



2018 STRONG FAMILIES

Even with the best intentions, learning to be a family takes time and practice. For parents with a history of adverse childhood experiences, or those facing economic or health constraints, growing into the role of 'mom' or 'dad' is that much harder. Without a support network or sufficient personal resources to draw on, young families are vulnerable to changes in their environment.

Family support programs work with willing parents to identify risk factors that can lead to injury or maltreatment. There are no financial or logistical barriers to participation, and family support professionals are trained to be sensitive to the needs of a diverse population. By connecting families with existing resources in their community, these programs empower parents to cultivate a safe and stable home environment, protecting the next generation from harmful conditions that make it difficult to thrive.

Iowa's IMPACT

In 2018, Iowa Family Support improved in several significant outcome areas when compared to the previous year. Overall, families receiving family support services improved in family functioning, social and concrete supports, nurturing and attachment, and knowledge of child development. Furthermore, nearly every family served was screened for interpersonal violence. Rates of screening improved by 10%, reaching a 95% completion rate. And, most importantly, nearly all those who screened positive for interpersonal violence (96%) received a referral for needed services.

Rooted in community support

A strong social support system makes families more resilient, improving educational, emotional, and physical outcomes for all members of a household.

PREVENTION



Providing better access to the help families need.

88% of families reported to have improved or maintained family functioning.

85% reported improved or maintained social supports or maintained family functioning.

72% improved concrete supports.



Families reported that *only 10%* of children served had an injury-related visit to the ER.

95% of primary caregivers were screened for interpersonal violence



Of those who screened positive for interpersonal violence, 96% received a referral for services.

SAFETY



Raising RESILIENT IOWA FAMILIES

Information on this report is based on FY18 FSSD, MIECHV, and other statewide family support data. For more information please visit the following:

For the 2018 Technical Report [go to this link](#).

For the 2017 Technical Report [go to this link](#).

