

News Release
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For Immediate Use

Contact: Laurie Kristiansen

Phone: 641-435-4435/email: fmc@rconnect.com

FMC Empowerment Board to Hear About Coming Changes

The state's community empowerment programs will be subject to a host of changes in the coming year. Members of the FMC (Floyd-Mitchell-Chickasaw) Community Empowerment board will hear about some of those new legislative dictates at their regular board meeting on Monday, March 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Charles City Public Library meeting room. Bob Marreel, chair, will call the meeting to order.

According to the local empowerment coordinator Laurie Kristiansen, community empowerment areas will soon be known as "Early Childhood Iowa" areas. In addition to name changes, empowerment areas may also be combining with other areas, reducing the state's total Empowerment areas from 58 to between 34 and 38. The consolidation of areas is all part of a state-wide cost-saving effort termed "Lean Design".

FMC Community Empowerment has been active in the tri-county area since 1999, serving children birth to five and their families through two grants, a School Ready grant and an Early Childhood grant. The grants have assisted families with a number of different programs including Head Start and Early Head Start, public health programs, preschool scholarships, literacy programs, school ready and early learning programs, and childcare provider assistance.

Other business at Monday night's meeting will include a review of financial information and program updates. The public is invited to attend the open meeting.

For more information on FMC Community Empowerment, its programs and services, contact Laurie Kristiansen at 641-435-4435 or email at: fmc@rconnect.com