

Polk County Decategorization- FY 10 Progress Report

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Contractor Name</u>	<u>Service provided</u>	<u>Funds expended</u>
DCAT6-10-257	Ankeny Community Schools	Empowerment Pre-K Services	2,508
<p>The program concentrates on getting children ready for school through activities, experiences, songs, and literature. To qualify for the program, children must be 3 ½ or 4 years old by September 15th of the upcoming school year, and meet an income qualification (same qualifications as the free or reduced lunch program.). The program is free to families that qualify.</p> <p>Outcome: This funding was utilized to fill a gap in the Empowerment Preschool budget due to funding cuts. It provided increased access to technology, enrichment activities, and everyday supplies for our identified students.</p>			
DCAT6-10-318	Base Training LLC	Motivational Interviewing training	4,813
<p>This program provided Motivational Interviewing training to JCS staff. Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a counselor-directed, client-centered style of communication that helps people resolve their ambivalence about changing problem behaviors (e.g., aggression, alcohol, at risk, cannabis, etc.). MI engages juveniles in purposeful interactions through reflective listening skills that allow them to “hear” themselves think. As juveniles work through their ambivalence, they are more likely to pursue and maintain positive behavior change.</p> <p>Outcome: Training was provided to 27 JCS and Polk County staff.</p>			
DCAT6-10-260	Central Place/ SE Polk Schools	Summer literacy program	1,718
<p>This funding provided for a portion of the Kids' Café program provided by Central Place/ Southeast Polk Schools. Kid's Café is an eight-week summer program comprised of educational activities to increase student school success by introducing themes of literacy, science, math, and social-emotional development in the context of children's literature. In addition to fun and educational activities, children (and other family members who attend) are provided with a healthy hot lunch. Children also receive a bag of shelf-stable food to take home, as an overwhelming majority come from homes with food insecurity. Parents are engaged in the program to increase their connection to school, community and Central Place. This summer will be the sixth year of Kid's Café. The program is held at two sites – Mitchellville Elementary, where nearly 60% of the children receive free/educed lunch, and King's Broadway Trailer Court, a physically isolated development where residents struggle with a variety of serious social issues, not in the least is poverty.</p> <p>Outcome: The program was able to serve 130 children and 54 adults. Central Place is thrilled to be able to provide this type of summer programming to students in the Southeast Polk community. They have a chance to keep their minds active, interact with their peers, participate in fun and FREE activities and engage with positive, caring community members of all ages.</p>			

DCAT6-10-290	Children and Families of Iowa	Community Mentoring	4,899
<p>Children & Families of Iowa received a \$4900 grant from Polk County Decategorization to fund a program for community mentoring to assist clients in the Des Moines elevate chapter as they transition from the child welfare system to lead fulfilling lives as active, independent, engaged members of the community. These youth typically lack meaningful, long-lasting connections to the community. The HALO Mentoring Program seeks to recruit and train responsible volunteer mentors, match the mentors to youth requesting a mentor in their lives, and to support the relationship for at least one year.</p> <p>Over twenty elevate youth indicated they would like to be matched with a mentor. Ten of these elevate youth were actually matched with trained mentors, after consideration of the interests, skills and personalities of the mentors and how well they could be expected to blend with the needs, interests and personalities of the youth. Of these ten youth that were matched, six are from our Children & Families of Iowa's group foster homes ranging in age from 14 – 17 (three are female, three are male), one other 16 year old male lives in a family foster home, two males are over 18 and live together in an apartment, one female is over 18 and lives alone in an apartment. All parties agreed to commit to a minimum one year relationship, with face-to-face visits occurring twice monthly and either phone calls or emails on the weeks in between. Initial reports indicate that mentors and mentees are very satisfied with their matches and are looking forward to developing relationships and accomplishing goals together. Further evaluation will continue as the program moves through its first year and adaptations will continue to be made in the future. Mentors have been asked to keep journals of their interactions with their mentees, to help keep a record of behavioral and interpersonal outcomes. Mentors and mentees will be setting goals in topic areas and progress will be monitored on these goals as the year progresses. Other grant money has been received from the American Legion Foundation to help support the continuation of the HALO Mentoring Program for future matches. Other grant money may need to be sought in the future as well, and the possibility of replicating this program in other elevate chapters throughout the state will be explored.</p>			
Outcome:			
DCAT6-10-262	Children and Families of Iowa	Passport project	4,973
<p>In collaboration with Mid-Iowa Family Therapy and Zero to Three, Children & Families of Iowa requested funds to develop and study the use of a Passport document that tracks youth information. The Passport is intended to assist DHS and Juvenile Court to ensure all issues pertaining to the child are addressed by the responsible parties on the case. It would be preserved in the court file and be utilized through the life of a case. Information in the Passport would include: medical and health, connections, education, permanency, immigration, placement, and life skills/preparation for adulthood. A copy would be provided to a youth when they age out of care or to the child's family when the DHS case is closed. Studying the efficacy and possible implementation of the Passport would be completed on a sample of 12 children.</p> <p>The group was in agreement that the Passport is an excellent model for preserving historical information for children and for helping to ensure a case is proceeding on track. More testing of the document is needed, however, to further refine the tool itself – content, direction, etc. – and our group felt strongly that it should be tested on cases that have a consistent, reliable involved professional who is able to gather the information in a more measured, less overwhelming pace.</p> <p>Although the document is large, the group felt all the information was important to include. However, they felt that most cases likely would not have the entire tool filled out. The ability to fill out this document electronically would speed the process greatly and would improve the accuracy of detail.</p>			
Outcome:			
DCAT6-10-018	Children and Families of Iowa	Fiscal Agent	234,739
<p>Fiscal agent contract that houses funds utilized for a flexible funding stream that offers concrete supports to families involved with DHS, such as clothing, rent, and utility assistance. This also houses the funds utilized by the Community Partnership for Protecting Children.</p> <p>Outcome: CFI provides monthly reports to the Decat Coordinator to ensure fiscal responsibility and to reconcile records with Decat.</p>			

