

**INDIANOLA DECATEGORIZATION CLUSTER PROJECTS-PLAN
DES MOINES SERVICE AREA FY 13
MADISON, MARION AND WARREN COUNTIES-
JOE BURKE DCAT COORDINATOR/CONTRACT MONITOR
AUGUST 29, 2012**

Decategorization was created through legislation enacted by the Iowa General Assembly in 1987. The legislation authorized for the participation of two counties initially. Polk County and Scott County were selected to be the pilot projects and both started in 1988.

The goals of the 1987 legislation were to:

- enhance the array of services available to clients to better meet their needs
- overcome some of the problems and barriers to serving clients which traditional categorical funding streams presented
- accomplish major system changes without spending more than would have been spent in the former categorical system

The Decategorization initiative was developed in response to:

- The growing number of children going into foster care
- The need to increase emphasis on early intervention and prevention services
- Community values which support the reality that most families, even dysfunctional ones, do a better job of raising children than the government
- The recognition that local jurisdictions are much more in touch with the needs of their children and families and have the capability to respond quicker and more appropriately than the state bureaucracy

Decategorization was designed to be a process that combines the individual state appropriations for child welfare services into a single fund to encourage the development of services that better meet the needs of youth and families by allowing the local county flexibility in how these funds are used. Participation by the Department of Human Services, Juvenile Court Services and the County are required terms of the legislation.

Decategorization is an effort to significantly change the child welfare system to one that is needs based, family focused, easily accessible, more intensive, less restrictive and cost effective.

Decategorization projects are organized by county or clusters of counties. There are approximately 39 decategorization projects across the state of Iowa.

The Des Moines Service Area DCAT Coordinators:

- Polk County-Teresa Burke-515-752-2729
- Madison, Marion & Warren Counties – Joe Burke, 515.314-3603 - cell
- Boone & Dallas Counties – Kathleen Morrissey Pinkerton 515-433-0493
- Adair, Adams & Union Counties (Creston DCAT Cluster) – Jocelyn Blazek, 641-782-1745
- Ringgold, Decatur, Wayne, Lucas & Clarke Counties (Leon DCAT Cluster) – Jocelyn Blazek, 641-782-1745
- Story County-Kaitlyn Moore

The Indianola Cluster Decategorization Project's and Community Partnership for Protecting Children (CPPC) mission is as follows;

"The mission of the Madison/Marion/Warren Cluster DCAT Project is to meet the needs of families and youth by promoting safety and stability in homes, schools, and communities. We will do this by identifying issues, resources, creative solutions, and by networking and collaborating with community partners."

The Indianola Cluster Decategorization Project's and Community Partnership for Protecting Children core values are as follows;

- All children deserve to live in a safe, stable home;
- All families in Madison, Marion, and Warren counties shall have the opportunity to learn about available resources in their communities;
- Community Partners shall be responsive to the changing needs of families;
- Children/families shall be empowered to realize the greatest possible degree of independence;

The cohesive structure, mission statement, and core values the counties established over the last several years have been kept in place to better address and identify needs and gaps within the service delivery area. The overall objective and long term goal is to have a reduction in duplication of services, improved communication, enhance collaboration, and make it easy for smaller effective organizations to apply for funds. Another goal is to provide programs that keep the youth of the three counties from being placed in more restrictive environments or speed up youth's reunification with family if they have been taken out of the home. The Indianola DCAT Project's core values represent the local perspective in a distinct manner and that represents the local area ideals.

What is the Indianola DCAT Cluster's over-all theme and short term goals? It is to surround families in crisis or common need with a "circle of community support" that include the programs such as Community/DHS Family Team Meetings, Parent Partners, Post or Pre Removal Conferences (for DHS families whose children are being taken out of the home), the "cppconline.com" web site that links to services, jobs, programs, etc. in the counties, school based mental health programs in over half the school systems, regular support of Horse Therapy for troubled youth, ALS PALS programs for youth up to 6 years old in the three counties of Madison, Marion and Warren, respite care and parenting programs.

