



Thursday, December 14, 2023

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

CDEC Office: 710 South Ash Street Denver, CO 80246

Google Hangouts: <https://meet.google.com/xzy-mmob-gqs>

Or by phone: 732-639-1054 PIN: 201 587 780#

Meeting Materials

[www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org/eclc-meeting-information](http://www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org/eclc-meeting-information)

## AGENDA

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### Meeting Objectives:

- Approve ECLC Subcommittee Charter revisions
  - Discuss needed changes to the ECLC Subcommittee structure to advance the ECLC Strategic Plan
  - Provide feedback on the drafted strategies for the Statewide Strategic Plan
  - Provide input on the current draft of the Workforce Plan
  - Learn about priorities for the upcoming legislative session and consider ways that ECLC can advance early childhood goals
  - Hear comments from the Early Childhood Community
  - Advance the goals of the [ECLC Strategic Plan](#)
- 

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>8:30-9:00</b>  | Commissioners Breakfast (coffee and light breakfast provided for Commissioners)   |
| <b>9:00-9:10</b>  | Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Action: Approve the October 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes</li></ul>  |
| <b>9:10-9:30</b>  | ECLC Subcommittee Charter Review and Expectations <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prework:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Review proposed Subcommittee and Working Group Charters- <a href="#">Data</a>, <a href="#">Early Childhood Workforce Development</a>, <a href="#">Program Quality and Alignment</a>, <a href="#">Home Visiting Investment Task Force</a>, <a href="#">Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Council</a></li><li>○ Review proposed changes to <a href="#">ECLC Bylaws</a> and <a href="#">ECLC Strategic Plan</a></li></ul></li><li>• Action: Vote to approve changes to Charters, Bylaws, and ECLC Strategic Plan</li></ul> |
| <b>9:30-9:50</b>  | Next Steps to Advance ECLC Strategic Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prework: Review proposed <a href="#">Commissioner Responsibilities and Expectations</a> document</li><li>• Type of Agenda Item: Discussion</li></ul>  |
| <b>9:50-10:20</b> | Statewide Comprehensive Strategic Plan (Rebecca Klein and Tamilah Richardson, Start Early) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prework: Review the <a href="#">Draft At-a-Glance Strategies</a></li></ul>   |

- ECLC Function: Alignment
- Strategic Plan A1.4
- Type of Agenda Item: Commissioner Feedback Needed

10:20-10:30 Break

10:30-10:40 Public Comment and Commissioner Updates

10:40-11:05 Comprehensive Workforce Plan (Tanya Weinberg, Kacee Miller, and Emily Landes, Early Milestones Colorado)

- Pework: Review [Draft Plan](#) and (optional) fill out [input form](#)
- ECLC Function: Alignment
- Strategic Plan A2.1.1
- Type of Agenda Item: Commissioner Feedback Needed

11:05-11:50 Budget and Legislative Priorities

- Colorado Children’s Campaign (Lauren Corboy and Melissa Mares)
- Colorado Department of Education (Floyd Cobb)
- Colorado Department of Human Services (Minna Castillo Cohen)
- Colorado Department of Higher Education (Sam Fogleman)
- Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing (Robert Werthwein)
- Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (Rachel Hutson)
- Colorado Department of Early Childhood (Michele Stillwell Parvensky)
- Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (Nicole Riehl)
- Healthier Colorado (Jake Williams and Christina Walker)
  
- ECLC Function: Advocacy
- Strategic Plan S1.4 and S3.4
- Type of Agenda Item: Informational and Discussion

11:50-12:00 Next Steps and Final Thoughts

- Upcoming Topics:
  - Tax Credit Research
  - Child Maltreatment Prevention Framework

12:00 pm Adjourn

## ECLC 2024 Meeting Schedule

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| ● February 22, 2024 | ● August 22, 2024   |
| ● April 25, 2024    | ● October 24, 2024  |
| ● June 27, 2024     | ● December 19, 2024 |

*Note: Any presentation requested by the ECLC does not constitute or imply an endorsement of the product, process, service or organization by the ECLC.*

The next ECLC Meeting will be on February 22, 2024, Time TBD.  
 For information about future meeting dates, times and locations, visit [www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org](http://www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org).



## Early Childhood Leadership Commission October 26, 2022, 2023 ~ 9:00am - 12:00pm

### MINUTES

#### Meeting Objectives:

- Determine how ECLC can support UPK in alignment with our Strategic Plan
- Learn about ways to provide feedback and support the creation of the Statewide Strategic Plan
- Learn about the current efforts at state agencies and consider opportunities for alignment
- Understand the decision-making strategy used to examine CDEC's stimulus funding
- Learn how to provide feedback on the Statewide Comprehensive Workforce Plan
- Hear about the progress on the Home Visiting Task Force report and determine how the ECLC can support this work
- Hear comments from the Early Childhood Community
- Advance the goals of the [ECLC Strategic Plan](#)

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**Attendees:** Adeeb Khan, Floyd Cobb, Glenn Robinson, Heather Craiglow, Jasmin Ramirez, Jeanne McQueeney, Lisa Roy, Lucinda Burns, Maria Tarajano Rodman, Pamela Harris, Sue Renner, Susan Steele, Whitney LeBoeuf, Rachel Hutson, Nicole Riehl, Robert Werthwein, Sam Fogleman, Tammi Hiler

#### Welcome and Introductions

Adeeb Khan called the meeting to order at 9:05. He welcomed Sam Fogleman, the new ECLC representative from the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Commissioners introduced themselves. Adeeb also announced he has accepted a position as the Director of Economic Development for the City and County of Denver.

Pamela Harris motioned to approve the minutes as drafted, Jasmin Ramirez seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

#### ECLC Strategic Plan + ECLC's Role in Supporting Universal Preschool

Adeeb shared the ECLC 10-Year Strategic Plan, and reminded everyone of the focus areas, strategies and results outlined by the Commission. He noted that while the ECLC does not administer the programs and services, the Commission has a role to play in ensuring that the intent of the programs and services are met and ensuring accountability, strategic dialogue and continuous improvement across the early childhood system. Universal Preschool is one of the major programs being rolled out at this time, and the ECLC can have a significant impact in supporting the identification of concerns, prioritizing issues to be addressed, and suggesting solutions.

Susan Steele reminded everyone that the Commission has 3 Subcommittees that are aligned with the result areas in the 10-Year Strategic Plan; given the expertise at the Subcommittees, she suggested that much of the work to advance the Strategic Plan could be done through the Subcommittees and Working Groups. She encouraged the Commission to consider how to ensure the structure of the ECLC and Subcommittees is reflective of the work needed to advance the Strategic Plan.

Sue Renner also elevated the possibility of developing additional platforms or structures that support the Commission. This could include updating the infrastructure or adding additional groups or task forces.

The Commissioners discussed the desire to be more involved in policy making and ensure there are appropriate feedback loops. They also discussed the existing opportunities for engagement, such as the Rules Advisory Council and County Subcommittee of the Rules Advisory Council, and how to ensure feedback is routed to the appropriate venues.

## **Putting Data into Context: Innovation, Investments, and Impact. Evidence-Based Decision-Making at CDEC**

Mary Alice Cohen introduced a conversation on the evidence-based decision making process that CDEC utilized in order to understand and identify priorities and drive innovation, investments, and impact. A major challenge identified by CDEC was that a significant influx of federal stimulus funds supported programs across the department; with the end of this funding, the department needed to develop and activate a sustainability approach to guide the agency in determining which initiatives should be sustained and how.

Whitney LeBoeuf provided an overview of the process utilized to evaluate the activities, which incorporated a massive coordination effort to reduce duplicative outreach to programs and providers and ensure robust information.

