

FY09 Annual Report

Quad County Decategorization Project

Serving: Lee, Louisa, Henry and Des Moines Counties

Submitted by:

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1) SUMMARIZE THE PROJECT'S KEY ACTIVITIES DURING THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR:

Quad County Decategorization Program intention for fiscal year 2009 was to stay true to the mission of Decategorization, helping youth and families by enhancing the infrastructure to include services that are strengths based and diversify focused that meet the diverse needs of the community. Various methods were used to in order to gain a broad perspective on the needs of youth and families in the Quad Counties. On 8/1/08 there was a meeting to address school based mental health services for the Quad Counties for FY09 (Attachment A). The following table illustrates the sources and participants of the various methods of data collection.

TABLE 1

Community Planning Sources	Participants
DHS/JCS focus group	DHS Staff and JCS Staff
Superintendents focus group	Superintendents of local school districts
Review of Health Henry County Communities Empowerment Community Plan	Decategorization Staff and Quad County Decategorization Board Members
Review of Caring Community Community Empowerment Plan	Decategorization Staff and Quad County Decategorization Board Members
Mental Health Survey	All school districts
Juvenile Delinquency Annual Statistical Report	Decategorization Staff and Quad County Decategorization Board Members
Department of Human Services CY 2008 on child abuse rates	Decategorization Staff and Quad County Decategorization Board Members
Des Moines County Interagency Committee Meeting (discussed needs of a CPPC site in Des Moines County)	Decategorization Staff
DHS Annual Report	Decategorization Staff and Quad County Decategorization Board Members

2) DESCRIBE THE PROJECT'S PROGRESS IN REACHING THE DESIRED OUTCOMES OF THEIR PROJECT PLAN DURING THE PREVIOUS STATE FISCAL YEAR:

The staff strived to meet the needs of the community while staying true to the intention of Decategorization. All programs that were funded in FY09 had desired outcomes to keep youth out of the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, improve family functioning, and/or to improve the educational wellbeing of children. These outcomes were closely monitored by the Decategorization

Coordinator and were reported to the Quad County Decategorization Board. The Quad County Decat Board members engaged in community planning exercises to ensure their financial investment into community programming would meet the needs of children and families who were most at risk. During Decat Board meetings the members reviewed the outcomes and gave input on modifications and recommendations to contract holders.

3) DESCRIBE ANY PLANNING ADJUSTMENTS AND LESSONS LEARNED DURING THE FISCAL YEAR:

Decategorization staff spent time in FY09 educating local legislators about the funding regulations of Decategorization. Per the administrative rules, Decat programs are only guaranteed to carryover unobligated funding for one fiscal year. . Legislation has allowed Decat's to carryover more than one year of funding however, this is an exception, not the rule. It is appreciated when the prior year's funding is retained however, when financial numbers are released in October this limits the competitive bidding process, the ability to execute a long term contract and effectively begin a new service prior to the end of the fiscal year. A new program can take a considerable amount of time to begin services that can be limited by hiring and training of staff, become established in the community and have an effective referral process. Contractors are reluctant to take the considerable financial risks to embark on such projects when they do not know if the project can be sustained from year to year due to the unstable carryover funding process.

Despite these obstacles, the Quad County Decat Project continues to seek creative and effective ways to keep youth out of the child welfare and juvenile justice systems that are culturally appropriate to the Quad County area. As the Board prepares for FY10, careful consideration must be given to the value of current contracts regarding the best "bang for the buck."

Due to budget constraints, Decat staff utilized electronic communication and electronic surveys. Many community members used the on-line resources to provide feedback on issues, community needs and use of our website, which highlights Quad County community planning documents to guide and educate the stakeholder of Decat's process and protocols. There are instructions on how to complete a GAX form on the website. This explanation allows staff time to be freed up and return responsibility to the contract holder for contract compliance.

