

Annual Report FY24



A Project of Iowa Association for
the Education of Young Children

About Us



Who We Are

The Early Childhood Quality Improvement Project (ECQuIP) is a project of the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children. The ECQuIP team supports 14 early childhood programs that

serve at least 30% children from families receiving Child Care Assistance in Polk and Dallas counties. The goal of the project is to help programs achieve a level of quality that supports the development of all children and puts them on track with their peers when entering kindergarten.



Professional Development

We provided 62 hours of professional development for center staff on topics such as classroom best practices, guidance and discipline strategies, and social emotional development.



Screenings & Referrals

We facilitate various screenings and referrals, such as developmental, math, literacy, social emotional, health (with EveryStep), and dental (with Dental Connections).



Center Support

We conducted 940 center visits, providing over 260 staff with support in curriculum, assessment, developmental screening, classroom management, and director consultation.

Demographics Served

1,296

children birth to age five,

64%

of which receive Child Care Assistance.

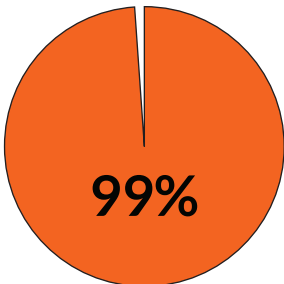
Participation in Quality Initiatives

7/14

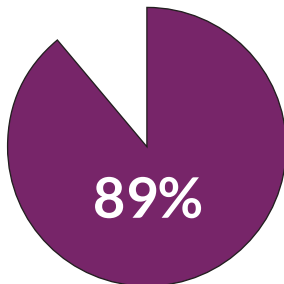
centers in the Coalition have an IQ4K® rating of 3 or higher, including three NAEYC-accredited centers.

Assessment Results

Of the 96 4-year-old children assessed with Teaching Strategies GOLD between October 2023 and May 2023:



showed improvement in math skills



showed improvement in early literacy skills

2024 Center Coalition

AlRazi Academy
Ihsan Yaseen

All Star Day Care
Karen Newcomb

Altoona 8th Street Child Care
Janet Ira

Capitol Park Early Learning Center
Whitney Fink

CFI Child Development Center
Samantha Harms-Kedley

Color My World Child Care & Preschool
Bobbie Gregory

Connigo Early Education Center
Kay Strahorn

Christ the King Day Care
Makayla Grossman

Families Forward Child Development Center
Ayanna Oakley

Grandview Child Development Center
Sara Isaacson

House of Mercy
Andy Smith

Oak Academy
Bethany Davis

Perry Child Development Center
Kim Bonjour-Eiteman

Wonder Years Academy
Laura Trainer



Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children

ECQuIP Team



Tammy Engebretson
Director of Quality Initiatives



Johnna Haggerty
Consultant



Laurie Parker
Consultant



Lisa Stocksleger
Consultant



Jennifer Stritz
Consultant

Funder Acknowledgement

ECQuIP has been funded for over twenty years, resulting in immeasurable life-long impacts on young children. Gratitude and appreciation to our ECQuIP supporters working toward equitable access to higher education, better compensation, and employment stability.

We thank the following funders for their support:



*United Way of Central Iowa
through Women United*



**POLK COUNTY
EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA**

Polk County Early Childhood Iowa