Kristin Klopfenstein reviewed the Evidence-Based Decision-Making framework that was utilized in this work; it included utilizing the best available research evidence, accessing decision-maker expertise, and understanding community needs & implementation context. This resulted in two concrete products in coordination with CDEC: an evidence portfolio process to inform CDEC sustainability decision making and evidence briefs to move learnings from evaluation partners into actionable insights. She shared the tool that was utilized to capture information across the three domains listed above, and then discussed how CDEC leadership could utilize the information across the domains to make informed decisions. Some of the learnings to date included creating a reflective time to pause; enabling a systems-level view to understand overall impacts; and promoting consistency and sustainability across units and activities.

Whitney shared just-released [stimulus evidence-building briefs](#) that include actionable insights across the programs and encouraged Commissioners to review them and share with their networks. Mary Alice shared that this was a huge step for the department in transparency in showcasing what programs had evidence to support continuation and how decisions were made regarding investments. She asked for feedback on the briefs and noted that the briefs will be made public on the CDEC website in the next few weeks.

## **Statewide Comprehensive Strategic Plan Update and Feedback**

Tamilah Richardson, Start Early, provided an update on the Statewide Comprehensive Strategic Planning progress and shared a strategy survey. To date, they have hosted 14 community conversations, 11 focus groups, 17 key informant interviews, and reviewed many additional strategic plans and frameworks to inform the development of a synthesized document organized by the *Early Childhood Colorado Framework* domains. A draft will be forthcoming that includes new strategies related to perinatal health and child health, cultural and linguistic responsiveness, and economic mobility.

The Commissioners discussed the opportunity to use the comprehensive strategic plan to align investments and priority setting as well as identify where there are gaps in service delivery. Susan reminded the Commissioners that they will be asked to endorse the statewide comprehensive strategic plan in the next few months and invited feedback through the survey and other engagement opportunities in the next few weeks.

## **State Agency Updates**

- **Colorado Department of Early Childhood:** Dr. Lisa Roy shared that CDEC has hired a new Communications Director, Carolyn Romero, as well as additional staff within the Universal Preschool Division. Tom Massey has retired and his last day is October 31, 2023. She noted that a communication went out this morning that announced a new proposed rule related to adding a Qualifying Factor to the Universal Preschool rules; those rules will be considered by the Rules Advisory Council in the coming months.

- **Governor's Office:** Tammi Hiler announced that the Governor will release his budget on November 1, 2023. There will be information and a briefing on the early childhood investments around the budget release. They are working on the legislative and policy priorities for the upcoming session.
- **Colorado Department of Education:** Dr. Floyd Cobb shared they are continuing to partner with CDEC on Universal Preschool related to special education. They are providing READ Act training for administrators, which is a new requirement for the next school year. They are conducting a rulemaking hearing on tuition cost reimbursements for charter schools. Finally, Colorado was accepted as a member of the Kindergarten Sturdy Bridge community of practice related to supporting kindergarten and transitions from preschool.
- **Health Care Policy & Financing:** Dr. Robert Werthwein noted that the Affordable Care Collaborative 3.0 implementation is coming soon; CHI shared a presentation at the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems that outlines the changes and received feedback.
- **Colorado Department of Human Services:** On behalf of Minna Castillo Cohen, Shannon Wilson shared that CDHS and CDEC recently entered into an MOU that aligns funding to support family strengthening and well-being. Also, the child welfare interim committee has completed their meetings and drafted a few bills that can be viewed [here](#).
- **Colorado Department of Higher Education:** Sam Fogleman shared an overview of the ECE Scholarship Program, noting that more than \$5Million in funds were delivered in FY 2022-2023. In addition, ECE 1011 and 1031 Stipends provided for almost 3,500 courses.
- **Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment:** Rachel Hutson provided several written updates [here](#), but noted a few highlights including that CDPHE and CDEC are hiring a joint Economic Mobility and County Relations Liaison that will start in early November and shared some updates regarding electronic transfers across early intervention referral systems.

#### Public Comment and Commissioner Updates

- No public comment.

#### Comprehensive Workforce Plan

Kacee Miller, Early Milestones Colorado, reminded everyone that they are supporting a process to update a comprehensive Early Childhood Workforce Development plan. In order to gather additional feedback, they are planning to extend the timeline, asking for ECLC endorsement in February 2024. The intention of this plan revision is to celebrate past accomplishments, build a foundation for the future that is a living document, and take a broad approach to ensure comprehensive roles across the early childhood workforce.

Tanya Weinberg, Early Milestones Colorado, shared that they will be sending out examples of the Role-Specific Primers as well as the Anchor Theme documents. Commissioners were asked to review the drafts and provide feedback via a form that will be shared following the meeting. Jennifer O'Brien shared reflections on the Early Childhood Workforce Development Subcommittee and Early Childhood Workforce Plan Task Force meetings, and how the information and feedback is being incorporated into the draft plan, which will come to the ECLC for review in December.

#### Home Visiting Task Force Annual Report

Joyce Johnson, CDEC, shared information on the Home Visiting Investment Task Force and shared their annual progress report. The Task Force focuses on home visiting programs across the state in implementing and advancing home visiting services to support families with children from birth to age six. She highlighted some of the accomplishments of the working groups, including the implementation of Family Connects as a model in Eagle, Boulder, Jefferson and Denver; creating a process to consistently collect data annually; and developing fact sheets regarding the use of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) funds. The task force also supported several legislative successes, including extending postpartum care from 60 days to 12 months. They also provided a "request" from each of the

working groups to support their ongoing work. Commissioners are asked to review the slide presentation and reach out with questions or opportunities.

### **Universal Preschool Quality Standards**

Dawn Odean began by sharing an overview of the process to develop the Quality Standards rule draft related to Universal Preschool Colorado. Utilizing the statute, as well as reviewing feedback from stakeholders and best practices from across the country, Early Milestones Colorado and Early Years Forward led a process that led to the creation of “concepts” that will be used to guide the actual rule language. Based on the feedback collected through that process, a draft rule will be made public on Monday for comment by stakeholders. Dawn noted that LCOs will be asked to host community conversations related to the quality standards; in addition, there will be a statewide webinar on November 13, 2023, to review the rule and then provide input.

The ECLC discussed how they could be supportive and engaged in the conversation related to quality standards. They proposed having a work session in December in order to receive the feedback from stakeholders and provide considerations on the concept, rules, and policy implementation ahead of the rule being considered by the Rules Advisory Council in January. The members also discussed identifying opportunities for alignment across early childhood education programming standards beyond Universal Preschool; this could be considered during the work session and an ongoing opportunity for support from the ECLC.

### **Next Steps and Final Thoughts**

Sue Renner thanked everyone for attending and participating. The next meeting will be hybrid on December 14, 2023. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.

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Thank you for joining! We will begin shortly.

# ECLC

*Early Childhood Leadership Commission*

December 14, 2023

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

CDEC Office and Google Meet

In-Person WiFi: publicwifi

- Please remember to mute your computer or phone when not speaking ●
  - We will be recording and transcribing the meeting ●
- All materials can be found at: [www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org/ecclc-meeting-information](http://www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org/ecclc-meeting-information) ●



# Meeting Logistics

## In-person attendees

- If logged into Google, mute yourself and your computer
- The OWL will track your voice
- Be prepared to access digital documents throughout the meeting
- Try to limit side conversations or talking at the same time as someone else

## Virtual attendees

- Keep microphone muted until speaking
- Turn camera on when speaking (you are welcome to leave camera on the full time)
- For questions or comments
  - Use the hand raise feature
  - Unmute
  - Type in chat





# Welcome, Introductions & Approve Minutes

# Welcome New Commissioner

- Robert Werthwein will be stepping down at the HCPF Representative
- Susanna Snyder, Child and Family Health Division Director at HCPF, will be joining the Commission

Welcome, Susanna!

Thank you for your service, Robert!

