

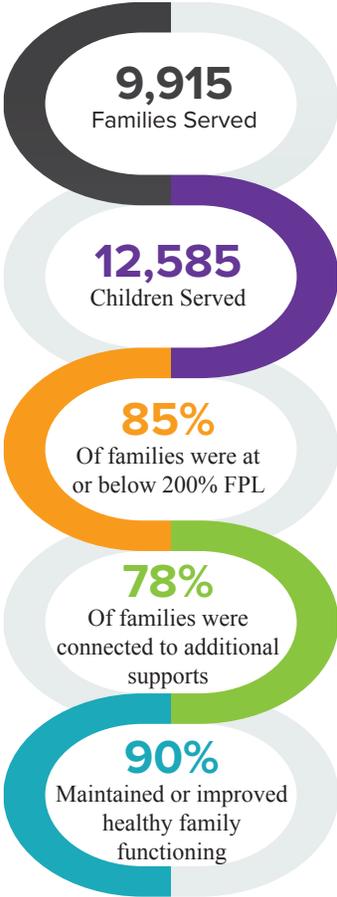


Families, in all the diverse patterns, sizes, creeds, and colors they come in; are the heart and soul of our society. Children's well-being is a direct result of the well-being of their families. Parents have the greatest impact on their child's development and success, but many need support in learning how to nurture and teach their child. Every day children learn about life and who they are through interactions with and observations of their parents and other primary caregivers.

**Family support** services in Iowa consist of group-based parent education programs and home visiting. **Home visiting** provides families with a professional who regularly meets with them in their home to guide parents in building their parenting skills, accessing community resources such as healthcare and counseling, and increasing self-sufficiency. These programs work to prevent child abuse, increase school readiness, and foster health child development.

This report includes information from a variety of family support programs which vary in goals, program models, training and support for staff, and operate out of the following funding sources:

- Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) Family Support Programs
- Healthy Opportunities for Parents to Experience Success - Healthy Families Iowa (HOPES-HFI)
- Shared Visions Family Support Programs
- Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Programs



(Fiscal Year 2016, FSSD Data)

## Collaborative Projects

An online assessment that ensures all family support professionals in Iowa are competent and prepared to work with families and children

A web-based data collection system used by 4 funding streams and 180 programs which provides a comprehensive overview of family outcomes