1. A description of the community planning used in developing the annual plan:

Three local provider meetings are held each month (one in each county) that are comprised of 20-30 local providers including state and private social service agencies, Early Childhood, schools, police, community health, etc. Community planning and issues are on-going and discussed at each meeting. Members from each county group serve on the DCAT/CPPC Steering Committee who review DCAT proposed projects/issues and send recommendations to the DCAT Board approximately two or three times per year. Early Childhood, County Community Health and others do needs assessments and many of those individuals are members of the DCAT/CPPC Steering Committee. The DCAT Governance Board is comprised of three Board of Supervisors (one from each county) two JCS officers and a DHS liaison. The Board meets about nine times per year.

Utilization of Decategorization resources is identified by the community and DHS, with an emphasis on projects/services that will defray traditional child welfare spending as well as reduce or insure non-duplication of services.

DHS priorities for FY 13 for our counties include: Parent Partners, CPPC, Children's Mental Health Programs, Family Team Meetings (Community and DHS), ALS PALS, Family Assistance, Community Support and DCAT Coordination.

Additionally when a need is identified many community partners invest multiple hours collaborating to provide input and feedback so as to provide the best service/product that can be done. This collaborative process has brought a collaborative perspective to the community and is well received; additionally providers/vendors find it beneficial to have involvement from community partners to assist with programmatic challenges.

Due to the budget crisis within the State of Iowa the Steering Committee and the DCAT Board has favored supporting programs that already exist that can meet the goals of DCAT. New programs are still discussed and contracted for if there is a strong need. IE: FY 2010 Family Interaction/Aging- Out Foster Care Program, FY 2011: Communities in Action (Circles of Support-Marion County Pilot), FY 2012 School Credit Recovery Program Earlham Schools.

2. A description of the decategorization project's efforts to network and coordinate with other community planning initiatives affecting children and families within the boundaries of their project

A. Shared Decision Making

In the three counties the Community Partnership Shared Decision Making Leadership Group is made up of two shared decision making parts: (1) The DCAT Governance Board/DCAT Contract Monitor who write, oversee and have final approval for the CPPC State Contract (and all other DCAT or other contracts) Final Yearly Budgets, CPPC Coordinator employment, and are the only legal representatives for the contracts and any action taken that affects or changes the contracts/contract budgets. The Governance Board has final authority (if needed) over all Steering Committee actions. (2) The DCAT/CPPC Steering Committee and CPPC Coordinator make recommendations to the DCAT Board for the use of additional DCAT funds and can assist with budgets, plans, review of Request for DCAT funds, implements and set the course of action for extra money given down by DHS at the approval of the DCAT Governance Board, sets the CPPC Strategies approach with CPPC Coordinator, CBCAP proposals, etc. See "C. Steering Committee Roles/Purpose within the Indianola DCAT Cluster" below.

B. Steering Committee Contract Funding Examples

Below are examples over the last several years of programs recommended by the Steering Committee and approved by the DCAT Governance Board. These examples are virtually all extra funds given to the Indianola DCAT Cluster during that time and originated with the Steering Committee and its members.

99% of all programs recommended by the Steering Committee have been accepted and passed by the DCAT Governance Board in the form of contracts. The Steering Committee for the Indianola DCAT cluster has had the majority of all extra money in each yearly DCAT budget going to projects they recommended and proposed to the DCAT Board. The only programs that continued besides DCAT Coordination, (but had no objections from the Steering Committee) were regular programs ALS Pals - \$13,157, CPPC \$20,000, Community Support \$42,650, Family Assistance \$11,000, and Family Team Meeting \$48,000,

FY 2007: Mom off Meth \$63,000, Wee Care \$2,000, We Lift \$31,817(pilot program), Spring Projects \$110,250 (all Spring Projects program proposals are reviewed by Steering Committee members with recommendations sent to the DCAT Board for final approval).