# Meeting Objectives

- Approve ECLC Subcommittee Charter revisions
- Discuss needed changes to the ECLC Subcommittee structure to advance the ECLC Strategic Plan
- Provide feedback on the drafted strategies for the Statewide Strategic Plan
- Provide input on the current draft of the Workforce Plan
- Learn about priorities for the upcoming legislative session and consider ways that ECLC can advance early childhood goals
- Hear comments from the Early Childhood Community
- Advance the goals of the ECLC Strategic Plan



# ECLC Document Review

# 10-Year Strategic Plan

**Vision: All children are valued, healthy and thriving**

## Guiding Principles & Functions

From its unique position as the federally authorized state advisory council on early childhood....




## Strategies


...the ECLC focuses its time, energy, and resources to influence systems and policy advancements.....


- Center family experience, satisfaction, and need, ensuring responsive and accessible service delivery
  - Create a public forum to examine challenges and barriers to an equitable, comprehensive early childhood system and identify creative solutions
  - Request data needed from public and private partners to inform strategic policy recommendations
  - Develop and promote innovative policy change to strengthen Colorado's statewide mixed delivery system, increasing access to affordable, quality care
  - Monitor and provide feedback on state agency strategic plans and priorities to promote alignment, mutual reinforcement, and interagency partnerships
- 
- Develop policy strategies for stronger recruitment and retention, increasing workforce diversity across all leadership levels
  - Champion strategies to enhance early childhood workforce compensation across public and private settings
  - Advocate for the public and private funding needed to fully implement Colorado's Comprehensive Early Childhood Workforce Plan
  - Regularly review workforce data to advise on new opportunities and any course corrections
- 
- Advocate for and monitor progress on a multi-agency integrated early childhood data system
  - Inform and support the use of a data-driven evaluation and learning approach so state initiatives are designed with accountability measures and a plan to evaluate impact
  - Promote collaborative, interagency, multi-year fiscal planning for early childhood
  - Set the direction for fiscal policies and decisions that prioritize children and families across public and private systems

## Results

...so that Colorado achieves its vision for early childhood.

- 

Colorado is successful in administering a system of comprehensive early childhood care, education, and supports so that *all families can easily identify, navigate and access services for their children.*
- 

Colorado recruits, retains, and equitably compensates a diverse and qualified early childhood workforce *that provides quality care, education, and supports to children and their families.*
- 

Colorado's early childhood system has the data needed to make evidence-based decisions and the funding resources to put best practices and plans into place, so *all communities have what is needed to best support children and families.*

**Levers of Change:** The ECLC aims to increase access to data, enhance financing, and inform policies by utilizing a variety of public and private resources, such as:

- Family, provider, and community voice
- Federal, state and local public investments
- State agency plans, goals and budgets
- National best practices
- State early childhood plans and roadmaps
- Private investments
- Service and program data
- Workforce data

# THE EARLY CHILDHOOD COLORADO FRAMEWORK

## If WE BELIEVE



### ★ PRINCIPLES

#### Equity Driven

- ALL CHILDREN SERVED
- CHILD, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY CENTERED
- HOLISTIC SERVICES APPROACH
- THRIVING, EFFECTIVE WORKFORCE
- MIXED DELIVERY SYSTEM
- HIGH QUALITY STANDARDS
- INNOVATION
- STREAMLINED EFFICIENCY
- DATA-DRIVEN, OUTCOMES-FOCUSED DECISIONS
- ACCOUNTABILITY

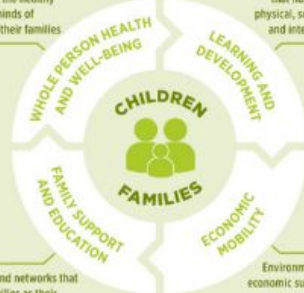
## And BUILD A STRONG SYSTEM



### ★ EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM

Comprehensive services to fully support the healthy bodies and minds of children and their families

Early care and education that nurtures children's physical, social-emotional, and intellectual growth.



Resources and networks that support families as their child's first caregiver and most important teacher.

Environment that fosters economic success so that all the essential needs of children, families, and the workforce are met.

#### WORKFORCE

Early childhood professionals who are diverse, equitably compensated, and prepared to serve in the many settings involved in child health, development, and education.

#### LEADERSHIP

A strong underlying network of leaders to make timely and responsive decisions about programs and policies.

#### FUNDING

Abundant resources to fully meet the needs of children, families, and communities.

#### DATA & RESEARCH

Information to better understand the early childhood system and plan future actions that lead to improved, sustainable, and more equitable outcomes.

#### Collaboration

All elements working together—in local communities to the state level—toward a shared vision for all of Colorado's young children.

## It WILL LEAD TO



### ★ OUTCOMES



#### Access

All children and families have access to a range of early childhood services that are culturally relevant, meet their needs and preferences, and are equitably allocated and available.



#### Quality

Every young child and family experiences a high-quality environment that supports all areas of well-being, affirms all aspects of their identity, and leads to equitable opportunities.



#### Alignment

All the components of the early childhood system are aligned and coordinated so families are able to easily identify, navigate, and receive services.

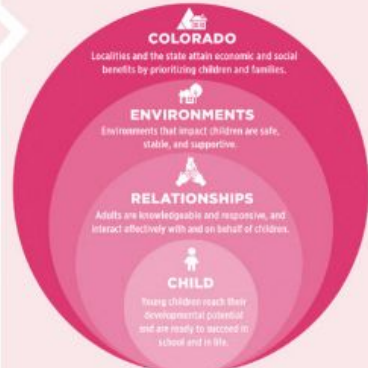
## The FUTURE OF COLORADO



### ★ VISION

**ALL CHILDREN ARE VALUED, HEALTHY, AND THRIVING**

### ★ IMPACT



# Charter Revisions

- [Data Subcommittee](#)
- [Early Childhood Workforce Development](#)
- [Program Quality and Alignment](#)
- [Home Visiting Investment Task Force](#)
- [Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Council](#)

## In Development

- Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant Working Group
- Potential new ECWD Working Groups



# Subcommittee and Working Group Charter Revisions

Assigned pieces of ECLC Strategic Plan to Subcommittees with input from ECLC co-chairs, Commissioners, and Executive Subcommittee

Subcommittee co-chairs created drafts in alignment with the Strategic Plan

Subcommittee members reviewed charters and suggested changes

Subcommittee co-chairs incorporated suggestions into next draft of charter

Executive Subcommittee discussed alignment between the charter and alignment to the ECLC strategic plan

Subcommittee members reviewed next draft and voted to recommend the charter to ECLC for approval

# Highlights

## All Charters

Infusing advocacy, alignment, and accountability and ensuring that all consider policy implications  
Will create Annual Work plans to ensure progress toward Strategic Plan

## Data Subcommittee

Focus on how the Subcommittee can serve other areas of the system in accessing and using data.  
Adding a new Co-Chair, Carsten Baumann, CDPHE

## Program Quality and Alignment

Adding a focus on access; changing the name to **Program Quality, Alignment, and Access (PQAA)**.  
Adding a new Working Group focused on Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

## Early Childhood Workforce Development

Alignment with forthcoming Comprehensive Workforce Plan  
Review of membership sectors to ensure representation across domains.

## Home Visiting Investment Task Force

Reflects the project that has been made on the Task Force Investment Plan and plan for continued efforts

## Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Council

New Working Group under PQAA  
Facilitated by CDEC and GPS  
Will support connection to Whole Person Health and Wellbeing

# ECLC Approval

Can we vote to approve all Charter Revisions?

