Every child beginning at birth will be healthy and successful*”. Buena Vista, Crawford, Sac, Early Childhood Iowa (BVCS ECI) is one out of 39 Early Childhood Iowa Areas identified across the State of Iowa representing all 99 counties. Early Childhood Iowa Areas use identified results to develop the capacity and commitment for achieving the results of: Healthy Children; Children Ready to Succeed in School; Safe and Supportive Communities; Secure and Nurturing Families; Secure and Nurturing Early Learning Environments.

The BVCS ECI mission guides the actions of the organization, provides a path, and guides decision-making. BVCS ECI Mission Statement: *to improve the quality of life for children and families by strongly supporting safe environments, lifelong learning and facilitating a coordinated system for community services*. Stemming from the mission the BVCS ECI 3-County Board has developed priorities to guide them they are: Parent Education, Quality Preschool Programs, Nurturing Child Care, Health Prevention Measures, Early Literacy, and Coordination of Services. For more information about the programs served by BVCS ECI visit our website at <http://bvcsempowerment.com/> or call 712-662-3880.

## Highlights

Healthy brains are ready to think and learn. Brains are built overtime from the bottom up. Early experiences affect the quality of architecture by establishing a sturdy or a fragile foundation for all of the learning, health, and behavior that follow. Funded programs assist early learning environments, families and children to build communication, develop knowledge and increase social interactions through various methods: consultation, education, mentoring and screenings. BVCS Early Childhood funds Family STEPS, Preschool Scholarship & Support, Child Care Consultant, Child Care Nurse Consultant, Child Care Professional Development & Quality Improvement, and Oral Health Programs.

Child Care Nurse Consultants assist Child Development Homes and Centers to meet health and safety needs of children in their care by providing outreach, on-site assessments, education, training, care planning and referrals. During a recent Child Record Review on all the children in a center (97) four children were found to have special health needs. The consultant provided care coordination with the parents, community resources and center to set in place individual care plans for each child.

Child Care Consultant assist Child Development Homes, Centers and Preschools to strive to achieve quality. The Quality Rating System (QRS) is a voluntary program that

provides a rating of between one and five stars for providers who go the extra mile to offer exceptional care. The QRS was created to raise the quality of child care in Iowa, to increase the number of children in high-quality child care settings.

