



LINN COUNTY DECATEGORIZATION BOARD ANNUAL PLAN

Fiscal Year 2019

Submitted to
DHS Division Administrator & Program Manager,
Cedar Rapids DHS Service Area Manager
& the Iowa Early Childhood Iowa Office

Prepared by
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on behalf of
Linn County Decategorization Governance Board

Linn County Community Services Building
1240 26th Avenue Ct. S.W., Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Approved at September 13, 2018 Linn County Decat Board Meeting

LINN COUNTY GOVERNANCE BOARD DECATORIZATION ANNUAL PLAN (FY 19)

OVERVIEW

Linn County Decategorization Board's intent is to redirect child welfare and juvenile justice funding to services which are more preventive, family centered and community-based in order to reduce use of restrictive approaches that rely on institutional, out-of-home and out-of-community care.

Linn County Demographics		
Total Population = 224,115	# of children in Foster Care	Single Headed Households
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under 18 years of age: 23.5% • Under 5 years of age: 6.4% • Black/African American: 5.6% • Hispanic/Latino: 3.3% <p>Source: (US Census 2017, Quick Facts)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017: 707 • 2016: 720 • 2015: 740 • 2014: 705 • 2013: 676 <p>7.3% of children in Iowa foster care are from Linn Co. (2017) Source: Iowa State Data Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016: 30.3% • 2015: 31.7% • 2014: 31.5% • 2013: 30.8% • 2000: 28.9% <p>Source: Iowa Kids Count</p>

FUNDING

Overview of FY 19 Linn County Decat Revenue

FY 19 Decat Allocation: \$ 123,783

FY 18 Carry Forward: \$ 992,043 (Estimate, to be finalized Dec 2018) *

*Of funds available to Linn County Decat Board 58% is already obligated for FY 19 projects. (\$649,210 of \$1,115,826)

Pass Thru

FY 19 Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (CPPC): \$20,000

FY 19 Promoting Safe and Stable Families: (PSSFP): \$30,811

FY 19 Decat funded Programs

As of September 2018, the Linn County Decat Board has placed \$ 649,210 of funds under contract (*not including Pass thru \$'s*).

African American Family Preservation and Resource Committee

Contractor: Tanager

Approved Budget: \$40,000

Objective: Positive youth development and community engagement supports to youth of African descent who are involved or at risk for involvement with DHS or JCS.

Breakthru Series Collaborative (BSC)

Contractor: Linn County Board of Supervisors

Approved Budget: \$2,000

Objective: Use Plan-Do-Study-Act methodology to impact and improve family stability and decrease disproportionality and disparity rates.

Community Partnership for Protecting Children (CPPC)

Contractor: Linn County Board of Supervisors

Approved Budget: \$20,000

Objective: Community members and professionals work with families in a way that helps child welfare services be more inviting, needs based, accessible and relevant.

Decat Coordination (Staff and Fiscal Monitoring)

Contractor: Linn County Board of Supervisors-Community Services

Approved Budget: \$73,950

Objective: Facilitate and support the Linn County Decat Board and provide contract management and fiscal monitoring services to Linn County Decat contracts.

Family Treatment Court Alumni Group

Contractor: ASAC
 Approved Budget: \$1,250
 Objective: Provide graduates or successfully discharged FTC participants, and their children, with sober family activities

Focusing Families

Contractor: Jane Boyd Community House
 Approved Budget: \$31,000
 Objective: Assist primarily African American youth and their families with barriers that are keeping them from becoming stable and functioning.

Interpretation and Translation Services

Contractor: Hands UP Communications
 Approved Budget: \$5,000
 Objective: Interpretation and translation services for authorized Decat programs.

Intercultural Youth Program

Contractor: Intercultural Center of Iowa
 Approved Budget: \$69,996
 Objective: Provide supports to limited English families with youth (3rd grade-high school) that are disproportionately affected by poverty, trauma, cultural or language barriers in order to promote positive youth development and educational achievement.

J-FAST - (Juvenile & Family Assistance & Stabilization Track)

Contractor: Foundation 2, Inc.
 Approved Budget: \$74,999
 Objective: Community based alternative to inpatient hospitalization for juveniles with substance abuse and mental health issues.

LINK-Detention Tracking Program

Contractor: Linn County Board of Supervisors-Detention Center
 Approved Budget: \$200,000
 Objective: Reduce the minority numbers and misdemeanor holds within secure detention facility and to reduce recidivism and divert youth from a higher level of care.