- [Data Subcommittee](#)
- [Early Childhood Workforce Development](#)
- [Program Quality and Alignment](#)
- [Home Visiting Investment Task Force](#)
- [Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Council](#)

# ECLC Bylaws and Strategic Plan

In order to increase alignment, consider changes to these ECLC Guiding Documents:

- [ECLC Bylaws](#)
- [ECLC Strategic Plan / Work Plan](#)

Newest ECLC Statute  
Colorado Revised  
Statute § 26.5-1-300

Newly refreshed Early  
Childhood Colorado  
Framework

Cross-document  
alignment /  
recommendations from  
Subcommittee co-chairs

[Terms and Definitions](#)  
created as part of the  
Statewide Strategic Plan

# Highlights

## Increasing Inclusivity

Change “pregnant women and young children” to “pregnant people, young children, and families and caregivers”

## Covering All Domains

Adding language to show commitment to whole person health and well-being, learning and development, family support and education, and economic mobility

## Alignment

- Adjusting language to align with work done by a cross-sector group as part of Statewide Strategic Plan.
- Adding core functions, alignment, accountability, and advocacy to bylaws

## Subcommittee Adjustment

Subcommittees suggested changes based on content expertise and needed timeline adjustments

## Technical Changes

- Adjustments to statutory language.
- Adjustments based on virtual meeting format.

# ECLC Approval

Can we vote to approve changes to ECLC Guiding Documents?

- [ECLC Bylaws](#)
- [ECLC Strategic Plan / Work Plan](#)



# Next Steps to Advance ECLC Strategic Plan



# Commissioner Responsibilities and Expectations

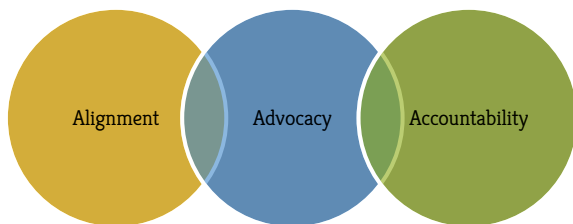
- New one-pager explaining the [Responsibilities and Expectations of Commissioners](#)
- Purpose: Support incoming commissioners and make clear how individual Commissioners should contribute to the ECLC Strategic Plan

# Expectations

- Consistently attend Early Childhood Leadership Commission meetings and special sessions or events. Missing three or more ECLC meetings in a year may result in removal from the Commission.
- Prioritize attending meetings in-person whenever possible
- Have knowledge of the [ECLC Strategic Plan](#), [ECLC Work Plan](#), and the [Early Childhood Colorado Framework](#) and consider methods to advance the plans' objectives
- Review meeting materials ahead of meetings to prepare to participate fully in discussions and activities
- Review post-meeting notes and materials and share information with relevant partners
- Serve on a Subcommittee or Working Group of the ECLC and participate in meetings and activities, including report-outs to the full Commission
- Respond to requests from ECLC staff (i.e. providing content for ECLC reports, provide organizational updates, reviewing draft ECLC publications, etc.)
- Perform the affairs of this Commission honestly and openly, exercising their best care, skill and judgment for the benefit of the Commission and the general public of the state of Colorado
- Disclose the existence of any actual or potential conflict of interest to ensure trust and transparency of the Commission and its work
- Understand and engage in meetings using Robert's Rules of Order

# ECLC and Universal Preschool

- Exploring creating a new Universal Preschool Subcommittee
- What should be considered when forming the Subcommittee?
- Who would like to serve on the initial group to set up the Subcommittee?
- **S1.1-** Center family experience, satisfaction, and need, ensuring responsive and accessible service delivery
- **S1.2-** Create a public forum to examine challenges and barriers to an equitable, comprehensive early childhood system and identify creative solutions
- **S1.3-** Request data needed from public and private partners to inform strategic policy recommendations
- **S1.4-** Develop and promote innovative policy change to strengthen Colorado's statewide mixed delivery system, increasing access to affordable and quality care
- **A1.3.2-** By spring 2024, provide guidance and recommendations to inform the universal preschool quality standards development
- **A3.2-** By Spring 2024, make recommendations and support the implementation of a comprehensive universal preschool evaluation system to ensure legislative intent for an equitable statewide mixed delivery system that results in positive outcomes for children and families





# Statewide Comprehensive Strategic Plan

Rebecca Klein, Start Early



Consulting

12/14/23

# Colorado Early Childhood System Strategic Plan

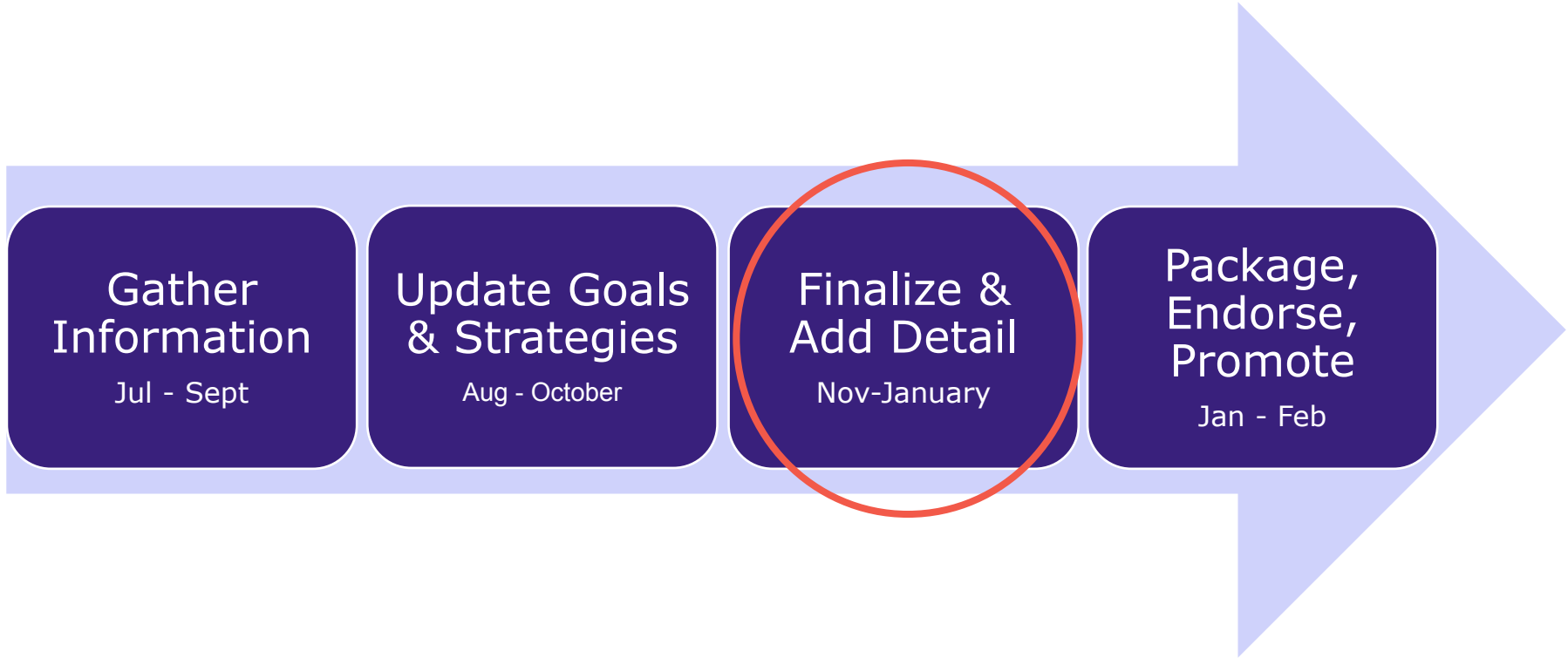
Early Childhood Leadership Commission



# Agenda

- Update on Strategic Planning progress
- Strategic plan-at-glance- review and feedback
- Rebranding proposal- review and feedback
- Next Steps

# Process: New, Comprehensive Early Childhood Strategic Plan



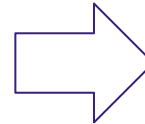


# Information Gathering and Updating Strategies

- Family Voice Council & Strategic Plan Work Group
- Needs Assessment findings
- Early Childhood CO Framework
- Focus Groups
- Key informant interviews
- Community Conversations
- Review of relevant state plans