DCAT6-10-294	Children and Family Urban Ministries	Whyld Girls Project	4,999
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As a response to their Spring 2010 study of print media and its representations of girls and women, Whyld Girls participants created an original coffee table book reflecting various forms of writing that display their actualizations of themselves, their dreams and their community. During their spring break they worked with a hired New York-based professional actress and theatre director, T. Valada-Viars to create a dramatic presentation of their writings from the book. Following this week of drama work the participants planned and prepared for their annual Meet the Leaders event, where they performed their drama piece and released their coffee table book, complete with a book signing, with 250 community members in attendance.

Outcome: The Whyld Girls' work this program year in analyzing media and its representations has proven to be a huge success and benefit for each participant. They have learned to engage in the media beyond the role of consumer, and have worked diligently to explore messages they find in the media they witness and support. These youth took on what many consider a daunting task to write an original book, prepare for the presentation of their work and share their artistic creation to the community. Two important aspects have evolved from this project that many of the youth have internalized: the work of reflection and conversation. Through writing and editing their book and participating in weekly discussions about how girls and women are represented in media, these female youth have taken on the rewarding and rigorous work of critical thinking and self-expression. This work has changed their perspective on what they perceive as possible for their personal and professional goals, as is reflected in their writings.

DCAT6-10-211	Children and Family Urban Ministries	Reading Proficiency & Youth Connections	46,817
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The Literacy for Life initiative has three components. 1) Hiring a Literacy Coach to complete an assessment of current CFUM program components, staff resources, and current and prospective community partners; and with CFUM staff, develop a plan to implement the Literacy for Life initiative throughout CFUM programs including staff and volunteer training. 2) Enhance and improve the CFUM onsite library by hiring a Library Specialist to assess and organize the current library, and create a plan for better utilization of the library as a part of the Literacy for Life initiative. 3) Replicate a highly effective Summer Literacy program for middle school girls (the Whyld Girls) with middle school boys (the Backyard Boyz).

Outcome: This project has given us numerous tools and connections to increase significantly the impact of the literacy components of CFUM programs on students. The enthusiasm and commitment of staff and volunteers have been renewed. The engagement of students have been increased. CFUM and its participants will continue to see the benefits of this grant for years to come.

DCAT6-10-209	Child and Family Policy Center	Voices to Be Heard	60,200
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Voices to Be Heard is a support group for families and children of an incarcerated loved one. The group gathers to support and comfort those who know too well the grief that comes to those left behind when someone they love is incarcerated.

Outcome: 56 families have consistently come to Voices To Be Heard. This includes 11 African Americans, 4 Hispanic and 2 Asian. 46 children are involved in the group. Successes of the program include: • 3 new leaders emerged from this group with training provided by Voices To Be Heard. • Worked with Board of Corrections on lowering inmate phone call charges. • Helped the community understand how many families are affected by incarceration. • By having the children work with Lifeline resources they now know they are not the only ones in this situation.

DCAT6-10-258	Child Abuse Prevention Council	HOPE! Drama Troupe	4,882
<p>HOPE! Drama Troupe is a group of teens who write and perform a play about child abuse and its effect on children and families. The 25 – 30 troupe members learn about child abuse through an annual retreat in August, then proceed to write and rehearse a 30 minute play, which is performed in area schools throughout the school year. Last season 4,030 students heard the message that “it’s not OK to be abused and to seek help.” A variety of vignettes dealing with physical and mental abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, sexual abuse, date rape and neglect are covered in the performances. Two professional directors coach the teens in writing and performing the play and accompany them on tour dates. A trained facilitator is on hand to answer questions from the audience and encourage students to seek help for abuse.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>With the help of Decat funding, the project was able to perform for 1,465 students during the contracted timeframe. The best impact of the performances is related in the following example: The following was reported by a volunteer facilitator from Polk County Crisis and Advocacy Services who is on hand to answer audience questions about child abuse after HOPE! Drama Troupe performances.</p> <p>The troupe performed at Ankeny High School April 13th. At the end of the performance a student came forward to talk with someone about her personal experience. The advocate from Polk County Crisis and Advocacy Services spoke with her and supported her as she tried to voice her story through her tears. She stated she would like to get involved in a group of “people like her” who had had similar experiences. The advocate supplied her with community resources for support groups to get her needs met while she heals and further identified safe people in the school for the student to speak with.</p>		
DCAT6-09-052	Community Support Advocates	Transition to Adult Services	31,703
<p>Knowledge Empower Youth (KEY) Program goal is to engage transitional age youth prior to turning 18 into adult services. This assists the individual in bridging the gap between the children’s world and the adult world for services and allow the individual to begin to receive services from both agencies prior to 18. This in turn, will allow the KEY program the opportunity to work with the individuals to establish safe housing, further education, find employment, accessing community services (food stamps, re-applying for T19), skills training for independent living, building positive natural supports, teaching self-sufficiency, symptom management and support, and establishing new medical providers, psychiatrists, and therapists.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>The fourth quarter saw a slight increase in the number of youth served from the previous quarter. Of the youth served, 75% are involved in post-secondary education and 75% are employed. These funds have been used to work with youth on employment, socialization, transportation and overall engagement of the youth with the KEY program. Through Decat funds we were able to assist one individual with first months’ rent and deposit, allowing him to move into his own apartment for the first time. We were also able to assist a youth with purchasing a text book for a summer class at DMACC and assist another youth (who struggles with isolation) with participating in an art class at the Des Moines Art Center.</p>		