Neighborhood Empowerment Summer Program

Contractor: Cedar Rapids Community School District
 Approved Budget: \$27,000
 Objective: Out-of-school-time program for elementary school age children in targeted neighborhoods to reduce their involvement with Juvenile Court Services.

Parental Support Program (Mothers/Fathers)

Contractor: YouthPort
 Approved Budget: \$70,000
 Objective: Support services to Mothers and Fathers involved with, or at risk for involvement, with DHS. The following programs are provided: 24/7 Dads, Love and Logic, Parent Cafes, and Understanding Dads.

Professional Development

Contractor: Linn County Board of Supervisors
 Approved Budget: \$10,000
 Objective: Professional Development trainings and planning activities conducted with providers and community partners of the Juvenile Justice System and Department of Human Services on issues related to child welfare and juvenile delinquency prevention.

Promoting Safe & Stable Families (PSSF)

Contractor: Linn County Board of Supervisors-Child & Youth Services
 Approved Budget: \$30,811
 Objective: Provide Family Reunification supports and services up to 15 months after reunification.

Relative Support Wraparound

Contractor: Linn County Board of Supervisors
 Approved Budget: \$5,000
 Objective: Financial support for expenses incurred by relatives or other DHS identified caregivers, that are not licensed to provide foster care, but have children placed in their care.

DHS Involved Families Support Wraparound

Contractor: Linn County Board of Supervisors
 Approved Budget: \$7,500
 Objective: Wraparound services for youth and families involved in the Child Welfare System.

You Do Matter

Contractor: Jane Boyd
 Approved Budget: \$31,515
 Objective: Services to increase positive youth development, family stability, and community engagement of families with African descent who are involved, or are at risk for involvement, with DHS or JCS.

COMMUNITY PLANNING**Planning Team Contributors**Decategorization Board

Matt Majeski, Department of Human Services	Ryan Fritz, College Community School District
Christopher Wyatt, Juvenile Court Office	Sgt. Laura Faircloth, Cedar Rapids Police Dept.
David Thielen, Linn County Community Services	Ben Rogers, Linn County Supervisor

Community Planning

Linn Co Child & Youth Mental Health Committee	Linn Co Community for Change Committee
United Way of ECI Education Solution Team	Linn County Early Childhood Iowa Board
Linn Council for Prevention of Child Abuse	Immigrant Concerns Committee
Kristi Tisl, DHS CRSA	Mary Loops, 6 th Judicial District
CPPC Advisory Groups	AAFPRC Youth Think Tank
Linn County Safe Kids Coalition	

Structure of the Planning & Governance ProcessOrganizational Structure

Linn County Decat has been in operation since 1992 and became a Governance Board on June 14, 2007. The Linn County Decat Board serves as the governance board for expenditure of funds for Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Youth Development Programs. The Decat Board is comprised of the required representation, per DHS guidelines: Dept of Human Services, Juvenile Court Office and the County, along with representation from Cedar Rapids Police and a school district. The Decat Board's Rules of Operation were put in effect on

June 14, 2007. The Decat Board holds 6 to 8 meetings, generally on the second Thursday of the month, which are open to the public.

Public Input

A vital part of the decision making process for the Decat Board is public input. Decat Staff attends community meetings, serves on an Advisory Board and hosts trainings to bring information and resources to community partners. In addition, different community programs regularly present relevant topics to the Decat Board.

In FY 18, there were presentations to the Decat Board from these four (4) community programs: Intercultural Youth Program – Intercultural Center of Iowa, Family Treatment Court Alumni Support Group - ASAC, YouthPort – Mothers and Fathers Support programs, and You Do Matter – Jane Boyd.

Department Input

In January 2018, the Cedar Rapids Department of Human Services (DHS) staff were surveyed regarding the impact of Decat funded programs on the families they serve. The results were anonymous and 30 DHS staff participated. From their input, the Decat Board was able to identify the impact of Decat programs that primarily serve DHS clients. This information was one tool used to determine Decat funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2019.

Collaborations

The effectiveness of collaborative planning is the development of a service delivery system that crosses over boundary lines, increases communication among players and addresses a stated need. Collaborative planning must exist outside of the funding process. To do otherwise allows the funding to guide the planning process so that the proposed service meets the requirements of the funder and not the needs of the community. Here are examples of partnership efforts that will inform FY 19 services in Linn County:

Direct Oversight of Community Partnerships for Protecting Children:

New in FY 19, the Linn County Decat Grant Coordinator has taken on the additional role as the Linn County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children Coordinator (CPPC). A retreat is planned for 9/17/18 to determine the vision and goals for CPPC in FY 19 – 20. Representatives from the following agencies are planning to attend: DHS, United Way, HACAP, Kirkwood Community College, Linn County Community Services, ASAC, Unity Point Child Protection Center, Iowa Legal Aid, Four Oaks, Horizons, Linn Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Parent Partners, and community volunteers.

