

# Quad Counties 4 Kids Early Childhood Area

Serving Families and Children in  
Adams, Ringgold, Taylor and Union Counties in Iowa

Vicki Sickels, Director

807 W. Columbus Street | Mount Ayr, Iowa 50854 | vsickels@windstream.net

## Vision Statement

A Child, Beginning at Birth, Will Be Healthy & Successful.

## Mission Statement

We will collaborate as a four county area to enhance the lives of children 0-5 and their families.



## Did You Know?

Total number of child care providers has dropped by 46% in the past 4 years that data is available

According to CCR&R there is a shortage of 1332 day care slots in the area

## Programs and Activities Supported

- Family Support In-Home-Visitation 0 – 5 years
- Preschool Scholarship/Support and Transportation
- Consultation Services for Early Care Environments
- Oral Health - Screenings, Varnish, & Education
- Early Care & Education Provider Development
- Quality Improvement Grants
- Program Coordination
- Needs Assessment

## Community Plan Priorities

- Children's growth and development
- Children's education
- Stable and supportive families
- Quality early learning environments



There are approximately 2000 days between birth and the first day of kindergarten. The first 2000 days of a child's life can be a PROFOUND and LIFELONG impact on physical and emotional wellbeing, readiness to learn and succeed, and ability to become a productive citizen.

## Our Partners

Creative Beginnings Preschool

Diagonal CSD Early Childhood Programs

Discovery Kids Preschool

East Union Early Childhood Center

Hearts and Hugs Preschool and Day Care

I Think I Can Childcare Center

In-Home Day Care Providers

ISU Extension Adams County

ISU Extension Taylor County

Joyful Sparks Preschool

MATURA Action Corporation

Precious People Preschool

Ringgold County Family Resource Center

Ringgold County Public Health

Southwestern Community College

Taylor County Public Health

Trinity Lutheran Preschool

**73**

# of Children able to attend preschool with the help of Tuition Assistance  
49% were at or below 100% FPL  
30% were 101-150% FPL  
21% were 151-200% FPL

**93 %**

of those children demonstrated age appropriate skills

**75%**

of early learning environments participating in quality improvement had a QRS rating of 3 or higher

**1126**

# visits made to families by our family support programs

**92**

% of families who improved or maintained healthy, functioning problem solving and communication

**65**

% of families that increased knowledge about child development and parenting

**96**

% of families that increased or maintained social supports

**71**

% of families were connected to additional concrete supports

## Early Childhood Development

### Birth through age five

**We believe** that quality early childhood education is the basis for a life of economic freedom. In fact, we believe that early childhood is the most critical stage for children's social, emotional, intellectual, physical and spiritual development.

– *The Dekko Foundation*

