

Press Release

For Immediate Use

May 4, 2007

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Area Early Care, Education Providers To be Honored at May 11th Event in Charles City

Early care and education providers, including preschool and center staff, registered childcare providers, kindergarten teachers and librarians will be honored May 11th for the vital work they do to care for and educate the young children in the Floyd, Mitchell, and Chickasaw County communities. May 11th marks the nationwide provider appreciation day.

The event, sponsored by FMC (Floyd, Mitchell, Chickasaw) Community Empowerment and Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) will be held Friday, May 11th from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the New Life Community Church, 1960 Gilbert Street, Charles City.

Guests will be honored with a special meal and dedication in their honor. Speaker for the evening will be Angie Chaplin, M.A., C.P.B.A., of Lutheran Services of Iowa (LSI). Chaplin's presentation will take a revealing look at behavioral tendencies through this exciting presentation. Participants will learn strategies for improved communication and interpersonal relationships.

Community Empowerment has been in place in the Floyd, Mitchell, and Chickasaw areas since 1999 and has been responsible for offering preschool scholarships to more than 2,000 children in 15 participating preschools. In addition, Empowerment assists the three county Public Health agencies, Head Start, Families Together and Speech Therapy with School Ready Funding, and a new pilot program in St. Ansgar, "Learning Connections", a parent/education program for the 0 to 5 age group.

Along with the School Ready programs, the Early Childhood grant assists the Child Care Resource and Referral program to actively work responding to community needs for affordable and accessible child care by providing resources, education and advocacy for children, parents, child care providers, and employers in the FMC area.

Estimates show that of the 21 million children under age 6 in America, 13 million are in child care at least part time. An additional 24 million school-age children are in some form of child care outside of school time.

By calling attention to the importance of high quality child care services for all children and families, CCR&R hopes to improve the quality and availability of these services in the local FMC counties, as well as across the state of Iowa.

For information about the appreciation event, contact Cori Martin, CCR&R, at 1-866-394-4854.