**DRAFT NEW STRATEGIES**



**Survey** for family and early childhood professional feedback and prioritization

*+Update and integration of existing Colorado Shines Strategies*


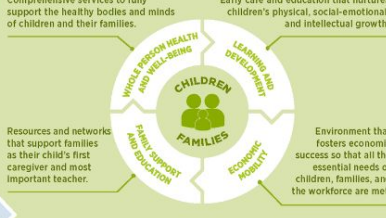




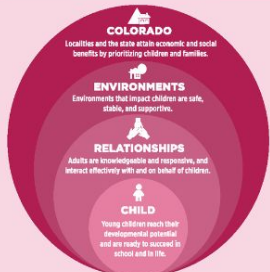
*+ Integration of Home Visiting Investment Plan*

# Alignment to the Early Childhood Colorado Framework

## Early Childhood Colorado Framework

A SHARED VISION

For more information visit [earlychildhoodframework.org](http://earlychildhoodframework.org)

If WE BELIEVE	And BUILD A STRONG SYSTEM	It WILL LEAD TO	The FUTURE OF COLORADO			
 <p><b>PRINCIPLES</b></p> <p>Equity Driven</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Children Served</li> <li>Child, Family, and Community Centered</li> <li>Holistic Services Approach</li> <li>Thriving, Effective Workforce</li> <li>Mixed Delivery System</li> <li>High Quality Standards</li> <li>Innovation</li> <li>Streamlined Efficiency</li> <li>Data-Driven, Outcomes-Focused Decisions</li> <li>Accountability</li> </ul>	<p><b>EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>CHILDREN FAMILIES</b></p> </div> <p><b>WORKFORCE</b> Early childhood professionals who are diverse, equitably compensated, and prepared to serve in the many settings involved in child health, development, and education.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"><b>LEADERSHIP</b> A strong underlying network of leaders to make timely and responsive decisions about programs and policies.</td> <td style="width: 33%;"><b>FUNDING</b> Abundant resources to fully meet the needs of children, families, and communities.</td> <td style="width: 33%;"><b>DATA &amp; RESEARCH</b> Information to better understand the early childhood system and plan future actions that lead to improved, sustainable, and more equitable outcomes.</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>COLLABORATION</b> All elements working together—in local communities to the state level—toward a shared vision for all of Colorado's young children.</p>	<b>LEADERSHIP</b> A strong underlying network of leaders to make timely and responsive decisions about programs and policies.	<b>FUNDING</b> Abundant resources to fully meet the needs of children, families, and communities.	<b>DATA &amp; RESEARCH</b> Information to better understand the early childhood system and plan future actions that lead to improved, sustainable, and more equitable outcomes.	<p><b>OUTCOMES</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Access</b></p> <p>All children and families have access to a range of early childhood services that are culturally relevant, meet their needs and preferences, and are equitably allocated and available.</p>  <p><b>Quality</b></p> <p>Every young child and family experiences a high-quality environment that supports all areas of well-being, affirms all aspects of their identity, and leads to equitable opportunities.</p>  <p><b>Alignment</b></p> <p>All the components of the early childhood system are aligned and coordinated so families are able to easily identify, navigate, and receive services.</p> </div>	 <p><b>VISION</b></p> <div style="background-color: #f4a460; padding: 10px; border-radius: 10px; text-align: center; color: white;"> <p><b>ALL CHILDREN ARE VALUED, HEALTHY, AND THRIVING</b></p> </div> <p><b>IMPACT</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
<b>LEADERSHIP</b> A strong underlying network of leaders to make timely and responsive decisions about programs and policies.	<b>FUNDING</b> Abundant resources to fully meet the needs of children, families, and communities.	<b>DATA &amp; RESEARCH</b> Information to better understand the early childhood system and plan future actions that lead to improved, sustainable, and more equitable outcomes.				

Nine goals to build a strong early childhood system

# Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

**GOAL 1. Promote Whole Person Health and Well-Being.** Strengthen comprehensive services to fully support the healthy bodies and minds of children and their families.

- **OBJECTIVE 1** - Promote perinatal and child health and eliminate racial disparities in outcomes
- **OBJECTIVE 2** - Support children's health and nutrition in early care and education settings, including care for special health needs. (NA A2)
- **OBJECTIVE 3** - Increase developmental screenings and access to early intervention services for children with developmental delays and disabilities
- **OBJECTIVE 4** - Promote early childhood mental health and eliminate exclusionary practices (NA W1, W4)

**GOAL 2. Increase Family Support and Education.** Strengthen resources and networks that support families as their child's first caregiver and most important teacher.

- **OBJECTIVE 1** - Maximize family knowledge and support through culturally and linguistically relevant programs and resources. (NA F2, F3)
- **OBJECTIVE 2** - Increase family awareness and connections to needed resources and programs using culturally and linguistically responsive practices (NA F1, F3)

# Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

**GOAL 3. Support Learning and Development.** Strengthen early care and education that nurture children's physical, social-emotional, and intellectual growth.

- **OBJECTIVE 1**– Increase availability of and equitable access to affordable, inclusive early care and education opportunities that meet child and family needs in a mixed delivery system. (NA A1, A2, A4, A5)
- **OBJECTIVE 2** - Expand support to increase quality and culturally, linguistically, and developmentally responsive early care and education in formal and informal settings (NA A1, Q1, Q2, Q3, S1)

**GOAL 4. Promote Economic Mobility.** Strengthen the environment that fosters economic success so that the essential needs of children, families, and the workforce are met.

- **OBJECTIVE 1**- Increase economic supports and assistance to pregnant people and families with young children (NA A5)
- **OBJECTIVE 2** - Promote community development and economic conditions that benefit families and helps communities thrive.

# Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

**GOAL 5. Support the Early Childhood Workforce.** Strengthen supports for the early childhood workforce so early childhood professionals are diverse, equitably compensated, and prepared to serve in the many settings involved in child health, development, and education.

- **OBJECTIVE 1** - Promote recruitment and career pathways for a diverse workforce that reflects the children and families served. (NA W1, 3, 4)
- **OBJECTIVE 2** - Increase retention and wellness of the workforce (NA W2, 3)
- **OBJECTIVE 3** - increase compensation with sustainable financing (NA W2)

**GOAL 6. Promote Leadership.** Ensure a strong underlying network of leaders to make timely and responsive decisions about programs and policies

- **OBJECTIVE 1** - Strengthen family voice and leadership in decision making.
- **OBJECTIVE 2** - Strengthen early childhood professional voice and leadership in decision making.

# Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

**GOAL 7. Maximize and Prioritize Funding.** Ensure abundant resources to fully meet the needs of children, families, and communities.

- **OBJECTIVE 1** - Increase funding supports and strengthen business practices to expand access to high quality, affordable early care and education and bolster the sustainability of programs (NA A2,A3,A5, S1, S2, S3, S4)
- **OBJECTIVE 2** – Increase advocacy for home visiting and maximize the efficient distribution of funds to support home visiting outcomes across the state. (NA F1)
- **OBJECTIVE 3** - Allocate funding to increase cultural and linguistically responsive programs, resources, and practices that meet the needs of families served. (NA F3, W4, A1)

**GOAL 8. Promote Data and Research.** Increase information to better understand the early childhood system and plan future actions that lead to improved, sustainable, and more equitable outcomes.

- **OBJECTIVE 1**- Strengthen data system infrastructure and practices to make data informed decisions to improve equitable child and family outcomes

# Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

**GOAL 9. Increase Collaboration.** Ensure all elements are working together - in local communities to the state level- toward a shared vision for all of CO's young children.

- **OBJECTIVE 1-** Increase the alignment and coordination of services (NA S1)

# Approach to Writing

- Strategies are written for people at multiple levels of the system to see ways that they could implement or contribute to the strategy.
- Goals and objectives are meant to be clear to a general audience.
- Strategies are meant to include more detail rather than less to provide guidance, clarity, and examples of action steps for implementers (sub bullets).



# Considerations in Refining the Draft

- Survey results and priorities
- Needs Assessment findings
- Equity impact assessment
- Clarity, coherence, actionability
- Length/Focus on priorities
  - cut low priority strategies and consolidated similar strategies.

