

# FMC Community Empowerment 2006

**Counties in Area:** Chickasaw, Floyd, Mitchell

**Contact for Area:**

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**Vision and Mission:**

**Vision:** the Floyd-Mitchell, and Chickasaw (FMC) Community Empowerment Area envisions that children, prenatal to school age, will live in a healthy, safe, and nurturing environment in order to become successful and contributing members of our community. Families will be strengthened and empowered through support services leading to their self-sufficiency.

**Mission:** FMC Community Empowerment will work to provide assistance so that:

- < Each child has a right to be safe, healthy, nurtured, and educated
- < Families are the primary caregivers and educators of their children
- < Working collaboratively results in eliminating barriers, meeting identified objectives and utilizing resources more effectively.
- < Programs and services will have a strong component of outcomes-based measurement for families and children that is realistic, with success indicators that show progress.
- < The community and families will be strengthened by the creating of new programs and the fostering of exiting community-based partnerships between citizens, education, government, health, social services and any other individuals committed to the Vision.

**Community Plan Priorities:**

- < Children Ready to Succeed in School
- < Secure and Nurturing Child Care Environments
- < Secure and Nurturing Families
- < Healthy Children
- < Safe and Supportive Communities

**Local Indicators (list):**

- < Early Childhood Education
- < Quality and Accessible Child Care
- < Parent Education and Support
- < Maternal and Child Health
- < Safe and Supportive Communities

**How we are collaborating to impact the priorities:**

The families and children (birth to 5) in the FMC CEA are realizing the enabling results of continuing partnerships and strengthened collaborations thanks to the commitment of these partners and the continuing vision of the local FMC Empowerment board. New associations with AEA 267 led to nearly 100 percent participation in QPPS training by FMC area preschool providers, additional TEACH participants, and a growing bond with the local Family Partnership organization.

**Identify services/programs funded by Community Empowerment:**

<p><b>Early Childhood Fund</b> CCR&amp;R</p> <p>TEACH</p>	<p>Continuing partnership w/CCR&amp;R: fund resource development coordinator, working with CEA providers/centers/preschools; also instrumental in developing key provider education/training opportunities</p> <p>Partnership with TEACH for 3 scholarship recipients</p>
<p><b>School Ready Fund</b> Head Start NICAO Head Start NIACAO Preschool Scholarships Families Together</p> <p>EAGLE</p> <p>Public Health Speech Pathology</p>	<p>Head Start Services: Floyd/Mitchell Counties Head Start Services: Chickasaw County Scholarship assistance for 15 preschools Community-based voluntary services prevention program for families with prenatal to age 5 children; focus on parent education/home visitation Exploring Avenues of Getting Literate Early—literacy programming birth to 5; partnerships with local libraries, daycare providers, centers, preschools; plans for expansion to WIC programs Public Health services for birth to age five, prenatal, maternal, post-natal care Speech Therapy services birth to five</p>

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**Key Identified Need/Priority:**

1. To ensure safe and secure families and communities so,
2. children birth to five are school-ready

**Measurable Goal:**

The number of children in kindergarten displaying school ready behaviors is the measurable goal. School ready is the result of kindergarten teachers responding to students' assessment in 5 areas: communication skills, cognitive skills, self-management skills, motor skills, and social-emotional development. Teachers report the degree to which behaviors within these five areas are observable ranging from "rarely" to consistently.

**Why this important:**

In many cases, stronger early reading and math skills are shown in children who have attended preschool as compared to those who have not.

**State Result Linkage:**

Children ready to succeed in school

Key Community Indicator(s): (Baseline and trend information)	FY 01 (state wide data)	FY 02 (state wide data)	FY 03 (local data)	FY 04 (local data)	FY 04 (local data for compare)	FY 05(data not available yet)	FY 06 (Current) (data not available yet)
School readiness of measured preschoolers in FMC area:							
< Motor Skills	51.44%	48.84%	48.6%	54.1%	46.1%		
< Communication Skills	35.9%	35.86%	42.1%	44.6%	33.7%		
< Cognitive Skills							
< Social/Emotional Developmental	45.08%	44.54%	44.4%	46.8%	41.8%		
< Self-Management Skills	51.57%	50.11%	57.2%	46.1%	47.0%		
	44%	42.97%	48.0%	41.7%	41.2%		
<i>Source: IA Dept. of Education; Profile of Child Well-being</i>							

**Service, Product or Activity to impact the Key Need/Priority:**

Performance Measure(s) (Baseline and trend information)	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
Number of preschool scholarships awarded to FMC students (decrease in numbers reflects fluctuating statewide enrollments)	203	225	204	158	183

<b>Analysis of the Data/ Factors affecting the data:</b>	<p>The Floyd-Mitchell-Chickasaw Community Empowerment area reported at least 41.7 of its kindergartners consistently displayed school-ready behaviors in the five areas of assessment. Statewide, at least 33.7 percent of kindergarten students were reported as school ready. Assessment areas include motor skills, communication skills, cognitive skills, social/emotional development, and self-management skills. The numbers of preschool students receiving scholarships has increased by 25 students or 16 % over 2005, reflecting an increase in the numbers of families eligible, according to USDA free/reduced lunch guidelines. Because eligibility for free and reduced price school meals is an annual measure, it is also a good indicator of the economic status of families in a CEA. FMC Empowerment's preschool scholarships utilize the same guidelines, so families with incomes 135% or less of the federal poverty threshold are eligible for a "free" level scholarship, and those with incomes 136% to 180% of poverty are eligible for "reduced" level scholarships.</p>
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