DCAT6-10-298	Community Support Advocates	Youth development supplies	3,783
<p>The KEY program works on building employment and educational skills with transitional youth through resume writing, applying for jobs, becoming familiar with the on-line job applications, email, applying for college, completing homework, completing financial aid applications, and networking.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>The KEY program was awarded \$3950 for the mini grant. They were able to purchase 2 new computers with software for \$2553.94, 2 desk chairs and a multi station desk for \$1,102.04 and printer for \$127.19. This totaled \$3783.17.</p>		
DCAT6-10-212	Culture Inc.	Art & Learning Services	88,464
<p>The purpose of this contract is to provide after-school art and learning services for children and their families in Polk County. Culture Incorporated works in collaboration with several community organizations to develop a sustainable youth development program that offers a safe, supportive, engaging interactive environment for young people to explore and express themselves through he arts.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>An estimated 60 members of the community attended Culture Inc's first Celebrating Families community celebration on January 18th. The event resulted in 16 first time youth participants in our afterschool programs. The program accepted 23 referrals from JCS, Mentor Iowa, DMPS, and other communities agencies. It provided a weekend retreat for parents and families, as well as 2 workshops. Overall, the program reports serving 65 youth in the first quarter of the Decat program and 108 in the second quarter.</p>		
DCAT6-10-301	Donita Faust	DHS Social Worker training	2,672
<p>Funding was provided to provide training for DHS social workers to assist with the preparation of the upcoming federal (CFSR) review.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>Four educational presentations were provided to DHS social workers to address needed skills as identified by 1:1 consultation with individual workers.</p>		
DCAT6-10-237	Education Brain Trust	Parent Empowerment- School	4,998
<p>Engage, convey and empower parents to negotiate their children's education across all levels; in their own neighborhood schools, at school board meetings, at city council meetings, and all other venues where decisions about their child(ren)s' education may be discussed.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>Funding was provided to assist with training parents on the importance of participation in school events and activities like homework with their children, how to advocate for their children and help parents feel empowered to become active participants in their child's education</p>		
DCAT6-10-288	Family Directions	Parent Empowerment conference	4,500
<p>Family Directions of Iowa, Inc. provided a 2-day intensive Shared Leadership in Action Workshop for 71 parents and staff, providing participants with the knowledge and skills necessary for to engage in Shared Leadership activities. During the conference, Leadership staff shared training responsibilities with Parent Leaders in order to model the effectiveness of partnering with parents to achieve more successful outcomes for families as they work to strengthen their families and regain their importance in community partnerships to keep children safe and protected. The workshop focused on developing individual knowledge, skills and abilities.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>83 Parents and staff : * Established or planned to establish Parent Mentoring Programs, where Parent Leaders serve as mentors for other parents entering the Child Welfare System and also reach out to parents in Family Court, Juvenile Court and substance abuse programs; * Plan to begin Co-training model in Parent Education Classes; * Learned how to train Parent Leaders and Parent Partners to respond to calls from other parents; * Gained knowledge on building informational materials to inform parent consumers about services and expectations such as developing "A Parent's Guide" to orient new parents to the Child Welfare System * Now plan to ensure that Parent Leaders and Partners are involved in the development, implementation and oversight of Program Improvement Plans, System Improvement Plans, and County Child Welfare System Redesign efforts.</p>		

DCAT6-10-210	Foster Aunt & Uncle Project	Tutoring services for Foster Youth	194,078
<p>The "Fostering Literacy Project is a project to develop in foster care and other significantly at risk youth reading skills (with math to be added) that they often fail to receive in normal school. Illiteracy is the single best predictor of incarceration and other tragic outcomes for these youth. We have tested a reading remediation program using a curriculum designed specifically for remediating the deficiencies of this type of youth using the services of a private provider. This effort proved extremely effective, but also very expensive, so we have gone to the developer and copyright holder of the curriculum for the training needed to undertake this process on a mass scale for ourselves, with the very positive results we are reporting in this final project report. While the private provider achieved excellent results, the cost was about \$2,000 per grade level of improvement. As we are reporting in this report, our initial quarter of independent provision of this curriculum resulted in costs of only \$812 per grade level of "at-risk" student improvement. The second quarter resulted in further gains to \$488 per grade level. Over the entire 6 month project we are reporting an overall cost per grade level of \$663. We certainly are convinced that by learning from this project, we can deliver costs per grade level of \$400-\$500 as we improve our abilities.</p>			
<p>The program served 154 youth and raised their reading ability an average 2 entire grade levels. The program impressed a number of participants, and the Direct Reading Instruction method utilized is now core curriculum at two DMPS high schools. As reported by the program: The main success was our ability to overcome the loss of 2 of our 3 major initial collaborators, which has forced us to reach out to more collaborators and establish a much larger footprint in the community. The fact that we operated in 11 sites instead of the 5 (the 3 large ones plus YHMA and Clarinda) makes our project more valuable. Also our truly huge successes are the "snowball" effects our presence has had on the development of separately funded efforts as a direct result of our presence. Woodward Academy is planning to implement a program similar to Clarinda's using little if any outside funding. The program at Clarinda produced such stellar results that it is being continued and expanded using Federal Title I funds. We have had discussions in Washington with the Office of Juvenile Delinquency Prevention, and they sent a rep to visit the East program in June.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>The program is now established at East High. We set up a program using DHS funding for 30 kids this school year, the school is planning to expand the project to 120 students in the 2010-11 school year using the Title IV Gear Up grant to fund the teachers (that grant won't cover teaching materials, so we may have to provide those). The wide footprint of the program and the especial interest of the Chief Juvenile Court Officers from around the state has brought on added opportunities to use the knowledge gained from the Polk Co. Decat project to create other programs independent of Decat funding. Pace is pursuing private grants to add our curriculum to their efforts. We have received a grant from Principal Foundation. Lifeline Resources, LLC has retained the services of our collaborator at East High and is in the process of implementing our program (in conjunction with East's credit recovery program) in at least Des Moines and Sioux City, with intentions of offering it in 13-15 locations around the state within a year.</p>		
DCAT6-10-304	Foster Aunt & Uncle Project	Math tutoring services- East HS	2,273
<p>This mini grant has opened a new addition to the "Fostering Literacy Project" by adding a math curriculum to our already successful reading program. Not only is illiteracy a significant problem with in-home foster care children and inner city students, incompetency in math is also a predictor for incarceration and other tragic outcomes for these youth. The math curriculum that we used comes from the same company who produced the reading curriculum that we have already implemented and have had great success with. In order for our teachers to become proficient in using this curriculum, we brought in a consultant to train them. Our goal for this mini grant was to teach our math curriculum to at least 15 youths and raise their ability in the subject.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>The main problem we incurred while implementing our math program was time. By the time we received the mini grant, purchased all of the materials needed, and trained five of our teachers we only had a month and a half remaining to teach at East High and the boys and girls clubs. Within that month and half, we had to find students that qualified for our math tutoring and were able to be there during our tutoring times. This left us with four students to teach when it was all said and done. Our main success is that we were able to teach over 100 hours of math to four students who really needed the help. One student was taught at East High and the other three were taught at the Farrand House. Two of our full time teachers were able to teach math for the month and a half. This proved to be great exposure to the new curriculum and valid experience for the two teachers.</p>		