# Feedback Opportunities

- Brief discussion today
- Review draft and provide written feedback by 1/7/24.
- The working group, other subcommittees, family voice council members, CDEC leaders and staff will also provide another review by 1/7/24.

# Feedback Discussion

- What feedback do you have about the content or the organization?
- What are your thoughts on consolidating/prioritizing strategies?
- Thinking about the implementation context, are there any ways we can better connect to existing efforts or opportunities to encourage uptake?

# Volunteers to Review and Provide Written Feedback

- Feedback by 1/7/24
  - Review with guidance and provide feedback in a google form
  - Ok for some reviewers to focus on their area of expertise
  - Looking for volunteers to do a close review of the whole document, zooming out and reviewing it comprehensively
  - Welcome reviewers to provide particular perspectives thinking about the particular groups of families or professionals they represent

BRAND ELEMENTS



*From Good Ideas to Great Results*

[www.TheIdeaMarketing.com](http://www.TheIdeaMarketing.com)

# CREATIVE FRAMEWORK



- Colorado child-centric
- Community-driven collaboration
- Clean and professional
- Brand autonomy
- Made to last
- Content/imagery balance
- Compelling (whole-person)

# TITLES, TAGLINES & DESCRIPTORS

## TITLE/BRAND

- Few words that embody your overall identity (comprised of tangibles and intangibles)
- It ignites an emotional connection



## TAGLINE

- Phrase that conveys the value proposition within your brand essence



## DESCRIPTOR

- It describes the product

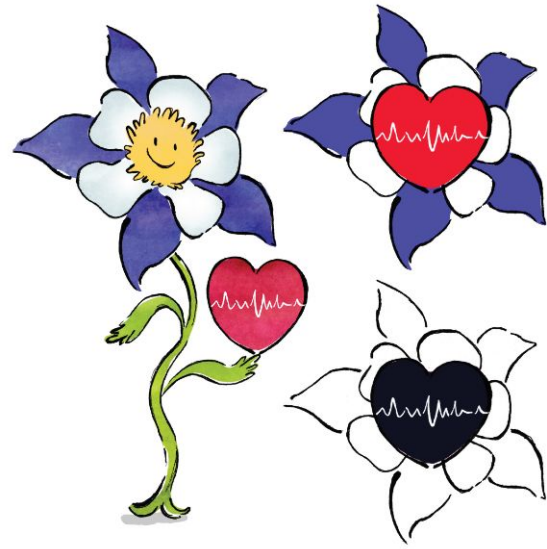




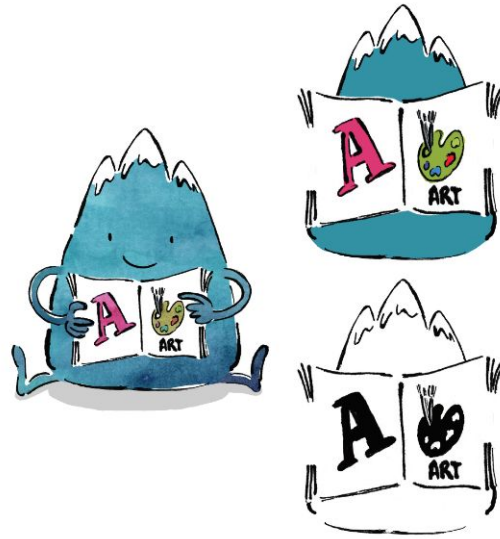




# ICONS: ILLUSTRATION STYLE



Whole Person Health  
& Well-Being



Learning & Development



# ACTION POINTS

Respond to survey to select preference:

## **KIDS CLIMB HIGH**

**#1** Colorado's Path to Elevating Early Childhood Excellence

## **THRIVING TOGETHER COLORADO**

**#2** A Blueprint for the Success of All Colorado Children

## **GROWING TOGETHER, THRIVING**

**#3 FOREVER**  
Guiding Colorado's Children Towards a Brighter Future

Can include suggestions on the design, variations on the title, tagline, and descriptor, or other feedback.

# Next Opportunities for Engagement

- **Strategic Plan At-A-Glance-** Please provide feedback and recommendations by 1/7/24 end of the day.
- **Rebranding-** Please respond to survey by 12/15/23 end of day.
- **Strategic Plan Report and success indicators-** Draft end of the month, feedback and revisions in January.
- **ECLC meeting February 22nd** - endorsement

A decorative background consisting of a solid gold color with a faint, repeating geometric pattern of white lines forming triangles and star-like shapes. The pattern is more prominent in the upper right and lower right corners.

**Break Time!**  
*Back in 10 minutes...*



# Public Comment and Commissioner Updates



# Comprehensive Workforce Plan

Kacee Miller and Tanya Weinberg, Early Milestones





**COLORADO**

Department of Early Childhood



**EARLY MILESTONES**  
COLORADO



# Comprehensive Early Childhood Workforce Plan

## Early Childhood Leadership Commission

### 14 December 2023

# Today's Conversation

- Plan timeline, overview, and highlights
- ECWD engagement
- Discussion

## Final Steps in the Plan Development Process

**November 29:** final session with the Strategic Advisory Group

**December 12:** review by the Early Childhood Workforce Development (ECWD) Subcommittee

**December 14:** review by the Early Childhood Leadership Commission (ECLC)

**Early 2024:** graphics and design are added and the final plan is complete

**February 6:** final review by the ECWD with recommendation for endorsement by ECLC

**February 22:** ECLC votes to endorse the plan

**2024 and beyond:** ECWD supports plan roll-out along with ongoing progress reporting and support of plan implementation

# Plan Overview

## Purpose

**Contextualize and transform future policies and systems change to bolster CO's EC workforce, documenting cabinet and department level accountability measures.**

Document priorities, goals and objectives for CO's comprehensive EC workforce.

Build a shared understanding of the breadth and diversity of CO's EC workforce, promoting a shared vision across partners.



## Audience

### Primary:

- state and local systems builders and policy makers
- state departments (CDEC, CDE, CDHE, CDPHE, CDLE...)
- public and private funders

### Secondary:

- local community organizations
- programs
- providers and practitioners
- families



## Intended Use

- **Mobilize state policy and systems action**
- **Guide and prioritize public and private investments**
- Prompt action to ensure coordination and alignment statewide
- Mobilize local policy and systems action
  
- Communicates priorities to programs, administrators, PD coordinators, etc
- Providers, programs and families use the plan to hold systems builders accountable

## Scope

The plan will:

- Take a broad, multifaceted view of the early childhood workforce, which will include roles and disciplines including coaching, training, and technical assistance. home visiting, early childhood mental health, and early intervention.
- Strive to identify key overarching assets, opportunities, and tensions that are relevant and shared across the workforce, regardless of role or primary discipline.
- If/when possible, articulate opportunities for alignment as well as considerations for strategic distinction across roles and disciplines.

# Colorado's Comprehensive Early Childhood Workforce Plan Highlights

- Celebration of accomplishments
- Foundation for the future
- Distinct new approach
  - Broad not deep
  - Education-oriented
  - Unique process

# Early Childhood Workforce Development Subcommittee

Dec.12 Meeting

- Plan for roll out and implementation
- Enthusiasm for the comprehensive nature and holistic system of support
- Significance of the inclusivity
- This plan stands out from other states



# DISCUSSION

- Any clarifying questions?
- Which components are most important to be updated regularly?
- How can the plan foster collaboration and communication among different stakeholders to strengthen the comprehensive early childhood workforce?