FY 2008: AmeriCorps \$36,022 (includes additional \$15,000 for Parent Partners and Parent Partners Training recommended by CPPC coordinator and Steering Committee to DCAT Governance Board), Mom off Meth \$22,000, School Based Mental Health \$108,011, Spring Projects, 121,091, CPPC part time Coordinator \$20,000 (included \$7,500 for projects in three counties decided by Steering Committee and PT coordinator position recommended by the Steering Committee to the DCAT Governance Board)

FY 2009: AmeriCorps (includes additional \$15,000 for Parent Partners) \$34,000, School Based Mental Health \$65,000, Spring Projects \$63,000, CPPC \$20,000(PT coordinator with benefits).

FY 2010: AmeriCorps \$51,000 (includes additional \$15,000 for Parent Partners and \$12,000 for county projects recommended by Steering Committee and approved by DCAT Board), School Based Mental Health \$65,000, Spring Projects \$63,000, Family Interaction Aging Out \$26,000(Pilot program whose purpose, budget etc. decided at Steering Committee meeting with DHS Supervisor Kristen Walker present-program approved as recommended by Steering Committee by DCAT Board), CBCAP \$7,500 (programs decided by Steering Committee with Madison County as fiscal agent, DCAT Board Approved), CPPC \$3,000 extra money in CPPC budget with programs in each county determined by the Steering Committee.

FY2011: Parent Partner/Community Support \$42,620 (includes money for Parent Partners \$7,500 and community spring projects – Every 15 minutes at Winterset HS \$2,583, Family Directions, Storks Nest Madison 5,000, and Partial Salary, Benefits, and general support for FT Community Partnership Coordinator \$24,500. Other Spring Projects: Wee Care \$9,000, We Lift \$4,000, School Based Mental Health \$16,000, ISU Extension After School \$5,500, Public Health Child Screenings \$3,000, Cowboy Up Wildwood Hills Horse Therapy with At Risk Youth \$21,350. CBCAP: Marion County Health \$4,000, Family Directions Madison County \$4,000, Wee Care Warren County \$4,000. CPPC: \$20,000 partial Salary and Benefits for FT CPPC Coordinator Position

FY2012 Spring Projects: Every 15 minutes Carlisle Community Schools \$2,583, We Lift Job Training Program \$1,600 (with additional \$3,400 match from Warren County Board of Supervisors), Wee Care \$13,000, High School Credit Recovery \$4,736, School Based Mental Health \$6,500, Crisis Intervention Outreach Advocate \$6,500, Cowboy up \$13,000, Mental Health Interventions \$5,000, Necessity Pantry \$3,000 (with \$3,000 match from Warren County Board of Supervisors) and \$3,000 split equally between Madison, Marion and Warren County. Programs included Madison County Cares, Marion County Back-to-School Project and Warren County Resource Directories

The Steering committee can also make adjustments on expenditures on approved contracts, adjust strategies as needed and insure the Partnership work is linked to relevant DCAT/CPPC/Parent Partner Community activities in the three counties. It also oversees (along with the DCAT Contract Monitor, DCAT Board and Warren County Board of Supervisors) the CPPC Coordinators Job duties and performance including the Parent Partner Program, ALS PALS, Community based Family Team Meetings, the Web Site and other CPPC related activities which are all funded under DCAT Contracts.

At the request of the DCAT Contract Manager (Darin Thompson) DCAT Contract Monitor (Joe Burke) and DCAT Governance Board, the Steering Committee along with the CPPC Coordinator will review new Request for DCAT funds and/or renewals of current contracts two or three times per year and give recommendations/comments to the Governance Board through a message to the DCAT Contract Monitor or attending a Board Meeting.