DCAT6-10-208	GEEZ Louise!	Female Responsive Programming	36,478
<p>The purpose of this contract is to provide gender specific group and individual counseling services for girls and young women. This proposal supports three types of counseling: 1) weekly groups, 2) more intensive three times a week groups, and 3) individual counseling for young women in the greater Des Moines area.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>The program served 54 young women in the first quarter, and 55 in the second quarter. 13 young women were seen for individual counseling at GEEZ Louise during this quarter. 7 were seen once, 4 were seen three or four times and 2 have been seen 5 or more times. All have spent their individual time sorting out issues and making plans for change in their life. 9 that have ended their sessions did so positively, 2 abruptly ended and the 2 that are still attending continue to make progress in the issues of the life. (85% demonstrating growth and skills). 13 young women have been served at Farrand House. Progress the first quarter was slow as the young women showed progress one week and then would revert to problematic behavior the next. Greater progress was made this quarter as the young women began to take ownership of their community and expressed real interest in building sisterhood. Topics covered have included sisterhood, stress reduction, choices, self esteem, safety and teambuilding. Out of the 13 young women 12 (92%) have shown progress with one young woman still struggling.</p>		
DCAT6-10-287	Iowa Foster and Adoptive Parents Association	Summer Programming	50,000
<p>The Summer Programming Clearinghouse Project will offer activity scholarship grants to Polk County children and their families. Eligible children must have a DHS or JCS involved youths. IFAPA proposes to compile an extensive resource directory of area summer program activities for youth in Polk County, as well as a follow-up report of campers' experiences at these camps and programs, based on the four areas identified by the American Camp Association. By compiling not only a resource directory, but a quantitative rating system of youth's experiences, parents can make more informed decisions in the future about which camps are going to best help their children gain pertinent life skills.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>Funding was provided to assist with summer programming to youth and exceeded their goal of serving 225 youth by serving 270 youth. With IFAPA's extensive database, they were able to reach families that otherwise may not have had the opportunity to participate.</p>		
DCAT6-10-291	Iowa Friends of Foster Children	Special funding	4,241
<p>Provide quality of life opportunities to Polk County youths that are in foster care by providing funds to items that benefit and normalize their lives, but are not covered by State foster care or medical programs. Grants will be reviewed by a committee from the Friends of the Foundation Board members with a maximum of \$300 per youth unless special circumstances exist and with approval of the Decat. Coordinator.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>No report was sent by the provider of services.</p>		
DCAT6-10-289	Mainstream Living	Transitioning youth employment	3,063
<p>Provide staff to research and recruit local businesses to develop employment and volunteering opportunities for participants of the Transitional Age Youth program. Develop course curriculums for employment training (problem solving, conflict resolution, and symptom management) for program participants.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>No report was sent by the provider of services.</p>		