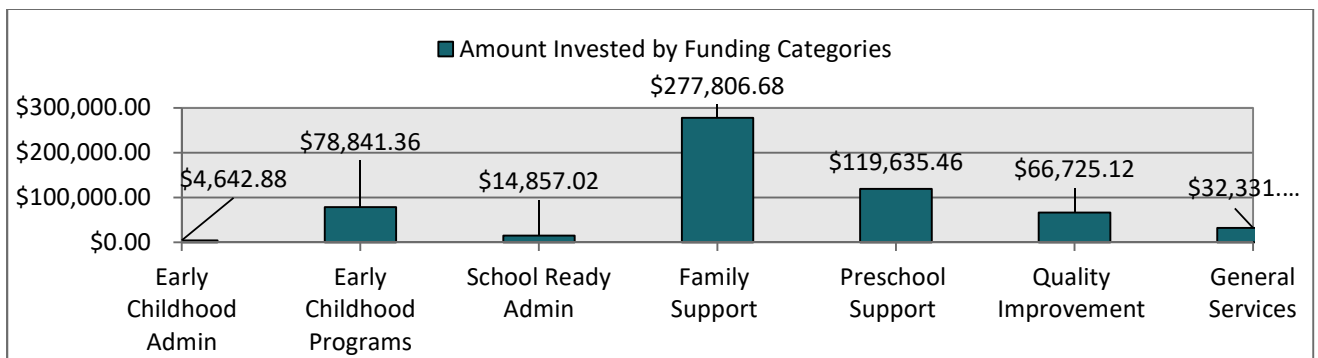
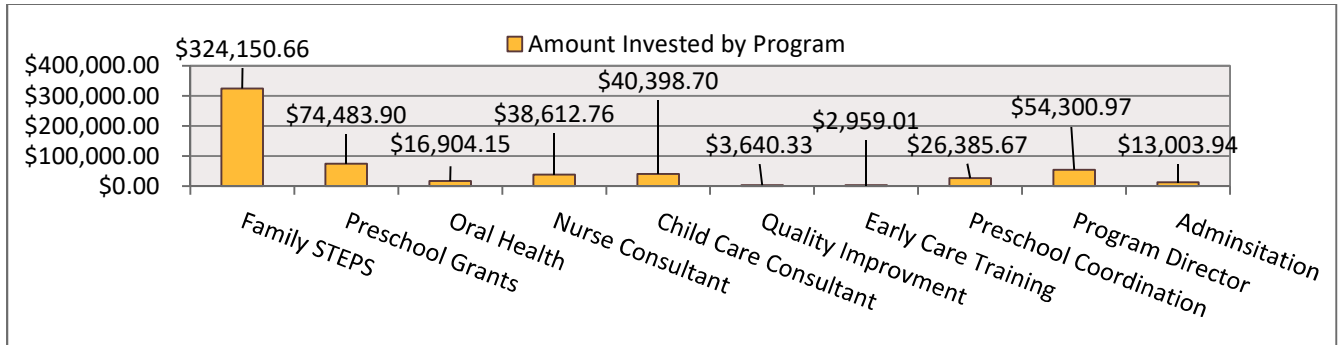
This past year the Child Care Consultant has worked with eight (8) programs to submit applications to the Department of Human Services. The first step is to introduce the application, during this step many of the programs learn that they are already meeting criteria stated in the QRS. Through consultation a learning process is established. Providers take a closer look at their policies, staff qualifications/training needs, review their own professional development, and refer to the Child Care Nurse Consultant for health and safety items. The providers develop a portfolio which is reviewed by the consultant prior to submission. Three of the providers are waiting for a visit from Iowa State University for a Five (5) Star rating and five have obtained a Four (4) Star rating. Programs are able to educate parents and the community about their quality program.

Early Childhood Iowa has required performance measures. Performance measures are a quantifiable measure to assess a program, product or activity. The level of measure is the population served by a particular service, product or activity. There are four types of performance measures: input, output, quality/efficiency, and outcome.



# BVCS Early Childhood Iowa Financial Highlights & Outcomes

## State Fiscal Year 17 funding summary



## Outcomes

**Family Support**

- Healthy family functioning
- Social supports
- Concrete supports
- Child development
- Nutruing & attachment

**Preschool Scholarships/Transportation**

- Age appropriate skills
- Attendance

**Oral Health**

- Screenings
- Detection
- Referral

Preschool Support – 98.65% of children demonstrating age appropriate skills.

Transportation – 92.75% of days that children attended preschool that were provided transportation.

Oral Health – 41.83% Children who are cavity free.

97.1% families that improve or maintain healthy family functioning, problem solving & communication.

89.4% families that increase or maintain social supports.

83.7% families that are connected to additional concrete supports.

76.9% families that increase knowledge about child development and parenting.

63.5% families that improve nurturing and attachment between parent(s) and children.

Child Care Nurse Consultant – 100% of children with special health care needs have a special needs care plan in place at the child care facility.

Child Care Consultant – 69.32% of programs working with Consultant have met their established goals.

Quality Improvement – 80% of programs working with consultant improve, or maintain at the highest level, in a quality initiative.

Professional Development –one conference held, 100% in early learning content.

**Child Care Nurse Consultant**

- Special health care needs
- Onsite assessments
- Trainings

**Child Care Consultant**

- Registered/Licensed child care
- Devleopmentally appropriate practices
- Quality Improvement Program
- Child care slots

**Professional Development**

- Quality Rating System
- Licensing
- Quality Preschool Program Standards