C. Steering Committee Roles/Purpose within the Indianola DCAT Cluster:

1. Submit recommendations with budgets to the DCAT Board for future contracts when there is extra Child Welfare Money given by DHS to the Indianola DCAT Cluster (see above examples)
2. Set CPPC budget with each fiscal year (final approval by DCAT Governance Board).
3. Submit recommendations to DCAT Board if Committee feels that one of the regular DCAT programs should no longer be funded (see above list).
4. Adjust budgets to approved DCAT contracts for distribution of extra DCAT funds available through- out the year (see above examples).
5. Perform job interviews and give hiring recommendations to DCAT Board for CPPC Position, AmeriCorps, etc.

6. Adjust Strategies, and submit to DCAT Board for their approval, for the more efficient use of limited amounts of funding. IE: FT CPPC Coordinator, Parent Partners, ALS PALS, CPPC Web Site and promote the strategies at every opportunity.
7. Oversee (but does not supervise) and help plan the CPPC Coordinator's approach to the Indianola DCAT Cluster
8. Attend Monthly provider group meetings held in each county
9. Attend Monthly Steering Committee Meetings and give updates on important changes or new programming in their home counties.
10. Review proposals and submit CBCAP application (with one of the three counties as fiscal agent) for use of CBCAP funding available each year for the Cluster.
11. Attend/observe/participate in CPPC Strategies approaches approved by the Committee and CPPC Coordinator. IE: Parent Partner reviews, Drug Court, Community Family Team Meetings, Tri-County Collaborative Conference, etc.
12. Elect Committee Chair and /or vice Chair.
13. Set policies for recruitment, participation, voting members, committee members applying for DCAT or other approved DCAT Indianola Cluster funding, etc.

The DCAT Coordinator also attends the local provider group meetings, Parent Partner and early childhood meetings (or reads on-line copies of meeting minutes) as well as other meetings that focus on the needs of youth, Interns, Indianola Cluster Meetings, Family Team Meetings, DCAT Quarterly Review meetings with DHS and Family Team Meetings, DHS discussions, review or focus groups, Parent Partner Advisory Council, etc.). The DCAT Coordinator directly supervises and/or is in daily contact with the CPPC Coordinator.

Partnering Examples:

DCAT funds the youth for ALS PALS programming in all three counties and CPPC now administers this program under our CPPC Coordinator.

DCAT funds the Family Team Meetings (\$47,000+) so CPPC money can be used for a Full-Time coordinator to advance CPPC Strategies and do community Family Team Meetings.

DCAT funds a large portion of the Parent Partners to enhance CPPC in the counties and provides additional funds for the major CPPC program (\$200,000+ over the last five years). This year the Indianola DCAT Cluster is continuing its partnering project with the Polk County DCAT to establish the Parent Partner Approach in our area. Control is split between the local CPPC/ DCAT with the CPPC Coordinator taking on additional duties as the program becomes more centered in the Indianola DCAT Cluster. As of August 2012 we have about 15-20 referrals and have two newly trained Parent Partners working with Families in our counties.

DCAT has partnered with local schools over the last six years to provide school based mental health for all aged students in several school districts in the three counties (affecting about 13 schools). Two of the programs have received funding through a partnership with United Way in Des Moines (one in Warren and one in Marion. \$250,000+) over the last six years have been provided by DCAT for these programs in the three counties.

Community Based Family Team Meetings – available upon request from schools, agencies, etc. to any family in the counties of Madison, Marion and Warren free of charge (approximately 24 last year).

3. A description of any community needs assessment process (See #1 above)

4. A description of the project's specific and quantifiable short term plans and desired results for the state fiscal year; as well as a description of how these short term plans align with the project's longer term goals for improving outcomes for children and families.

Short term plans include implementing and monitoring the programs approved through the three county processes ending with the DCAT Board approval. These programs will accomplish the long term goals of DCAT: needs based, family focused, easily accessible, more intensive, less restrictive and cost effective programs for youth 0-18 years old.