# THANK YOU

## **Kacee Miller**

Portfolio Director, Early Learning

**EMAIL:** [kmiller@earlymilestones.org](mailto:kmiller@earlymilestones.org)

## **Tanya Weinberg**

Portfolio Director, Health and Well-being

**EMAIL:** [tweinberg@earlymilestones.org](mailto:tweinberg@earlymilestones.org)







# Budget and Legislative Priorities



# Colorado Children's Campaign

Lauren Corboy and Melissa Mares

# Colorado Children's Campaign 2024 Legislative Priorities ECLC Meeting

December 14, 2023

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**COLORADO CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN**  
*Every Chance for Every Child*



# Early Childhood



# 2024 Early Childhood Priorities

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- Universal Preschool (UPK) Implementation
- Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) Budget Requests
- CDEC Rulemaking Renewal
- Growing Our Future Coalition



# UPK Implementation: Year 2

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Clearer communication

Application and technological improvements

Streamline enrollment

Data collection and analysis

Language equity

Quality standards and resource bank



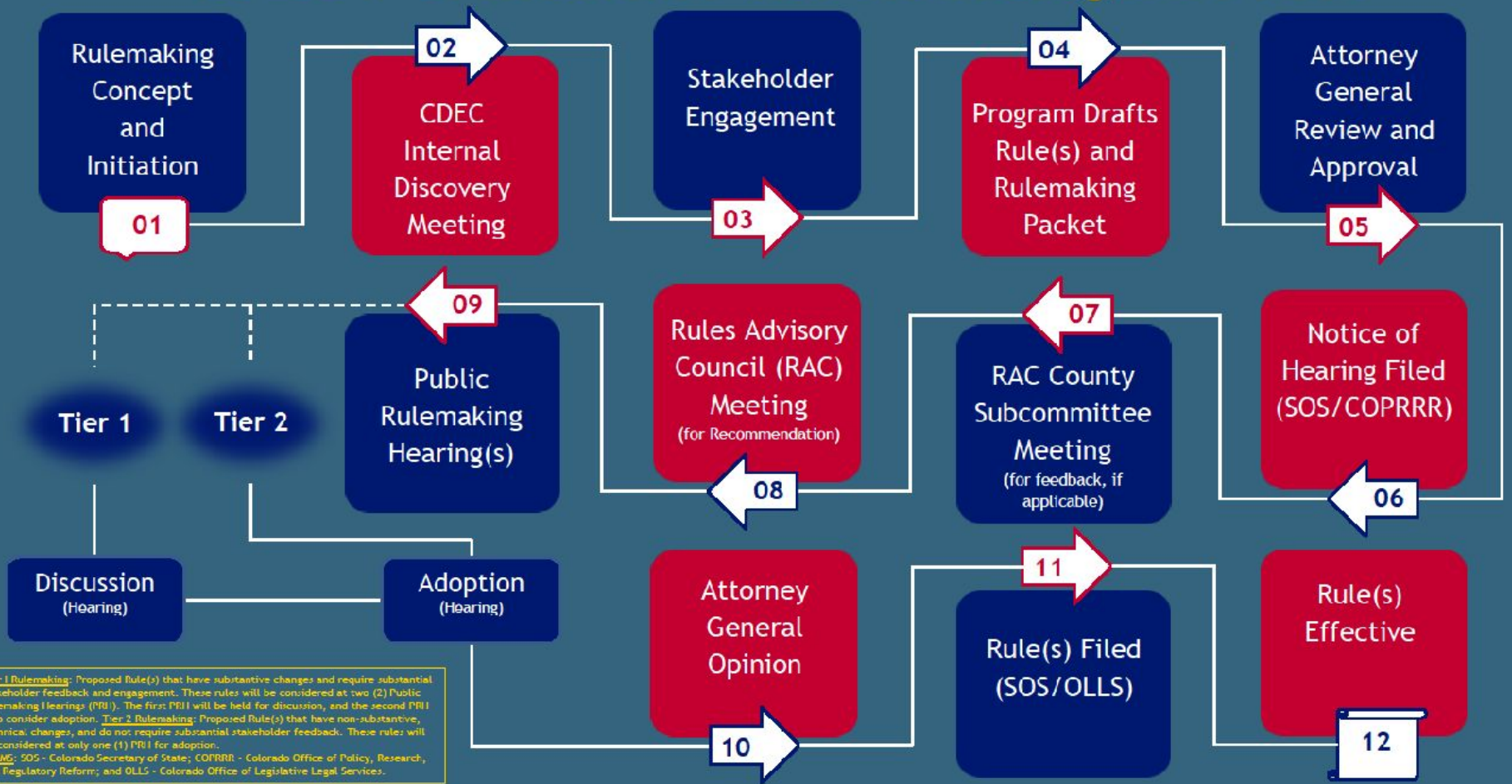
# Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) Rulemaking Renewal

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- Renewal of Executive Rulemaking Authority
- Support for CDEC's Rules Advisory Council
  - Parent and Provider Members
  - Priority: Increase public input into the RAC process, building on recent successful CDEC public comment opportunities



# CDEC Permanent Rulemaking Process



**Tier 1 Rulemaking:** Proposed rule(s) that have substantive changes and require substantial stakeholder feedback and engagement. These rules will be considered at two (2) Public Rulemaking Hearings (PRH). The first PRH will be held for discussion, and the second PRH is to consider adoption. **Tier 2 Rulemaking:** Proposed rule(s) that have non-substantive, technical, changes, and do not require substantial stakeholder feedback. These rules will be considered at only one (1) PRH for adoption.

**TERMS:** SOS - Colorado Secretary of State; COPRRR - Colorado Office of Policy, Research, and Regulatory Reform; and OLLS - Colorado Office of Legislative Legal Services.



# Growing Our Future Coalition

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- **Priorities include:**
  - Fiscal Reform (2024 and/or 2026)
  - New Revenue for Child Care
  - Shared Power
  - Narrative Change
- **Polling statewide in January**



Growing our  
**FUTURE**

# Other Legislation

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- Bilingual Child Care Licensing Support
- CCCAP Improvements
- Eviction Data Collection



Colorado Department of Education  
Floyd Cobb



# State Board of Education Priorities

[Link to priorities](#)



Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and  
Financing  
Robert Werthwein



# Colorado Department of Higher Education

Sam Fogleman



# Colorado Department of Human Services

Minna Castillo Cohen



Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
Rachel Hutson







# Colorado Department of Early Childhood

Michele Stillwell-Parvensky



**COLORADO**

**Department of Early Childhood**

# **2024 Budget and Legislative Priorities**

**ECLC**

**December 14, 2023**

# Early Childhood Budget Priorities

## Year 2 Implementation of Universal Preschool

- \$32.5 million to support providers, including a 2% provider rate increase, an online resource bank and support Local Coordinating Organizations (R-01)
- \$3.26 million for ongoing enhancements, and maintenance and operations of the Universal Preschool system to improve the family and provider experience and help desk support (R-03)
- \$3.27 million one-time for Year 2 improvements to family application, provider portal, data reporting and streamlined IEP placement (CC-IT-S-01 Supplemental IT Capital)



# Early Childhood Budget Priorities

- **Early Childhood Workforce Supports:** \$2.2 million for coaching, training and development of early childhood workforce to ensure quality of care and Early Childhood Councils navigators (R-04)
- **Colorado Child Care Assistance Program:** \$21.1 million for CCCAP to continue stimulus-funded strategies that will ensure stability to providers in CCCAP post-pandemic and improve child care access and choice for low-income working families (R-05)
- **Universal Home Visiting Pilot:** \$4 million to establish a five-year Family Connect Pilot Program (R-06)
- **Early Intervention:** \$1.1 million for caseload costs (R-07)
- **Department Operations:** \$5.7 million to establish sufficient Department staffing and technology for successful financial, policy and program implementation



# Legislative Priority: Bilingual Child Care Licensing

- Sponsored by Representatives Joseph and McLachlan, Senators Ginal and Rich
- Requires the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) to ensure that child care licensing services be available in Spanish and establishes a Bilingual Licensing Unit
- Supports expansion of licensed child care options across the state by helping Spanish-speaking providers to become licensed and providing more linguistically relevant child care options for children and families
- Appropriates ongoing funding to staff the Bilingual Licensing Unit (3 FTE at a cost of \$235,000 ongoing) and one-time funding for a vendor to enhance the child care licensing mobile application Spanish capabilities (\$45,000 in FY 2024-25)