4) QUAD COUNTY DECATEGORIZATION FUNDED PROGRAMS

Project 1) Brief Intensive Services, DCAT8-08-201, Young House

Description:

This program provides in-home family-centered brief intensive services to children ages six to seventeen living in Des Moines, Henry, Lee and Louisa Counties who are not currently involved with but who are at-risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system and/or child welfare system. These children are referred to the program for mental health issues, substance abuse within the household, anger and aggression, abandonment issues, grief issues, as victims of abuse, and/or low self esteem.

Key Activities:

The Performance Measures for this service are:

- 90% of children and families will have no involvement in the child welfare system for a period of 12 months post discharge.
- 90% of children and families will have no involvement in the juvenile justice system
- 90% of families will demonstrate an increase in family functioning at the point of case closure based on the approved assessment instrument
- 75% of families will have increased their informal support network at the close of the case
- 80% of children will have no contact with law enforcement during services and for a period of 6 months post discharge
- 60% of school age children will improve school performance during services and for three months after services are completed
- Services were provided to 138 children

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

The contracted service has met area expectations.

- 97% of children and families had no involvement in the child welfare system
- 100% of children had no involvement in the juvenile court system
- 88% of families demonstrated improvement in overall family functioning
- 99% of families had at least one informal support added at the close of a case
- No cases were identified as involved with law enforcement during services or up to 6 months post discharge
- 86% of school age children improved school performance for three months after services were completed
- Services were provided to 138 children

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

Brief Intensive Services (BIS) through Young House Family Services operates on a contract eligible for yearly renewals based on performance, utilization, and availability of decategorization funding. With the uncertainties in decat funding; BIS experienced an ebb and flow of funding this year: an increase in funding for the last portion of FY09 followed by an intentional reduction of families served

due to anticipated reduction in funding for FY10. As mentioned previously, such fluidity impacts the ability of Young House Family Services to provide and market these services within the community. Additionally, services provided by part time staff in periods of increased funding affects the reimbursement formula when the original formula was developed with FTEs with benefits. This will be examined more closely in FY10.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$203,000.00

Project 2) Coordination, DCAT-07-027, Scott County Kids

Description:

Coordination services are provided to the Quad County area to ensure Decategorization practices are maintained and to provide assistance in meeting the Children and Family Service Review (CFSR) outcomes for the Davenport Service Area.

Key Activities:

The Key Activities for this service are:

- Contract management including development, competitive selection process, site visits, monitoring and reviewing performance
- Planning of, facilitation of, and representation at meetings
- Organization and preparation of agendas, notices, and minutes
- Research of program and policy issues
- Representation of Decategorization in the community
- Prepare written and oral reports

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

Decategorization staff:

- Maintained all contract files and performed monitoring activities for all contracts
- Planned and attended all board meetings and focus groups
- Organized and prepared all the agendas, notices, and minutes
- Educated legislators about Decategorization and proposed a pilot project
- Attended various community meetings and focus groups designed to enhance the well being of Quad County children and families
- Prepared all required written reports

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

No adjustments were made to this contract.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$29,255.00

Project 3) Legal Services Related to Guardianship Transfers, DCAT-07-101, Smith and Kultala

Description:

Provides legal services related to guardianship transfers for DHS cases referred from Des Moines, Lee, Louisa and Henry Counties.

Key Activities:

The key activities for this service are:

- Preparing necessary documents
- Submitting necessary documents to the court
- Obtaining court approval of the transfer
- Recording the documents with the appropriate entity
- Notify the agency and the participants of the completed transfers
- Submit itemized vouchers for services rendered, filing fees, and court costs

The program measures are:

- 100% of legal work will be completed within 90 days once concurrent jurisdiction has been granted and the referral is made
- 90% of all notice of completion of transfer will be provided to all interested parties within 5 working days of completion

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- All guardianships were done according to the timeframes set forth by DHS and the court system

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

Contract was increased from \$2,500 to \$17,500.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$17,500.00

Project 4) Community Restitution Program, CJJP-06-V2-001, Young House

Description:

This provides community restitution services for youth in Lee, Louisa, Henry and Des Moines County who are sentenced to community restitution hours by either the Juvenile Court Officer or a court judge.

