

349—1.2(28) Purpose. Community empowerment is intended to empower individuals and their communities to achieve desired results to improve the quality of life for children and their families in Iowa. Community empowerment will enable local citizens to lead collaborative efforts involving early care, education, health, and human services on behalf of children, families, and other citizens residing in the area. It is believed that individuals in local communities working together through the process of community assessment, identification of priorities and development of their community plan is the best means to reach desired results. The role of the Iowa empowerment board and the state is to support and facilitate growth of individual and community responsibility in place of the directive role the public has come to expect of government.

Every community in Iowa will develop the capacity and commitment to achieve these desired results for children and their families:

1. Healthy children.
2. Children ready to succeed in school.
3. Safe and supportive communities.
4. Secure and nurturing families.
5. Secure and nurturing early care and education environments.