**About Iowa 21CCLC**

21st Century Community Learning Centers is a U.S. Department of Education program, administered by the states, that supports out-of-school-time learning opportunities for students in high-poverty, low-performing areas. The Iowa Department of Education administers 21CCLC funding in Iowa through grant competitions. 21CCLC programs focus on **academic support** (helping students meet state and local standards in core academic subjects), **academic enrichment** (providing activities that complement learning from the school day), and **parental engagement** (offering literacy and other educational services to the families of participating students).

**About the Program Model**

Here are examples of how some Iowa 21CCLC programs address the three focus areas:

**Academic Support**

The S.T.A.R.S. afterschool program in Linn County/Cedar Rapids incorporates a segment into their programming called F.L.A.M.E.S., which is an intensive reading program that students attend several times per week. The program links academic, school-day objectives to afterschool programming by incorporating reading objectives and enrichment activities. This link has resulted in increased academic achievement, supported by afterschool program activities.

**Academic Enrichment**

Students at East Elementary in Waukon work with a retired science teacher, taking field trips to Palmers Creek to conduct water and soil tests. The same teacher also provides a taxidermy class, taking advantage of the rural community resources. This hands-on learning approach exposes students to unique avenues into STEM fields.

**Parental Engagement**

The Beyond the Bell program, a partnership between Siouxland Human Investment Partnership and the Sioux City Community Schools, has been creative in engaging families of the children they serve in their afterschool program. In addition to excellent communication with parents via the parent handbook and consistent parent newsletters, the program engages parents through activities, such as family fun night. Research has shown parent involvement in children’s education is a key factor in student success.

**By the Numbers (2012)**

- **33** Grantees
- **61** Sites
- **298** Partners
- **5,455** Students Served

Funding Available & Awarded

- **$15.6 Million** Requested
- **$5.5 Million** Awarded

**Impacts**

Source: Iowa Department of Education