Key Activities:

The program measures are:

- 100% of youth will be safe during their participation in the program
- At least 80% of youth will not re-offend during or up to 3 months after completing restitution

- At least 65% of youth completing restitution will indicate that their attitudes have changed about the impact of their actions on their families and community
- 80% of youth assigned to the program will complete their assigned restitution hours

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- 92% of youth did not re-offend during or up to three months after completing restitution
- 100% of youth were safe during their participation in the program
- 56% of youth assigned to the program completed their behavioral contracts and assigned hours
- 3820 hours of community service were completed for a wage value of \$27,695
- 361 youth were provided services

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

No adjustments were made to this contract.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$22,500.00

Project 5) Motivational Training, DCAT8-09-182, Andrew Furguson

Description:

Provided Motivational Interview training for Juvenile Court staff in the 8th Judicial District.

Key Activities:

The Key Measures for this service are:

- Held training on motivational interviewing for Juvenile Court Staff.

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- Participants viewed this as a meaningful training and indicated they will be able to use this technique when working with youth.
- Around 30 individuals attended the training

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

This was a one-time contract. There were no adjustments made to this contract.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$750.00

Project 6) Education Program Workbooks, DCAT8-09-193, Tri-State Coalition

Description:

This contractor provided workbooks to assist in educational training on youth and education related topics facilitated by Tri-State Coalition in the Lee County School Districts.

Key Activities:

Program measures are:

- 95% of youth who utilized the workbooks will indicate positive changes in knowledge and attitudes towards the subject matter.
- 100% of the workbooks will be for school based prevention programming

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- 165 *Quit It* Curriculum workbooks purchased serving 117 students
- 165 *Bully Proof* Curriculum workbooks purchased serving 34 students
- 133 *Flirting or Hurting* Curriculum workbooks purchased serving 82 students
- Children served in various grades K-6 within 3 school districts
- Knowledge increased 32%-41% on various pre/post test measures for the *Bully Proof* program.
- Workbooks not used by the end of the school year were distributed to elementary schools for use in school-based prevention programming for the following school year.

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

There were no adjustments made to the contract. This was a one-time contract.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$4,995.00

Project 7) Home Visitation Materials, DCAT8-09-170, Lee County Health Department**Description:**

This contract provided curriculum and parent education resources specifically designed for fathers and male role models for the Lee County HOPES program. Materials included *The Dad Difference Curriculum*, *Dads 101 Program-The Basics*, *Growing and Developing*, *Becoming a Father*, *Great Beginnings with your Baby: A guide for Teen Parents*, *Partner for a Healthy Baby: 13-18; 19-27; and 28-36 months*, as well as parent incentives and snacks for four group activities and shipping and handling for the above mentioned print materials.

Key Activities:

Goals of the program included:

- Increase by at least 50% the number of fathers/males actively participating during a home visit or group activity (from 9 to at least 18) during 2009.

- Provide at least four group activities during 2009 involving fathers/male caregivers participating in activities designed to promote father/child positive interactions.

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

These funds provided support to the research-based prevention program HOPES in supporting the desired outcomes of increased positive parent-child interactions and family coping skills designed to prevent child abuse and neglect and/or other poor childhood outcomes that will help decrease Lee County's child abuse and neglect rates in the long-term.

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

This was a one-time contract and thus, no adjustments were necessary.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$2,730.00

Project 8) Lee County Community Partnership for the Protection of Children, DCFS-07-030A, Lee County Auditor.

Description:

The contract provides leadership and coordination of activities to implement the Community Partnership for the Protection of Children initiative in Lee County.

Key Activities:

The Key Activities for this service are:

- Shared decision making board will meet at least quarterly with 80% attendance of all members
- Family Team Meeting trainings held will result in 90% satisfaction by all participants completing the training
- At least one neighborhood networking activity will be undertaken in the contracting period
- At least one activity aimed at changing practice or policy will be undertaken in the contract period.