DCAT6-09-056	Mentor Iowa	Mentoring Crd Ordered Child	13,837
<p>Provide mentoring services for children that have been referred by Juvenile Court. This includes recruiting, training, and matching mentors with children that have been referred by Juvenile Court as well as provide monthly group activities for mentor/child pairs in age appropriate groups.</p> <p>Outcome: Monthly group events were well attended and successful. We listen to what our match pairs want to do, and try our best to offer that experience to them. We always try to provide activities our match pairs will enjoy, and are fortunate to have wonderful sponsors provide these events at no charge. The program served 309 youth in FY 10.</p>			
DCAT6-10-303	Mentor Iowa	Mentor recruitment	4,999
<p>Mentor Iowa requested funds for a radio promotion with the Des Moines Radio Group. The campaign was called "30 Mentors in 30 Days" through KIOA radio.</p> <p>Outcome: We exceeded our goals and were able to receive 39 inquiries about becoming a mentor in the program. These 39 individuals need to pass our screening process, but we are very excited about the potential of matching over half of the children on our waiting list with a mentor. The individuals who have started the process of becoming mentors have been outstanding community volunteers who are going to make great mentors.</p>			
DCAT6-10-017	Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic	Model Court Support	10,734
<p>Polk County Model Court is the project being funded by this contract. This contract provides for administrative support for the Model Court team and any events that the team may be sponsoring. Specifically, agendas and minutes of each team meeting are prepared and then delivered to the team members. Flyers announcing trainings are given to team members, sent through a listserve, and posted in the courthouse. Funding was finalized in July of 2008. This funding provides for staff support and printing costs. Lunches are also provided for the meetings.</p> <p>Outcome: Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic, Inc. has been successful in meeting all indicated Outcome Measures and reported serving 76 individuals. Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic, Inc. will continue to provide and maintain support for the Model Court Project despite not receiving Decat funding for FY 11. The program was not funded for FY 11 due to budgetary constraints and is in no way a reflection of the performance of this contractor.</p>			
DCAT6-10-213	Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic	Kinship & Family Connections	102,910
<p>Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic, Inc will provide kinship caregivers with information, concrete supports and informally we will increase their ability to care for the children in their home by increasing their protective capacities. In addition to these services, Mid-Iowa will provide formal Kincare Training and five ten week Incredible Years Parenting Groups utilizing the evidence based curriculum. These open community groups will target age specific children with groups focusing on ages 0 – 12 months & 1 – 3 years old; ages 3 – 6 years old and the age group of ages 6 years and above.</p> <p>Outcome: Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic, Inc will continue to provide such services to their clients, however are focused in finding resources to assist in supplementing the expenditures and provide community wide parenting groups and continuation of identifying and providing support to relative placements. Mid-Iowa was awarded this funding again for one year during FY'11, though with lesser dollars to assist families, indicating that there will be need for creativity in helping families with filling in gaps where they have such needs. Mid-Iowa continues to support and believes that Kinship Placement is a key to success for the child in maintaining a secure home environment with family members; however additional financial resources will need to be provided in order to make sure there are not additional placements.</p>			

DCAT6-10-297	Million Father March	Fatherhood	1,952
<p>This program will be helping to meet identified community needs, issues and/or gaps in service; there is a lack of father involvement and children are being raised in single parent homes and a lot of times fathers are not engaged at all. This event is for fathers to take their children to school on the first day but also strives to encourage them to become more involved in their children's education as well as volunteering and being more present in the schools. "A Study using a national probability sample of 1250 fathers showed that children whose fathers share meals, spend leisure time with them or help them with reading or homework do significantly better academically than those children whose fathers do not" (strongfathers.com). This program will recruit fathers to take their child to school on the 1st day of school to help engage fathers in their child's educational process and promoting their on-going involvement in the school. The outcome will be for there to be over 250 father's who register to take their child to school on the 1st day including a breakfast, t-shirts for the father's that show their commitment to their child and the advertising necessary for recruitment.</p>			
<p>Outcome: No report was sent by the provider of services.</p>			
DCAT6-10-293	Mosaic Family Counseling	Counseling for unmet needs	2,444
<p>Provide individual counseling to parents of children who are in the Child Welfare System in Polk County who are otherwise unable to afford counseling either individually or through insurance.</p>			
<p>Outcome: Mosaic Family Counseling Center Inc (MFCC) served a total of 21 clients in the DECAT program, all were DHS involved and referred to our agency for services. Six MFCC counselors provided a total of 77 individual sessions for these clients and 5 assessments (that were not billed) for a total of 82 sessions. Three out of the twenty-one clients (14%) did not choose to continue services after their initial assessment and were voluntarily discharged. Another three clients (21%) were transferred to the DECAT program after losing insurance or resource funding. Of the twenty-one clients, three of these clients didn't begin the DECAT program until June which was the last month of the DECAT grant. Upon completion of the grant program, a total of six DECAT clients continued free services with a counselor working towards Mental Health Licensure. MFCC maintained their ethical obligation of continuity of services by referring clients to MFCC's Low Fee Program or working with clients on a free basis (referring to other agencies as indicated).</p>			
DCAT6-09-057A	Polk County Attorney	Guardianship Transfers	3,182
<p>Provide legal services related to guardianship transfers for DHS cases referred from Polk County. Closing out uncontested transfer of guardianship for cases referred by the DHS. Types of cases will include: a) children ages 0 to 18 who are in need of a legal guardian and in which the only other remedy is to file a CINA; b) children aging out of care and in need of establishing a legal guardianship as an adult; and c) children ages 0 to 18 with open CINA cases that could be closed if a legal guardianship was established.</p>			
<p>Outcome: No report was sent by the provider of services.</p>			
DCAT-08-064	Polk County Attorney	Criminal Records Checks	9,636
<p>Provide criminal records checks for child welfare cases. These records checks are requested by Juvenile Court Judges to be included in case plans and the Polk County Attorney's Juvenile Division conducts the criminal records checks. Due to the high volume and need for this information in Polk County, the Department of Human Services will purchase a portion of a legal assistant's time to conduct the criminal records check.</p>			
<p>Outcome: The provider sent monthly statements to the Decat Coordinator regarding billing for each request.</p>			
DCAT6-10-070	Polk County Attorney	Diversions & Mediation	49,900
<p>Provides Diversion and Mediation Services for children and families in Polk county whom are involved with the Juvenile Court or anticipated to become involved with the Juvenile Court.</p>			
<p>Outcome: The program reports serving 105 families with 187 successfully diverted from CINA filings.</p>			

