

Family Literacy (Iowa Department of Education)

Project Director: Barbara Grandstaff

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New Award: \$23,533

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Term: 07/01/05-06/30/06

Iowa Lakes Community College will partner with Estherville Lincoln Central (ELC) Community School District to provide family literacy activities. This project will serve 25-30 families with children age 0-8 years. This family literacy initiative will enhance three existing programs in the community of Estherville: **Even Start, Adult Basic Education (ABE-GED/English Literacy),** and **Prevent Child Abuse Iowa (PCAI)**. This project will provide the resources necessary to expand family literacy activities to persons not currently served. Recruitment, marketing and retention strategies which foster awareness and understanding of family literacy and its benefits will encourage increased participation in this or related literacy projects. This project will provide stop-gap measures to significantly increase family literacy outcomes by providing literacy activities for families not being served by other organizations/projects. Project design is based on Iowa's adult literacy continuous improvement benchmark model (IALCIBM).

This project will replicate this model with additional families not served by Even Start or Head Start programs. Enrolled families will participate in all components of the project: **Adult education (ABE, English Literacy, preparation for GED), Parenting literacy training (provide parenting tools to support their child's educational growth), Early childhood education (preparation for entering or transitioning through school), and Interactive parent and child literacy activities (PACT time).**

A participant matrix will be utilized to identify families most in need of family literacy services, should the need to limit services become necessary. A systemic recruitment process targeted to special populations will be implemented. Activities and special events will be hosted at handicap accessible locations to ensure facilities do not pose a barrier to attendance. Promotional materials will be produced and distributed in both English and Spanish.

Project Manager will coordinate internal project evaluation based on National Reporting System Measures and Methods. **Outcome measures** will include educational gain, receipt of secondary school diploma or GED and placement in postsecondary education or training. **Descriptive measures** will include student demographics, reasons for attending and student status. **Participation measures** of contact hours received and enrollment in instructional programs for special populations or topics will be included in participant files. Data collected will relate directly to project goals defined.