

OUR VISION AND MISSION

Vision:

Working together so every child is happy, healthy and ready to learn.

Mission:

Building strategies to improve the lives of young children and their families through collaboration, coordination and planning in Cerro Gordo, Hancock and Worth counties.

Purpose:

Working to empower individuals and communities to achieve desired results to improve the quality of life for children ages 0-5 and their families.

Service Area:

Cerro Gordo, Hancock and Worth Counties

OUR GOALS

Be an active partner in prevention collaborations, programming and educational opportunities.

Make affordable, assessable and high-quality early learning and child care available to all families.

Enhance current community efforts in sustaining or improving preventable health, mental health and wellness for the benefit of children 0-5 and their families.

Provide support for quality early care and learning environments.

Children grow confident, resilient and independent in safe, stable and nurturing families, schools and communities.

OUR BOARD

Chris Watts – Cerro Gordo County Elected Official
Sis Greiman – Hancock County Elected Official
Enos Loberg – Worth County Elected Official
Melinda McVey – Faith Representative
Heidi Venem – Education Representative
Shana Butler – Public Health Representative
Jennifer White – Human Services Representative
Lacey Waller – Citizen Volunteer Representative
Stephenie Lau – Consumer Representative
Ken Zimmerman – Business Representative
Jaci Miller – Director

For Board meeting dates and times please refer to the NICA website: www.nichildrensalliance.com



North Iowa Children's Alliance

Annual Report FY'24



INVESTING IN OUR PRIORITIES

210 children received an oral health screening and 25 at high risk received dental care coordination for services. (\$30,000 investment)

59 children received preschool tuition assistance allowing them to attend a quality preschool program. (\$57,000 investment)

23 children were provided 164 days of transportation to attend Head Start eliminating a barrier for working parents. (\$52,594 investment)

29 families and 47 children received education, resources and support through 461 in home visits. (\$150,000 investment)

INVESTING IN OUR PRIORITIES

20 licensed and registered child care providers are rated on the IQ4K quality rating system. (\$3,600 investment)

Mental health consultant provided 336 hours of consultation services to Head Start classrooms and staff to foster responsive, nurturing relationships and promote strong social emotional development. (\$24,233 investment)

Provided preschools with training and educational kits focused on implement ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE on ECI eligible children. (\$8,867 investment)

Childcare Consultant provided 359 hours of consulting, coaching and mentoring to 93 early care and educational programs. (\$76,636 investment)

Provided nurse consultation to 31 early care centers, homes and preschools in which 100% improved health and safety conditions. (\$32,716 investment)



COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

- Childcare Resource and Referral
- County public health agencies
- Iowa Department of Health and Human Services
- Iowa State Extension
- MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center
- North Iowa Community Action Organization
- Private/public schools and preschools
- And multiple other human services organizations

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Robust partnerships between public health, health care systems, human services, community nonprofits, county government, community actions, and childcare collaboratives are working together to improve the health, safety and readiness to succeed in school of children 0-5 in Cerro Gordo, Hancock and Worth counties. Problems that our community needs to resolve are complex, requiring comprehensive solutions. Mobilizing and participating in community collaborations is an effective measure to integration services so that resources are not wasted and efforts are not needlessly duplicated.

Grounded by our vision, the North Iowa Children's Alliance revolves around the concept of working together to envision and enact positive change – both within our funded programs and communities around us.