Professional Development Opportunities:

Implicit Bias Conference was held April 25, 2018. The Keynote speakers were Katy Swalwell, Ph.D. and Daniel D. Spikes, Ph.D. A collaborative effort of Linn County Community School Districts, Cedar Rapids Department of Human Services and Linn County Decat Board Professional Development funds brought this important training to the area at no expense to participants. 71 individuals from DHS and Local School Districts attended. 50 attendees completed an evaluation survey. 90% of survey respondents stated they increased their knowledge on the topic, and planned to implement the skills and knowledge learned. The Board will strive to provide the training again in FY19.

Community Needs Assessment

A review of Linn County and State child welfare and Juvenile Court services trend data was completed in August 2018.

Department of Human Services:

Linn County ranks 39th of Iowa's 99 counties in regard to rate of child abuse in 2016. The ranking is from the lowest (#1) to the highest (#99) rate of child abuse. <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/>

Linn County Child Abuse and neglect (rate per 1,000 children age 0 – 17)

Year:	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Rate:	13.1	13.6	9.7	9.8	10.5

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/>

The majority of child abuse in the State of Iowa and Linn County remains Denial of Critical Care/Neglect. For Linn County, almost 64% was classified as Denial of Critical Care in 2017.

Type of Abuse for Child Victims of Confirmed or Founded Abuse for CY2017

County	Neglect/Denial of Critical Care	Mental Injury	Physical Abuse	Illegal Drugs in Child's System	Sexual Abuse	Allows Access by Registered Sex Offender	Dangerous Substance	Total
Linn	693 (63.5%)	5	98	168	35	4	87	1090

<https://dhs.iowa.gov/reports/child-welfare-data-and-report>

Data from a review of 2017 Linn County Child Welfare Decision Points (Jan-June 2017) indicate African-American youth are disproportionately represented in Referrals, Abuse Reports and Foster Care.

Linn County Decision Points Jan-June 2017

	% of General Population	Accepted Referrals	Victims of Abuse	Entered Foster Care	In Foster Care	Exited Foster Care
Hispanic	5%	6%	7%	7%	9%	9%
Asian	3%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%
American Indian & Alaskan Native	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
African American	9%	23%	19%	19%	19%	22%
White	82%	70%	73%	73%	71%	69%

Data provided at the 2017 Break thru Series Collaborative State Conference.

Juvenile Court Services:

Per the Iowa Juvenile Court Services Annual Report (2015 – most current information available) Linn County is no longer the 2nd highest percentage of chronic re-offenders in Iowa's 8 most populated counties. In 2015, Linn is at 8.8% chronic reoffenders compared to 10.4% in 2014, which makes it the 5th highest. In addition, the number of Linn County juveniles new to the system declined for the fourth year in a row with 537 new juveniles.

The number of youth admitted to Linn County Detention Center increased 5.8% from FY 14-15. Of the youth admitted to Detention in FY 15, 20.4% are female, almost a 5% increase from FY 14. In addition, the average number of days in Detention is increasing for both male and female.

<https://humanrights.iowa.gov/cjip/justice-data-warehouse/juvenile-justice-data>

Linn County Detention: (data provided by laura.roeder-grubb@iowa.gov)

Data may include youth accepted from other counties, due to bed availability.

Year	# of Holds	Male	Female	Avg. Length of Stay	Avg. Daily Population
FY 16	356	277	79	14.3	13.9
FY 17	345	265	80	13.9	13.1
FY 18	395	309	86	14.6	15.8

Statewide Juvenile Justice System Planning Data – Statewide Report 2017, released: July 2018

<https://humanrights.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/media/2018%20Statewide%20Data%20Report.pdf>

- Detention holds for White males decreased by 35.2%, while African-American males decreased 1.6%.
- Minority youth comprised 48.9% of detention holds.
- The average length of stay increased from 11.9 to 16.3 days for female youth, and from 14.9 to 17.5 days for male youth.
- Felony holds decreased 22.5% for White males, while African-American males increased 32.3%.
- Holds for African-American males for new offense-while on probation increased 11.9%.