# Executives Partnering to Invest in Children

Nicole Riehl

# Advocate for policies that support children's development and the needs of working families

- Expanded and equitable access to services (UPK, CCCAP, etc.)
- Mixed delivery to meet the diverse needs of working families
- Accessibility for families
- Viability for providers

# Advocate for investments in child care infrastructure to support and grow the economy

- Incentivize investments in child care infrastructure and programs
- Implement real estate solutions and financial resources to support child care facilities
- Address regulatory barriers to the creation of new child care capacity and businesses
- Incentivize the co-location of child care with other development



# Advocate for policies that recognize and stabilize early childhood small businesses

- Create business supports, technical assistance resources, and incentives for ECE business owners
- Encourage design and investment in innovative career pathways and workforce development
- Advance opportunities for ECE business owners to participate in and inform policy
- Address regulatory and legal barriers to entry for the child care industry

# Upcoming

## Child-Friendly Communities Legislation

Creates an incentive-based program for:

- Technical assistance to child care providers and public or private partners who want to create child care facilities and programs
- Grants to local governments to align and streamline the regulatory environment for child care facility development (including both commercial and residential facilities)
- Capital funds to support the creation, renovation, and expansion of child care facilities



# Healthier Colorado

Jake Williams and Christina Walker

# Our Mission

Healthier Colorado is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to raising the voices of Coloradans in the public policy process to improve the health of our state's residents. We believe that every Coloradan should have a fair chance at living a healthy life. The people of Colorado are our constituency, and Healthier Colorado aims to make meaningful improvements throughout our state's diverse communities.

## Our Focus Areas:

- Physical Health
- Mental Health
- Social Health

## Priorities this session include:

- ECE
- Youth Mental Health
- Criminal Justice



# ECE Legislation: Improving the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program

Our goals are to:

1. Create a more streamlined and simple application and eligibility process for families;
2. Improve payment practices for providers; and
3. Decrease copayments and make copayment amounts more transparent.





# ECLC Synthesis and Discussion



# Upcoming Projects



# **Child Care Contribution Income Tax Credit**

Department of Revenue Study



# Section 39-22-121, C.R.S.

- The Child Care Contribution Income Tax Credit was enacted as a statewide income tax credit in 1998.
- The credit is equal to 50% of the total value of a taxpayer's monetary contribution that is directly related to promote child care in the state.
- The credit can't exceed the taxpayer's actual income tax liability for the tax year, or \$100,000, whichever is less, in each income tax year.
- The taxpayer can't claim credit for a contribution the taxpayer makes to a child care facility in which the taxpayer or a person related to the taxpayer has a financial interest.

# Eligible Contributions Include:

- Donating money for the establishment or operation of:
  - A child care facility that uses the donation to provide child care; and
  - A child care program that is not a child care facility but provides child care services similar to those provided by a child care center.
- Donating money to establish a grant or loan program for a parent or parents in the state requiring financial assistance for child care; or
- Pooling money of several businesses and donating the money for the establishment of a child care facility in the state.

# What is a Child Care Facility?

Generally most child care centers and agencies required to be licenced by CDHS and CDEC including:

- Child care centers;
- Child placement agencies;
- Family child care homes;
- Foster care homes;
- Homeless youth shelters;
- Residential child care facilities;
- Secure residential treatment centers; and
- Approved facility schools that are both affiliated with a licensed or certified hospital in the state and a nonprofit organization.

# House Bill 23-1091

- As introduced, the bill sought to extend the credit for three more tax years and to allow in-kind contributions of real property.
- The bill was amended to:
  - Remove the authority to allow in-kind contributions of real property;
  - Require the Department to study the credit and make recommendations; and
  - Require the Office of State Auditor to prepare and present a tax expenditure evaluation report no later than September 15, 2026.

# The Study

- Due July 31, 2024.
- Department of Revenue to collaborate with:
  - The Early Childhood Leadership Commission;
  - The Public-Private Collaboration unit in the Department of Personnel; and
  - The Department of Early Childhood.
- To study possible improvements to the tax credit and to develop several recommendations.

# The Recommendations

- How to further measure the effectiveness of the tax credit;
- Improvements to the structure, oversight, and administration of the credit;
- Mechanisms to inform taxpayers and eligible child care facilities and programs about the availability of the tax credit;
- Methods to ensuring the tax credit is equitably promoting child care in all communities; and
- Allowing donations of in-kind real property to qualify as an eligible contribution to promote child care.

# Our Goals and Promises

- CDOR is committed to developing a durable framework for ensuring the effectiveness of this important credit.
- We are working with CDEC and ECLC on a plan to engage partners and interested stakeholders.
- We will begin reaching out to folks early in 2024 through our email alert list.
- We are looking forward to a collaborative process in making these recommendations to the General Assembly.

# Questions?

Sign up for email alerts (<https://tax.colorado.gov/email-sign-up>)

- Choose “Sign Up for Multiple Lists”
- Complete your contact information
- Check “Tax Workgroup - HB23-1091 Child Care Contribution Credit Study” (and any others of interest)

Esther van Mourik, Deputy Director of Tax Policy

[esther.vanmourik1@state.co.us](mailto:esther.vanmourik1@state.co.us)





**COLORADO**

**Department of Early Childhood**

# **Child Maltreatment Prevention Plan December 2023**

**ECLC Report Out**

# Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP)

- o Funding the comes from the US Department of Health and Human services under Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)
- o Colorado Office of Early Childhood is the designated agency for those funds, which then flow to communities with the intent to strengthen and support families, and prevent child abuse and neglect
- o Primary and secondary prevention activities are allowed, including support of projects such as the Colorado Partnership for Thriving Families, Public Awareness / social norms campaigns (coconnected.org), Circle of Parents, Healthy Steps
- o Child Maltreatment Prevention Framework for Action (co4kids.org) what communities use to develop a Child Maltreatment Prevention plan outlining activities for implementation.



**COLORADO**

Department of Early Childhood

# Framework for Action Update: Why Now?

- Extensive Assessment, Reflection and Insights point to an update
  - Collective Progress: Pathway to Enhancement
  - Colorado Maltreatment Prevention Planning Evaluation Report
  - Gap Identification Report
- Research, progress, and learning over the past decade to incorporate
- Tremendous amount of early childhood and youth systems building work over the past decade that need to be factored in
- *Early Childhood Colorado Framework* refresh complete



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Department of Early Childhood

# Framework Update Process

## Fall 2023

- Review relevant reports to elevate values and springboard for planning
- Pilot and evaluate updated planning tools

## Winter 2023/24

- Review relevant state frameworks/ plans to identify alignment opportunities
- Compile themes from new community plans
- Develop framework update draft #1

## Spring 2024

- **Gather feedback** on framework draft, offering a variety of input options
- Update framework design and branding
- Finalize draft framework

## Summer & Fall 2024

- Finalize framework and toolkit design and content
- Develop communications and roll-out plan

**Introduce Framework 2.0 and community planning toolkit at 2024 Strengthening Colorado Families and Communities Conference**



# Questions?

- Abby Waldbaum, Family Support Supervisor, CDEC  
[abby.waldbaum@state.co.us](mailto:abby.waldbaum@state.co.us)



**COLORADO**  
Department of Early Childhood



# Next Steps and Final Thoughts

# Save the Date

**February 22, 2024**

Afternoon ECLC Meeting followed by ECLC Reception to launch the refreshed *Early Childhood Colorado Framework* and 2023 ECLC Annual Report

All Commissioners and ECLC Partners are invited!

Details Forthcoming

# ECLC

*Early Childhood Leadership Commission*

Next Meeting:

February 22, 2024

Details TBD

Hybrid



Thank you!