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- Held a Family Fun Day Event and a Child Abuse and Neglect Networking and Appreciation Event
- Held a Tri State Coalition on Domestic Violence bracelet and bookmark campaign
- 10 people serve on the Shared Decision Making Board which met at least quarterly
- No Family Team Meeting trainings were conducted

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

Adjustments in the program measures were made for FY09. Some of the previous program measurements were not relevant during this period as this was the second year of the contract. This contract was not renewed for FY10 due to decreased funding amounts.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$15,000.00

Project 9) Community Partnership for the Protection of Children Initiative, DCFS8-08-041, Healthy Henry County Communities

Description:

This contract provides leadership and coordination of activities to implement the Community Partnership for the Protection of Children initiative in Henry County including the four strategies and subsequent action steps as listed in the CPPC annual plan.

Key Activities:

The program measures are:

- Shared decision making board will meet at least quarterly with 80% attendance of all members
- Family Team Meeting trainings held will result in 90% satisfaction by all participants completing the training
- At least one neighborhood networking activity will be undertaken in the contracting period
- At least one activity aimed at changing practice or policy will be undertaken in the contract period.

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- 15 members serve on the CPPC board
- 15 FUTURE groups held
- 2 of 8 (25%) of Board meetings held with at least 80% of members in attendance; the 2 meetings meeting this criteria were in the final quarter of FY09
- 48 Family Team Meetings were conducted
- Policy and practice change activities conducted to reduce underage drinking and collaborations to keep children safe including Healthy Henry Community Bike Rodeo, Recreation Department Right Ride, and Safety Town
- Networking activities included FUTURE groups, public service announcements, preparation for and participation in Safety Town and a newspaper special section, presentations to the Ministerial Alliance, and participation in the Ask Me campaign

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

Henry County CPPC experienced a change in the leadership of the coordinator early on in the contract period. As this contract is renewed for FY10, program measures of board attendance will be monitored closely per the terms of the contract as this was an identified difficulty for the CPPC project.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$20,000.00

Project 10) Burlington After School Program, DCAT8-09-168, Burlington Community School District

Description:

This program provides after school programming to low income students in grades 6, 7, and 8 in the Burlington Community School District. The contractor will target students who experience one or more of the following: qualify for free or reduced lunch, academic challenges, behavior issues, social deficits, or attend a Title 1 school.

Key Activities:

The program measures are:

- 90% of children participating in the after school program will not be involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice system
- 60% of students participating in the program will show improved academic performance at the completion of the program
- 100% of students will receive academic and recreational activities during each day the program is open
- 100% of students will receive age appropriate character or skill building activity two times per week.
- Target 80 at-risk students in grades 6,7, and 8

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- 100% of students participating in the after school program were not involved with the child welfare or juvenile justice system while participating in the program
- 73% of students showed improved academic performance at the completion of the program
- 100% of students received academic and recreational activities during each day the program was open
- 100% of the students received age appropriate character or skill building activities two times per week.
- 104 students received services through this contract

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

There were no adjustments made to the contract. This was a one-time contract.

Expenditures:

FY09 \$49,995.00

Project 11) Keokuk After School Program, DCAT8-09-169, Keokuk Community School District

Description:

This service provided after school programming to students in the Keokuk Community School District targeted to students who experience one or more of the following: qualify for free or reduced lunch, academic challenges, behavior issues, social deficits, or attend a Title 1 school.

Key Activities:

The program measures are:

- 90% of children participating in the after school program, who are not currently involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice system, will not become involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice system while participating in the after school or summer program
- 70% of students participating in the program will show improved academic performance at the completion of the program
- 70% of students will have improved attendance rates at the completion of the program
- 100% of students will receive academic and recreational activities during each day the program is open
- 100% of students will receive age appropriate character or skill building activity two times per week.

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- 100% of students received academic and recreational activities during each day of the program
- 100% of students received age appropriate character building activities twice per week.

