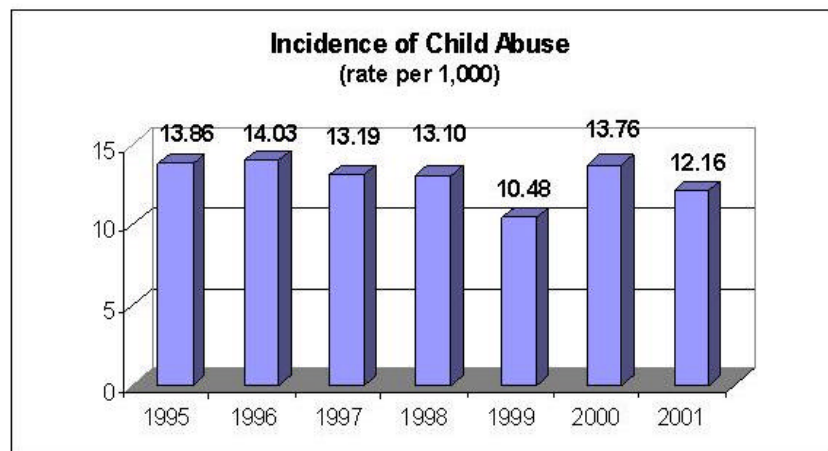
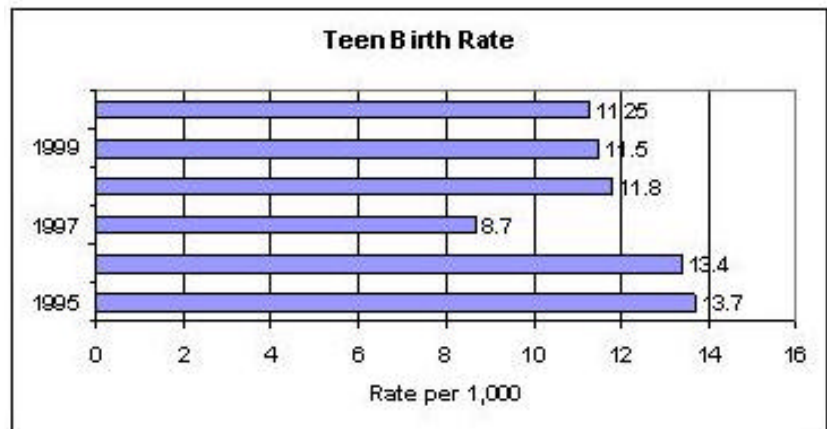


Secure and Nurturing Families

Community Empowerment strives to help families effectively fulfill their roles as primary providers, nurturers and teachers of their children. Community Empowerment provides families with advocacy, information, education, and support. Examples of services include family resource centers, training in parenting skills, parent education opportunities, family literacy and home visiting programs.

Families in Iowa have a great need for support:

- Iowa ranks 2nd in the nation in the percentage of families with preschool children in which all parents in the household are employed.
- The majority of mothers with children under the age of five are in the workforce.

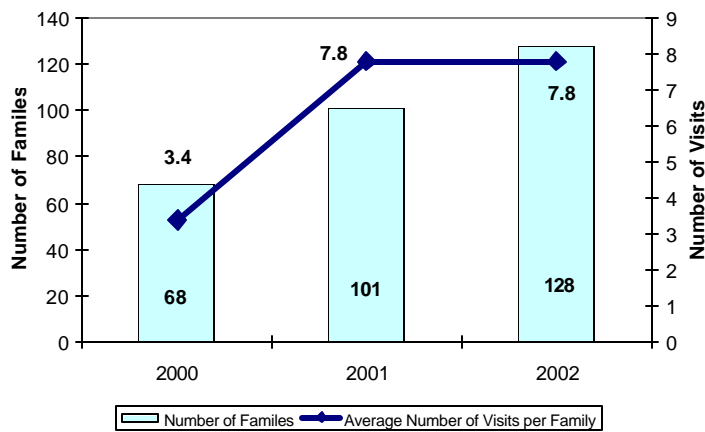


Communities are encouraged to commit 60% of school-ready funds to provide parent support and education programs and services. Family/parent support and education programs and services are delivered in a variety of locations and formats. These programs and services typically provide families with information, materials such as toys and games, and emotional support in order to enhance the family's well-being, support family stability and promote parent-child interactions. Communities have utilized home visits with individual families, parent/family education classes in group settings or a combination of home visits and group activities to support families in their role as the children's first and most important teacher.