5. A description of the project's proposed plans to use funding available within their decategorization services funding pool during the fiscal year, including plans to use their available carryover funds- resulting from decategorization operations during the previous fiscal year- by the close of the current state fiscal year.

The Indianola DCAT Cluster will continue to fund programs already approved and in place. If Child Welfare money is available and able to be carried over for FY 12-13, DCAT will enhance its funding of School Based Mental Health Programs for local schools with the long term goal of these programs becoming permanent (as several have already done). If Child Welfare money is not able to be carried over, DCAT will approach the provider groups in each county (as has been done for the last four years) for Spring Projects that are needed and that end on June 30 if money is available for those projects.

6. A description of the project's plans to track results and outcomes achieved by funded programs during the year.

Following State Contract requirements, each contract will be monitored quarterly by the DCAT Coordinator and bi-annually by the Governance Board by reviewing quarterly reports in comparison to the Scope of Service (outcomes/performance measures) of the contract. The quarterly reports are also made available to the DCAT Steering Committee, community partners, etc. if they want them. The DCAT Coordinator will also conduct site reviews with the provider twice annually and anyone can attend the two DCAT Board meetings in which twice yearly reviews/reports are given by the providers. In addition all Indianola DCAT Cluster's End of Year Program Reports, Board Notes, Yearly Plans and Annual Reports, steering committee notes, etc. Are all now posted on the Web Site: www.cppconline.com

7. A description of the project's plans to monitor and maintain fiscal accountability during the year [fiscal accountability includes monitoring the performance and results of contractors receiving funding and monitoring expenditures for decategorization services during the year].

As per State of Iowa requirements, GAX sheets will be reviewed monthly (or per reimbursement request) to ensure correct program records, budgets, documentation etc. are being followed. Each program must have a line item budget which has three sections: total money approved for each line item, amount requested for current month for each line item and a running total of request for the year per line item. This insures that there are no budget issues on amounts remaining per line item as the year progresses. If there is a dispute GAX sheets will be held until the dispute is resolved and the contract process will be followed. Contractors must meet listed contract performance measures or payments could be decreased as per contract. There were no errors in last year's GAX sheet reimbursement request.

Below is a list of programs and/or services that will be administered as of July 1, 2012 through the Decategorization Project for State Fiscal Year 2013 along with agency name, number, budgeted amount for program, and contract numbers.

Eligibility for Programs Listed Below

All programs listed below serve any Family with youth (or the youth themselves) between the ages of 0-18. Each agency approves eligibility per the contract with DCAT Executive Board. DHS must approve all DCAT contracts. Each agency will accept referrals from all sources in every county except the following:

Family Assistance – DCAT5-11-009- DHS Referral Only
Parent Education (ALS Pals). DCAT6-09-009 – Ages 0-6 years

Funding FY13 CONTRACTED SERVICES INDIANOLA DCAT CLUSTER*

Sarah Hohanshelt, Indianola DCAT Cluster CPPC Coordinator. – 515.468.8181 Parent Education (ALS Pals). DCAT5 13-011	\$13,157
This project is designed to integrate resiliency-based alcohol, tobacco, and other drug and violence prevention strategies into the child’s daily life and the first years of a child’s classroom experience. This is accomplished by strengthening the child’s communication, decision-making, and problem-solving skills to help them learn to make healthy drug-free choices. Preschool and Kindergarten teachers and parents receive the training and technical assistance to help them strengthen children’s social competencies and promote attitudes favorable toward healthy lifestyles. This year the Indianola DCAT Cluster will offer the companion program for adults whose children are in the program at their preschools/daycares. Serves Madison, Marion & Warren Counties.	