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

There were no adjustments made to the contract. This was a one-time contract.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$23,625.00

Project 12) Ft. Madison After School Program, DCAT8-09-167, Ft. Madison Community School District

Description:

Through this contract, the Ft. Madison CSD provided after school and summer programs to students in the school district who experienced one or more of the following: qualify for free or reduced lunch, academic challenges, behavior

issues, social deficits, or attend a Title 1 school. 156 (34%) of the school's 453 students were served from March 2 – June 30, 2009.

Key Activities:

The program measures are:

- 90% of students participating in the program who are not currently involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice system, will not become involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice system while participating in the after school or summer program
- 60% of students will have improved attendance rates at the completion of the program
- 60% of students will have improved attendance rates at the completion of the program – for after school programs only
- 100% of students will receive academic and recreational activities during each day the program is open
- 100% of students will receive age appropriate character or skill building activity two times per week

Progress in reaching desired outcomes:

- 99% of the students participating in the program were not involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice system
- 87% of the students participating in the program showed improved academic performance at the completion of the program
- 93% of students participating in the program showed improved attendance rates at the completion of the program
- 100% of students received academic and recreational activities during each day of the program
- 100% of students received age appropriate character building activities twice per week.
- In addition to the academic portion of this program, the funded programs included environmental awareness, community involvement, and the performing arts.

Planning adjustments and lessons learned:

This program met or exceeded the desired objectives of providing a safe place for children to learn skills and character building.

Expenditures:

FY 09 \$26,250.00

Attachment A

8-1-08

School Based Mental Health Meeting

9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Burlington Board of Supervisors Board Room

Participants:

1. Mary Cavanaugh—AEA Louisa Muscatine
2. Dr. Jonathan Weinand—Res Care
3. Ryanne Wood—CPC Lee County
4. Jack Escorcia—Young House
5. Melissa Sheets—Mid Iowa
6. Pat Colhurst—CPC Louisa County
7. Jennifer Shints—Mid Iowa
8. Teressa—Mid Iowa
9. Missing Agency--CHC

Structure of Current Services

- Louisa
 - Mid Iowa After School remedial services
- Des Moines
 - Young House School Based Remedial in Burlington and W. Burlington 6 schools
 - Mid Iowa After School remedial services
- Lee
 - Mid Iowa After School remedial services
 - Res Care has remedial services
- Henry
 - Mid Iowa After School remedial services

Barriers

- No or limited child psychologists (Mid Iowa has one through teleconferencing)
 - Especially difficult in Louisa and Lee counties
- Cultural Barriers
 - Columbus Junction has a large number of undocumented children
 - Opposed to medication

- English as a second language students and parents who do not speak English
- Driving time/Down time
- Increase in mental health commitments for 12-13 year olds
- Large amount of paperwork
- Difficulties finding appropriate staff
- Decat barrier—how will the RFP be structured

Questions

- For Decat Board
 - Who?
 - Insurance statues—will Decat pay for: children with no insurance, undocumented children, children who can not meet their deductible?
 - Will the contract state that they have to serve all children or just the children Decat will fund?
 - Will this be for LISW's and/or LMSW's?
 - Will there be a targeted age?
 - Where?
 - Can they serve children in the office if insurance prohibits seeing them in the school?
 - What?
 - AEA's responsibility vs. School Based Mental Health Counselor
 - This is often different depending on the district
 - Will this also include "Resource and Referral"?
 - Will the contractor be required to provide summer appointments in the school?
 - Contracting/RFP Questions
 - Will the contractor be required to assist children and families with applying for Title 19 and Hawk-i?
 - Will Decat pay for admin time for helping with families complete Title 19 and Hawk-I paperwork, initial paperwork, case notes, coordination of services, and Decat reporting?
 - Do we allow the contractor to gather co-pays?
 - Can we reduce the amount of information gathered by the contractor for quarterly reports?

Solutions from August 1st Meeting

- No fee for service contract
- Be aware of rural areas and their barriers
- More than one contract per county
- Flexibility to have services in office