



A Project of Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children

— ANNUAL REPORT —

FY25

Who We Are

The Early Childhood Quality Improvement Project (ECQuIP) is a project of the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children (Iowa AEYC). The ECQuIP team supports 12 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 56.5 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 773 center visits, providing over 200 staff with support in curriculum, assessment, developmental screening, classroom management, and director consultation.

Coalition Centers

AIRazi Academy

Ihsan Yaseen

All Star Day Care

Karen Newcomb

Capitol Park Early Learning Center

Mia Sears

CFI Child Development Center

Samantha Harms-Kedlsey

Color My World Child Care & Preschool

Bobbie Gregory

Connmigo Early Education Center

Kay Strahorn

Families Forward Child Development Center

Ayanna Oakley

Grand View 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



Demographics Served

1,175 children birth to age five

75% of which receive Child Care Assistance

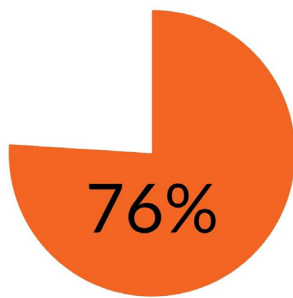
Participation in Quality Initiatives

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

Assessment Results

of the 115 4-year-old children assessed with Teaching Strategies GOLD Between October 2024 and May 2025:



showed improvement in math skills



showed improvement in literacy skills

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 thier support:



*United Way of Central Iowa
through Women United*



**POLK COUNTY
EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA**

Polk County Early Childhood Iowa