DCAT6-09-058	Polk County Health Services	Decat Staff	140,563
<p>Provide coordination and fiscal agent services for Polk County Decategorization staff.</p> <p>Outcome: No report is required from this program. The Decat Coordinator and the Executive Director of PCHS work closely to keep the budget and monthly expenditures in line with program and budgetary guidelines. The Executive Director of PCHS provides monthly statements to the Coordinator.</p>			
DCAT6-10-292	Rock In Prevention	School programming	4,999
<p>Provide two Rock Live one day events at Windsor Elementary and South Union Elementary schools that are use to help youths acquire the necessary tools to make healthy life choices by leading age appropriate workshops that taught alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention, life skills and positive school climate exercises.</p> <p>Outcome: SOUTH UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS — Race or ethnicity statistics are: 5% Black, 70% White, 16% Hispanic, 3% Asian, 2% American Indian, 5% Other, N = 64 Elementary Students. There were 13 high school mentors from Lincoln High School that were trained from 7:15 -9 AM and then co facilitated age appropriate workshops throughout the day with 572 Windsor Elementary students and approximately 37 teachers and staff. WINDSOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS — Race or ethnicity statistics are: 21% Black, 50% White, 15% Hispanic, 3% Asian, 2% American Indian, 8% Other, N = 62 Elementary and/or Middle School Students. There were 10 high school mentors from Roosevelt High School that were trained from 7:15 -9 AM and then co facilitated age appropriate workshops throughout the day with 398 Windsor Elementary students and approximately 45 teachers and staff. Follow up classroom guides and cd's were distributed through the office to teachers. Family follow up guides, cd's, wristbands, pens, and other follow up materials were also distributed to children through the office.</p>			
DCAT6-10-261	SE Polk Schools	Resiliency Testing	4,600
<p>Provide voluntary surveys to all youth in grades 9 through 12 to assess 40 Elements of Healthy Development. These surveys were performed to assist SE Polk High School staff determine the factors that allow youth to be resilient to life stressors. The funding was requested so the survey could guide staff in determining appropriate programming in the fall for youth. The district suffered from a number of teen suicides in recent years and wanted an evaluation tool to target at-risk populations.</p> <p>Outcome: A very detailed report from the survey data was provided to Polk County Decategorization, with a full 103 page detailed report as well as a 17 page summary. Staff at SE Polk report that the tool was extremely useful to them, providing guidance to them in developing fall programming to provide support for youth. All data was delivered through anonymous survey and so the results can be shared upon request.</p>			
DCAT-08-065	United Way of Central Iowa	Community Impact	32,139
<p>The purpose of the Community Impact work at United Way is to bring providers who are leading work in the community around education, income and health together with funders, including United Way of Central Iowa and the Department of Human Services. In addition, the work of the Community Impact encompasses the efforts of our community collaborations- the School Readiness Partnership, the Youth Development Partnership, the Polk County Housing Continuum, the Family Economic Stability Network, the Asset Building Coalition of Des Moines, Healthy Polk and the Healthy Access Partnership. this ongoing work that evolves as the various community planning bodies develop and implement their work. Decategorization has been a partner with United Way in Community Impact since the transition from the HSPA model in 2005.</p> <p>Outcome: Data reports are shared and reported regularly within the School Readiness Partnership and Polk County Housing Continuum. In addition, periodic requests are made to share data with the Youth Development Partnership and Economic Self Sufficiency Network. Community needs are also shared at the Community Impact Partnership, Central Iowa Works and Thrivent Builds Neighborhoods planning tables. A success in the fourth quarter of FY 2010 was the implementation of the ETO/Scorecard technology tool. A pilot group of community partners was identified for implementation, received administrator training and are in the process of entering data. We expect the first aggregate data reports to be available in October</p>			

DCAT6-10-003	Visiting Nurse Services	Family Team Meetings	425,642
<p>The Family Team Meeting Partnership (FTMP) is a collaboration with the Department of Human Services (DHS) and four community agencies that contract to provide Family Team Meetings in Polk County. Visiting Nurse Services of Iowa (VNS of Iowa) is the lead agency with Employee and Family Resources (EFR), Youth Emergency and Shelter Services (YESS), and Iowa Mediation Services (IMS) as sub-contractors.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>The program received 569 referrals and completed 1177 meetings that included pre/post-removal conferences, hand-off meetings, family team meetings and follow up meetings. The group met quarterly with Decat and DHS staff to discuss what was working and what required improvement. Overall performance on the contract was very good.</p>		
DCAT6-10-016	Visiting Nurse Services	Parent Mentoring Services	43,719
<p>This contract was awarded again to VNS after the release of a formal RFP to comply with state regulations regarding competition due to the increased funding for the program.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>See below.</p>		
DCAT6-10-046	Visiting Nurse Services	Parent Mentoring Services	70,576
<p>The Parent Partner program is about parents helping parents who are involved with the child welfare system. Parent Partners are birth parents who have been through the Department of Human Services system, had their children removed for various safety concerns and have successfully reunified with their own children. They have come back to assist other parents who have had their children removed. The primary goal of the Parent Partner program is to improve child welfare outcomes by helping families get their children returned to them by teaching them to self advocate, connect with community resources and work through the Child Welfare system. Parent Partners also provide support and motivation for parents to work on their case plan to help assure that reunification happens.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>The program reports serving 167 parents in FY 10. They met or exceeded all required objectives and report having 15 active Parent Partners at the end of FY 10.</p>		
DCAT6-10-002	Woodward Youth Corp	Reentry & Transition Services	148,718
<p>The re-entry program began on July 6, 2006. The participants in the program have historically been involved in the juvenile justice system and upon discharge from placement many of them return to their communities without a strong support system in place. The program objective is to keep participants out of the adult system by providing educational, vocational and social skills needed to transition from childhood to adulthood.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>WYC staff has successfully assisted students with obtaining employment, paying bills, obtaining housing, maintaining their education, staying current with their medication and medical appointments. Grant staff has also assisted many families with financial assistance related to rent/eviction problems, keeping power and utility services current in their home, purchased groceries for individual students as well as for families. They have assisted students with completing substance abuse evaluations that were court ordered, preventing that individual from returning to jail, assisted with payments towards restitution, setting up community service opportunities and acquiring all necessary materials/documentation for students to continue their education. We have assisted students enrolling in college, purchased books, materials and other necessary materials. Grant staff has assisted with rent assistance, transportation costs, vehicle repairs, utility costs, education enrollment and other areas that someone returning home from placement may not have been able to accomplish. Grant staff continues to work with individuals in developing skills necessary to become and maintain their independence. WYC has increased its efforts on building relationships as early as possible with each individual person so that the transition home and overall commitment from the individual and family remains present once they return to their daily routines. WYC's focus is to keep those students engaged so that the skills they are learning translate to continued growth and independence for that student. The program reports serving 75 youth in FY 10.</p>		

