

<b>Adopted:</b>	
<b>Revised:</b>	
<b>Reviewed:</b>	

## **BETTER TOMORROWS RFP FUNDING GUIDELINES**

**Vision** – All children (age 0 – 5) living in Benton and Tama County will be healthy, have a safe, secure, nurturing home and childcare environment, and be ready to succeed in school.

**Mission** – To enhance the quality of life in Benton and Tama County by promoting strong, healthy families. Barriers will be overcome and programs and services coordinated through community collaboration.

**Purpose** – To ensure the collaboration within our community, the organization will provide families, with children 0 – 5 years old, the resources and opportunities necessary for their children to be healthy, safe, secure, ready to succeed in school, have available affordable, high quality child care and access to a preschool opportunity.

The Better Tomorrows partners are committed to working together and collaboratively developing a family centered support and service delivery system for children and families to help citizen’s lead happy, healthy and productive lives.

Better Tomorrows is pleased to offer funding to qualified organizations/agencies/groups. ***Proposals for funding must be targeted for 0 – 5 year olds.***

### **Eligibility:**

The applicant must be willing to sign a contract, complete required reports and provide a copy of their Certificate of Liability Insurance showing coverage of:

- General Liability – One million dollar per occurrence
- Workers compensation as required by Iowa law
- Automobile Liability – Two million dollar per occurrence, if transporting children
- **Tama County** and Better Tomorrows Board must be listed as additionally insured.

### **Early Childhood Funding Guidelines:**

These funds are to be used to enhance quality child care capacity in support of parent capability to obtain or retain employment.

Examples of the type of activities allowable are as follows:

- Developing capacity for regular child care including recruitment of providers.
- Developing capacity for mildly ill child care.
- Developing capacity for second or third shift child care.
- Developing capacity for infant care.
- Providing training to center and home based providers to improve the quality of care. Training focus may include developmentally appropriate curriculum and activities, health and safety considerations, child development, nutrition, child abuse detection and prevention, guidance and discipline, cross-cultural competencies
- Assist providers in meeting licensing, registration or accreditation standards.
- Enhance linkages with Head Start, Early Head Start, child development programs and child care programs.

- Provide information in assisting parents to select a quality child care environment (comprehensive consumer education).
- Limited facility expenses are allowable to do minor remodeling to meet health and safety standards required by licensing or registration, ie: purchase of equipment, such as cribs for infants, installing required sink in infant room.
- Funds cannot be used to supplant child care stipends to eligible recipients.

### **School Ready Funding Guidelines:**

The School Ready Funds may be utilized to support a comprehensive school ready children plan designed by the local empowerment boards.

Examples of types of activities allowable are as follows:

- Comprehensive services for children ages birth to five may include but are not limited to:
  - Preschool services
  - Parent support and education services including home visitation
  - Child development services
  - Child day care services
  - Children’s health and safety services
- Sixty percent of all funds that the local board expends on family support programming must include a home visitation component. This includes all funds the local board has control over, federal, state and local.
- Funds cannot be used to purchase real estate or construction.

### **Better Tomorrows Required State Performance Measures:**

See attached performance measures document. **All applicable performance measures applicable to the program must be documented.**

### **Proposal Review Criteria/Awarding of Grants:**

Proposals will be awarded funding based on guidelines, Better Tomorrows priorities and availability of funds.

Proposal requirements:

- a. Services will be provided in Tama or Benton County
- b. Target children 0 – 5 years old
- c. Address which Better Tomorrows priority or priorities for which funding is requested
- d. State need/purpose/proposed goal
- e. State projected timeline for program
- f. Include a detailed 12-month project budget narrative (budget form included in application)
- g. **Application form must be utilized** when requesting funding (electronic copy of the application available)

### **Deadline:**

Two original proposals will need to be submitted ***in writing*** by Monday, April 30, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. No applications will be accepted after this deadline. No verbal applications will be accepted.

## Questions:

Questions about the grant process *must be directed to both:*

Lori Johnson, Co-Director

641/484-4788

E-mail: [ljohnson@tamacounty.org](mailto:ljohnson@tamacounty.org)

Heidi Schminke, Co-Director

319/472-4543

E-mail: [ccc@bcempowerment.com](mailto:ccc@bcempowerment.com)

## Mail or hand deliver completed and signed contracts to:

Lori Johnson, Director

Tama County Public Health & Home Care

129 W. High Street

Toledo, IA 52342

641/484-4788

E-mail: [ljohnson@tamacounty.org](mailto:ljohnson@tamacounty.org)

## Grant Process

After your written application is received it will be sent to the Funding Committee.

The Funding Committee will make recommendations to the Advisory Committee who will present to the Better Tomorrows Board which will make the **final decision on funding.**

If awarded funding, provider/agency will be required to sign a contract and provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance listing **Tama County** and Better Tomorrows Board as additionally insured.