Madeline Adams Family Team Meeting Coordinator – 515.468.1684 Family Team Meeting Facilitation. DCAT5-11-011	\$47,867
The Department of Human Services (DHS) child welfare focus is on serving families with children at serious risk of harm from abuse and neglect. Building teams at the time of crisis to support families where there is a risk of serious harm to the child has been identified as a means to address the factors that threaten the child’s safety, establish permanency for the child, and promote well being – central expectations in the provision of child welfare services. Family Team Meetings (FTM) is used to enhance the core casework functions of family engagement, assessment, service planning, monitoring and coordination. When properly applied, FTMs support a trust-based relationship, facilitates family engagement, and sustains the family’s interest and involvement in a change process. FTMs promote unity of effort and provide an opportunity for all helping professionals to develop a shared understanding of the family’s situation – which are critical elements in attaining positive results. FTMs should be a proportional response to the needs of the child and family that is coordinated across systems involved with the family. The FTM Facilitator will provide Family Team Decision Making facilitation for the Department of Human Services, which includes: - Case load of 12-20 Family Team Meetings per month with priority given to (1) DHS founded child abuse cases with children 0-5 year old range, (2) DHS/Juvenile Court eligible cases and (3) Acceptance of local community referral cases on a time available basis. - Coordinate Family Team Meeting facilitator activities for part-time facilitators including certification/co-facilitation/facilitation. Serves Madison, Marion & Warren Counties.	

Department of Human Services (current social worker for case) 515-961-5353 Family Assistance. DCAT5-11-009	\$11,025
Family assistance is designed to prevent out of home placement, support to adoptive families, and provide assistance for family reunification. Goals include: maintain children in the home, maintain children in the least restrictive setting and transition children from a more restrictive to a less restrictive setting and meet the needs of the family which do not fit traditional categorical services. Serves Madison, Marion & Warren Counties.	

Sarah Hohanshelt – 515.468.8181 **Two Contracts**

1. Community Support Contract DCAT5-12-020. Support Contract for CPPC projects, Coordinator, etc.
2. Community Partnership for Protecting Children Contract (CPPC). DCAT5-13-012

1. Community Support \$42,620
2. CPPC \$20,000

Community Partnership for Protecting Children (CPPC) is an initiative rolled-out across the state of Iowa. The four strategies include Shared Decision-Making Team, Policy & Practice Change, Neighborhood Networking & Individualized Course of Action (Family Team Meetings). CPPC is dedicated to identifying issues, resources and creative solutions by networking and collaborating with community partners. Activities have included Madison County Family Fun Day, Marion Co. Family Challenge, participation with local child abuse prevention Councils, schools, domestic violence coalitions as well as Spring Projects and many other projects (see cppconline.com for full report). This year an emphasis will again be placed on the Parents as Partners, Community based Family Team Meetings in the Cluster, ALS PALS, and continued expansion of the New CPPC Web site at CPPCOnline.com

Joe Burke – 515.961.5353 Ex: 243 Cell: 515-314-3603
Decat Coordination. DCAT6-10-013

\$76,465

Contracted coordination services to administer the DCAT project as well as to coordinate and facilitate the planning/collaborative efforts undertaken to effect change. Budget also includes additional funds to help cover events such as Tri County Collaborative Conference, DHS Social Worker training request, small amounts of assistance to budgets they may be running low on funds, etc. The overall objective is to reduce duplication of services, improve communication, enhance collaboration, provide accurate budgets/reimbursement request, write contracts, amendments, support documents, etc. and monitor/report all contract actions according to State guidelines. Serves Madison, Marion & Warren Counties.

Carryover Funds-All carryover funds (including the State Allocation for FY 12) that must be spent by the end of FY 13 have been allocated to the above projects. The State Allocation for FY 13 will be carried over in its entirety for programming in FY 14.

*It should also be noted that PSSFP contract funding which use to be a core project for our DCAT (\$33,000+) is now being given to the Polk County DCAT for use in the Parent Partner budget for FY 13 and is being used in Madison, Marion and Warren County for Parent Partner expenses.

Indianola Cluster Decategorization Structure