DCAT6-10-047	YMCA	Fatherhood Conference	4,950
Coordinate and provide a two day training/conference focused on fatherhood and parenting.			
Outcome:	The conference was attended by 250 individuals and had a total cost of \$13,392. Decat funding supported the cost of the overall conference and guaranteed 15 scholarships to professionals in Polk County.		
DCAT6-10-172	YMCA	Fatherhood Support Services	73,120
The three main groups that The Fatherhood Initiative serves are men/fathers re-entering the community from prison and have involvement with the Department of Human Services (i.e. child welfare, child support), teen dads, and pre-and post-deployment military service members. Fathers experience several barriers to positive, active involvement with their children. The Fatherhood Initiative would provide a training for all social workers in Polk and neighboring counties. We also invited Judges, GAL's, and other attorneys from the Juvenile Justice system. The goal of the training was to raise awareness on the issue of lack of father involvement in the Department of Human Services and Polk County Courts. Another component of the program was providing father-friendly activities for participants and their children.			
Outcome:	80% of non-custodial participants reported seeing their children more often; 65% of the non-custodial participants reported better co-parenting and communication skills; 70% of participants will report full-time employment; 85% of non-custodial participants will make some type of contribution/payment of child support during participation. The conference's total attendance was 100 individuals and included national speakers, with high satisfaction indicated by surveys. Additionally, the program was able to provide 33 fathers with memberships to the YMCA of Greater Des Moines. The purpose of which is to provide an opportunity for them to interact with their children at the various facilities as well as provide program scholarships as well (swimming lessons, sports activities). The other purpose is to provide the individual an opportunity to keep his body fit to help him stay mentally balanced as well.		

<u>JCS programs</u>			
DCAT6-09-053	Child Guidance	Evaluation/Assessment	49,500
This project's purpose is to provide to the Juvenile Court and Polk County Youth Services useful and timely psychological evaluations and assessments of children and youth referred by the Court or Juvenile Court Services. The Project will serve children and youth referred to it by the Polk County Juvenile Court and/or Juvenile Court Services. On a limited basis the service is available to the Department of Human Services in consultation with Juvenile Court Services, particularly for children in shelter placement.			
Outcome:	The program served 63 clients. JCS staff report satisfaction with the evaluations provided to them.		

DCAT6-09-054	PACE- Orchard Place	Credit Recovery Project	45,000
<p>The PACE Continuing Education Opportunity (CEO) Program in collaboration with Juvenile Court, Des Moines Public Schools, and DMACC will provide daily academic instruction, life skills programming and community services learning opportunities to fifteen students. The target population includes individuals between the ages of 16 and 20. Eligible participants have been unsuccessful in a comprehensive school setting, are severely behind in credits, and lack the social and independent living skills needed to successfully transition from childhood to adulthood. As students in the program are at-risk and have exhibited a history of poor school attendance or behavior, PACE caseworkers will provide daily tracking and monitoring and provide the necessary assistance or interventions that will enable students to stay focused on their academics. Students will earn their general equivalency degree (GED) or complete their high school diploma through Des Moines Public Schools Future Pathways.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>Program successes included: • Approximately 50% of students this quarter have developed or are in the process of developing plans to go to a college or university following graduation. • Program staff has found a way to track students more efficiently, which is resulting in increased attendance. • The vast majority of students graduate within six months. Barriers included: • Nine out of our twenty-seven students this quarter have children or are preparing for the birth of a child. This added stress can make school a second priority, and we must often accommodate student absences due to family obligations. • Some of our students deal with unstable home lives and/or peer connections and are often moving from place to place while trying to maintain a tie to school. • Some students deal with substance abuse and become side-tracked because they have made poor choices in the past that still affect them in the present day.</p>		
DCAT6-09-055	PACE- Orchard Place	Community Sanctions	49,500
<p>The Community Based Sanctions project implemented on July 1, 2004. It provides intensive programming to assist youth that violate the terms of their probation. The program looks at the need of the youth, the type of violation, the number of violations, and community safety issues to determine the level of service a youth receives. The program not only acts as a detention alternative to participants but provides structured programming to youth who would not otherwise receive after-school services. These services include intensive tracking and monitoring, supervision, community service, and group sessions. The staff work with the youth and family and referring worker to secure other services as needed. In February 2008, a Restitution Program was added. Clients are able to do community service within the community 5x per week, and be provided minimum wage for hours worked to pay restitution.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>Program staff has continued to meet with Juvenile Court on a weekly basis to further ensure quality assurance. During these meetings members review restitution hours and payments, documentation reports, community projects, and any problems or barriers to program success. They were able to help youth met 1552 hours of required community service and restitution hours to pay fines and get their lives back on track.</p>		

