

**CORNER COUNTIES EMPOWERMENT AREA AND TAYLOR COUNTY  
EARLY CHILDHOOD PUBLIC FORUM MEETINGS**

**MONDAY, MAY 17, 201 - 5:00 PM-6:00 PM**

**Page County Courthouse, Page Room -  
Clarinda, IA**

**TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2010 - 5:00 PM-6:00 PM**

**Fremont County Courthouse – Sidney, IA**

**THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010 - 5:00-6:00 PM**

**Bedford Area Development Center, 601  
Madison – Bedford, IA**

- Welcome/Introductions
- Merger of Community Empowerment Areas
  1. Criteria for establishing community empowerment areas was revised in Senate File 2088 this last legislative session stating the following:
    - a. An Early Childhood Area may not encompass more than four counties, and all counties in an Area must have contiguous borders.
    - b. For a single county to serve as an Area, it must have a minimum population of children ages zero to 5 in excess of 5,000, based on the latest U.S. Census data.
    - c. Counties that do not meet that criterion must combine with at least one other county to serve as an Early Childhood Iowa Area. The Lean Design Team determined that this would likely result in 30 to 38 local Areas by FY 2013, a significant reduction from the current 58 Community Empowerment Areas.
    - d. Local Boards cannot have a service provider or person working for any other entity that receives funding from Early Childhood Iowa as a Board member.
  2. Office of Empowerment deadline for local areas to submit a Letter of Intent to Merge is September 1, 2010.
- What has been done locally to move toward a merger?
  1. Similarities and Dissimilarities Chart was developed last fall.
  2. Taylor County Board voted in January 2010 to proceed with merger process with Corner Counties
  3. Corner Counties Board voted in March 2010 to proceed with merger process with Taylor County
  4. A joint Board meeting was held on April 29, 2010 to allow both boards an opportunity to discuss the merge process and how to proceed.
  5. Committees have been identified: Bylaws and Community Plan Committees
  6. A timeline is in place for items that need to be taken care of in order for the merge to take place on July 1, 2011.
    - a. By-laws to be in place by July 1, 2010.
    - b. Letter of Intent to the Office of Management during the month of July 2010.
    - c. Community-wide assessment to be dispersed July through September. Results will be compiled by October 31, 2010. The Early Childhood Committee met on May 4, 2010 and identified questions to be included on this assessment.
    - d. Community Plan to be in place by January 2011.
    - e. New Board in place by January 2011. The new board will process proposals and determine award of funds for SFY' 12. The current Boards will remain intact until July 1, 2011.
- Public comment and questions