SHORT TERM PLANS/DESIRED RESULTS

Decat Intent: To redirect child welfare and juvenile justice funding to services which are more preventive, family centered and community-based in order to reduce use of restrictive approaches that rely on institutional, out-of-home and out-of-community care.

The Linn County Decat Board approach to meeting the Decat Intent is to fund research-based or promising practice programs. Upon completion of a community needs assessment the Linn County Decat Board adopted the following priorities:

Priority Areas

- Prevent Child Abuse and Re-Abuse
- Increase Supports for Non-Licensed (out-of-home) Relative Care Placements
- Reduce Disproportionality & Disparity of Youth in Juvenile Justice/DHS Systems
- Reduce Child (out-of-home) Removal Rates
- Increase Supports for Appropriate Family Reunification

Requests for funding are assessed for alignment with these Board Priorities.

TRACKING OF RESULTS AND OUTCOMES

Each funded program is required to develop a matrix of Measurable Outcomes, with assistance from the Decat Staff. In addition to Output data, each program must provide Outcome Measures in regard to what difference their program made. Typical outcome measures include recidivism, % increase in school attendance and performance, % successful discharges, and % reunification with family to name a few.

Funded programs are required to submit a data Progress Report to the Decat Staff on a quarterly basis. A summary of the progress reports is then provided to the Decat Board on a quarterly and year-end basis. In addition, a minimum of 4-funded programs will provide one presentation to the Decat Board each fiscal year. The presentation will include a budget utilization update, a review of program data and a discussion on “the difference the program has made”.

The program goals that were established in their contract are noted on the progress reports. If a program is not making progress toward meeting their goals, they meet with the Decat Staff to discuss.

MONITORING AND MAINTAINING FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Programs are required to submit a monthly GAX form, Invoice and documentation to the fiscal staff at Linn County Community Services (LCCS). LCCS Staff notes the receipt of the GAX & Invoice, records the amount of the expenditure and forwards the original claim/GAX to the fiscal staff in the DHS Cedar Rapids Services Area office.

To assist the Linn County Decat Board with fiscal overview a detailed financial Control is prepared on a monthly basis. The reports are compiled by the fiscal staff at Linn County Community Services and include monthly expenditure and year to date budget utilization. The Decat staff also prepares a Projections report to

show current and future status of unobligated funds. In addition, funded programs are surveyed annually as to their expected budget utilization and provided an opportunity to identify any barriers to full expenditure of their approved award.

Annual On-Site Contract Reviews:

The Linn County Decat Board conducts Annual On-Site Reviews for all contracts when the total cumulative value of a given contract is \$100,000 or more and when the total cumulative value for all contracts with the specified vendor are equal to \$100,000 or more. Vendors not meeting the dollar threshold will receive an on-site visit every other fiscal year. On alternate years, a desk audit of financial claims will be completed.

CARRYOVER

The Linn County Decat Board expects to receive formal notice of its unexpended FY 18 funds in early 2019. At this time, the estimated amount of FY 18 carryover funds is \$992,043. Of these carryover funds over 65% are already obligated for the following services:

DHS Stipulated Uses of Carryover funds for FY 19

- ***Breakthru Series Collaborative*** to improve family stability and decrease disproportionality and disparity rates.
- ***Family Treatment Court*** to support FTC graduates involvement with sober family activities.
- ***Relative Support Family Wraparound*** funds to assist with immediate costs associated with emergency family placement.
- ***DHS Involved Families Wraparound*** funds to provide financial support for expenses incurred by DHS involved child welfare families.
- ***Mother and Father Support services*** including 24/7 Dads and Parent Café's for parents at risk of DHS involvement.
- ***African American Family Preservation*** to provide positive youth development and community engagement supports to youth of African descent who are involved, or at risk for involvement with DHS or JCO.

JCS Stipulated Uses of Carryover funds in FY 19

- ***Intercultural Youth Program*** provides supports to limited English proficiency families that have fifth grade through high school age youth attending Cedar Rapids Community School District.
- ***J-FAST*** rapid response and case management of child/youth mental health services to reduce hospital committals and DHS/law enforcement contact.
- ***LINK*** In-home supervision, referrals and outreach services to divert youth from detention placement and other extended, higher levels of care
- ***NESP*** out-of-school time program in targeted neighborhood to reduce youth involvement with Juvenile Court.
- ***Professional Development*** to increase access to training and professional development for JCS staff and relevant community service providers in FY 18 and 19.