DCAT-09-097	PACE- Orchard Place	Early Services Prevention	139,934
<p>The Early Services Project is an intervention and prevention program for children ages twelve and under who are referred to Juvenile Court Services for delinquent acts in the community. It was determined that children under the age of 12 have the highest risk to re-offend in the future, however, their age and needs did not commensurate with the criteria for formal adjudication by the juvenile justice system or the Iowa Department of Human Services. This informal status makes them ineligible for services that could prevent them from re-offending. The Early Services Project was initiated in 2000 to provide individualized casework services and family services for the more intense cases, incorporating a parent-child group component, and creating a connection with area schools to help meet the child's overall needs. Youth and family are receiving services targeted at increasing their self- sufficiency while diverting them from the juvenile justice system. The Early Services Project relies on the collaboration of several agencies throughout the Des Moines area to provide the most appropriate and effective programming services to referred youth and their families.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>ESP Case facilitators have continued increasing their ability and focus to connect clients with creative after-care programs from the Early Services Project. Case facilitators have continued to maintain a consistent relationship with other connected agencies, allowing them to provide their clients with services such as mentors, mental health assessments, school assistance, etc. where appropriate. As the Department of Human Services Remedial Services Program continues to develop relationships have been formed with agencies providing these in-home mental health services. Referrals are made both for added support while working with a child and for continued care upon discharge from the ESP Program. There has been a continued interest in the ART curriculum and the True Thought and Motivational Interviewing for the clients. ESP case workers have found interesting and useful activities, work sheets, videos, and other things from these curriculums that they have incorporated into their individual meetings with clients, as well as groups. Functional Family Therapy, offered in collaboration by Child Guidance Center and Juvenile Court Services, has become an additional available program for higher risk children with greater family functioning and support needs. A relationship has been established with Child Guidance Center to contribute to team meetings and to provide consultation and assessment services to clients of the Early Services Project as the project continues. The ESP Team has also established relationships with the Visiting Nurse Services wrap around care program. VNS is able to give the clients of ESP additional supports and adds a great new prospective during our ESP meetings. Amanda Pumphrey, Functional Family Therapy Supervisor, with Child Guidance has also been added to the ESP team and is a terrific asset. The program served 105 youth in FY 10.</p>		
DCAT6-09-127	PACE- Orchard Place	Restitution	79,633
<p>February of 2008, the Community Sanctions program added another component to the program, with the Restitution Program. This program is in collaboration with PACE and Juvenile Court, to provide restitution payment of a client to the clerk of Polk County court. Clients are able to do community service projects within the community five days a week, and be provided minimum wage for community service, to pay for restitution.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>Program staff has continued to meet with Juvenile Court on a weekly basis to further ensure quality assurance. During these meetings members review restitution hours and payments, documentation reports, community projects, and any problems or barriers to program success. They were able to help youth met 1552 hours of required community service and restitution hours to pay fines and get their lives back on track.</p>		

DCAT6-10-001	Sequel Care of Iowa	Sex Offender Treatment	223,326
<p>The outpatient sexual offender treatment program began in March 2007. Participants have either sexually offended or have displayed significant risk factors warranting outpatient treatment. The program provides treatment for individuals that have shown offending behaviors but have not gone through an inpatient treatment setting, and supports individuals that have been discharged from a sexual offending program and require assistance being reintegrated into the community.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>The overall goal for the treatment team is to increase the intensity of the treatment provided during the coming months. There have been several clients who have failed their polygraph exams during the last two quarters and this has lead the treatment to reevaluate the therapeutic approach that is being taken with the clients receiving services. Greater expectations will be placed in the clients in the form of homework assignments and group participation. Higher expectations will also be placed on the treatment staff to increase the overall effectiveness and support that is being provided to clients and their families. Increased familial support will be a main focus during the coming months. Several ideas have been thought to improve this including conducting parent support groups on a regular basis for the parent's of the clients participating in the program. The program served 64 youth in FY 10 and successfully discharged 11 youth.</p>		

CJJP-08-M5-001	Visiting Nurse Services	SED Project	25,033
<p>The Getting It Together & Parent Advocacy Project provides wraparound and advocacy services for families living in Polk County with a child diagnosed with a Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV-TR, 2000). The Getting It Together & Parent Advocacy Project targets but is not limited to high-risk children and youth ages 5 to 17 and their families with a special emphasis on providing services to minority families. The majority of children and youth targeted for services are at risk of becoming involved or has already been involved in the child welfare and/or juvenile justice system. A combination of services are offered through the project including parent advocacy and mentoring; care coordination; support groups; transportation; child care; interpretation services; and flex funding to meet the needs of families. Getting It Together staff partner with families to provide better outcomes through parent advocacy and support to help families coordinate key services, access support, and implement an individualized plan as needed to address the issues faced by the child and family. The Getting It Together & Parent Advocacy Project builds on the unique values, strengths, preferences, and challenges of families and their children to promote success, self-advocacy, safety, stability, stress management, and permanency in the home, school, and community.</p>			
Outcome:	<p>Getting It Together/SED is currently serving 108 children with a mental health diagnosed SED as well as 279 family members of the identified child. This total of 338 individuals represents 92 families in our community. The project currently serves 75 males and 33 females. Seventy-two children served are Caucasian, 24 are African-American, 4 are Bi-Racial, and 8 are indicated as "Other".</p>		

COLOR GUIDE:

- Program eliminated due to lack of funding
- Funding reduced due to budgetary concerns (unrelated to contractor performance)
- Indicates one time funding intended to fill gaps identified by the community via informal proposals