Progress Towards Results from Community Empowerment Areas

Secure and Nurturing Families

Parents as Teachers (Washington County)



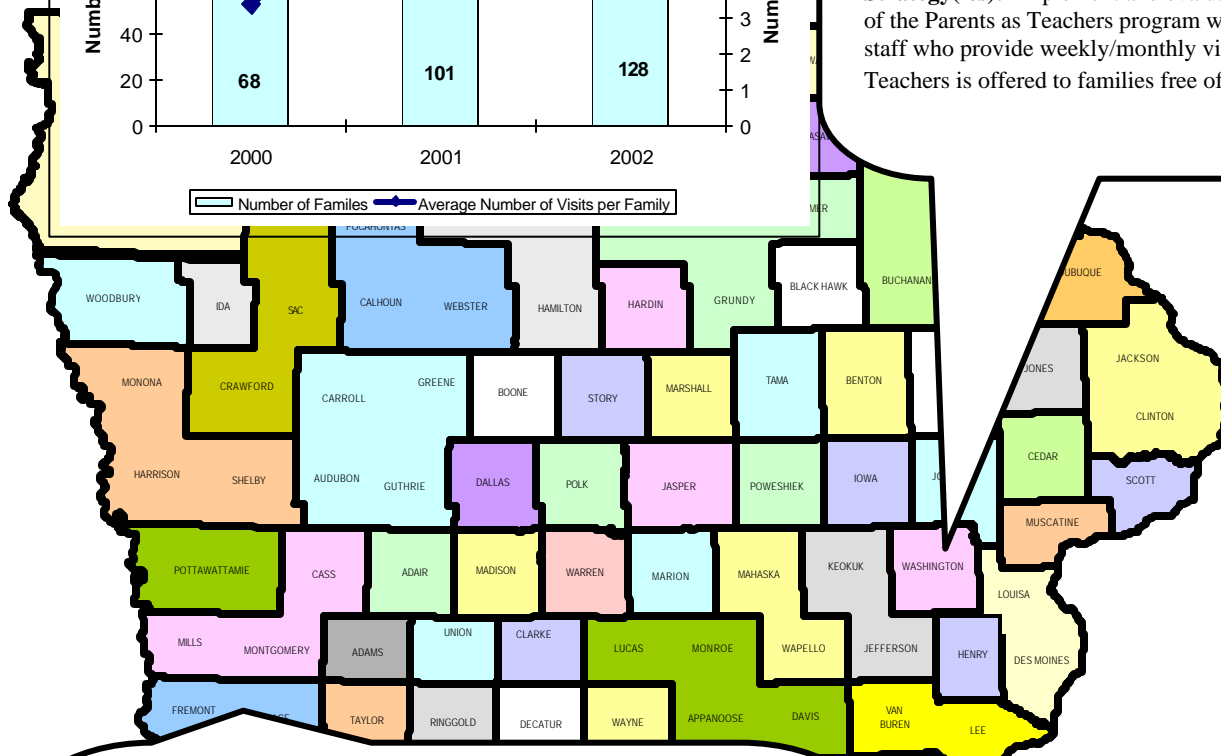
Washington County Empowerment

Local Identified Need/priority: Limited early childhood intervention programs for children aged 0 -3 years.

Goal: Offer the Parents as Teachers home visitor program to families/caregivers of children 0 -3 years.

Local Indicator or Program Performance Measure: Number of families and average number of visits per family in the Parents as Teachers home visitation program.

Strategy(ies): Implement and evaluate enrollment/retention of the Parents as Teachers program with qualified, trained staff who provide weekly/monthly visits. Parents as Teachers is offered to families free of charge.



Corner Counties Empowerment Area (Freemont and Page Counties)

Local Identified Need/priority:

Need for home visitation and parent education.

Goal:

- Increase the number of parents visited within 10 days of baby's birth
- Increase the number of HOPES visits for at-risk families
- Increase the number of families served by *Growing Strong Families* home visiting program

Local Indicator Program or Performance Measure:

Number of new baby visits by *Bright and Beautiful Beginnings* workers

Number of HOPES visits

Number of Families enrolled in *Growing Strong Families*

Number of visits by *Growing Strong Families* workers

Strategy(ies):

A full continuum of home visitation services is provided by the Corner Counties Empowerment Area. From newborns (*Bright & Beautiful Beginnings*), HOPES to assist families in crisis, and on-going home visitation through *Growing Strong Families*.

Home Visitation Visits by Programs (Corner Counties)

