

# Welcome and thank you for joining!



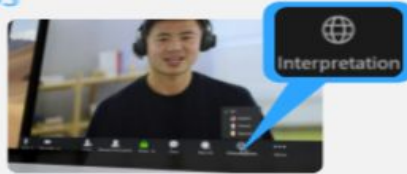
Early Childhood Leadership Commission

- This meeting will be recorded and posted on the ECLC Transition Webpage
- Please use the chat to ask questions for the presenters
- Spanish language interpretation is available. Follow the instructions to join the appropriate language channel

**Durante este evento, se dispondrá de interpretación de idiomas.  
Para escuchar la interpretación en un idioma:**

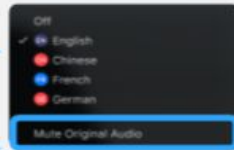


1. En los controles de la reunión o el seminario web, haga clic en **Interpretation (Interpretación)**



2. Haga clic en el idioma que desee escuchar

3. (Opcional) Para escuchar solo el idioma interpretado, haga clic en **Mute Original Audio (Silenciar audio original)**



1. En los controles de la reunión, toque el icono de los puntos suspensivos **⋮**
2. Toque **Language Interpretation (Interpretación de un idioma)**
3. Toque el idioma que usted desea escuchar



4. (Opcional) Toque el interruptor **Mute Original Audio (Silenciar audio original)**



5. Haga clic en **Done (Done)**



*Early Childhood Leadership Commission*

**Early Childhood Transition Planning**  
**Monthly Town Hall**  
**May 2023**

# Introductions

Early Childhood Leadership Commission Co-Chairs:

- **Susan Steele** - Former President & CEO, Buell Foundation
- **Sue Renner** - Executive Director, David and Laura Merage Foundation
- **Tammi Hiler** - Special Advisor for Early Childhood and K-12 Policy for Governor Jared Polis

# Agenda

- Voices from the Field
- ECLC Updates and Priority Projects
- News from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood
- Legislative Updates
- Universal Preschool Colorado Updates
- Mythbusting and Q&A
- Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

# Voices from the Field

**Sandra Richardson**

Owner, Little KiGa Farm



Welcome to Little KIGA

# ECLC Updates and Priority Projects



# Transition Planning

## HB21-1304

- Signed June 23, 2021
- Called for the creation of two reports:
  - Department of Early Childhood Transition Plan
    - ECLC unanimously approved in November 2021
  - Colorado Universal Preschool Recommendations
    - ECLC unanimously approved in January 2022

## HB22-1295

- Signed April 25, 2022
- Aligned with the recommendations of the two reports
- Established responsibilities of CDEC and the Executive Director
- Moved early childhood programs to the new department
- Created the Colorado Universal Preschool Program

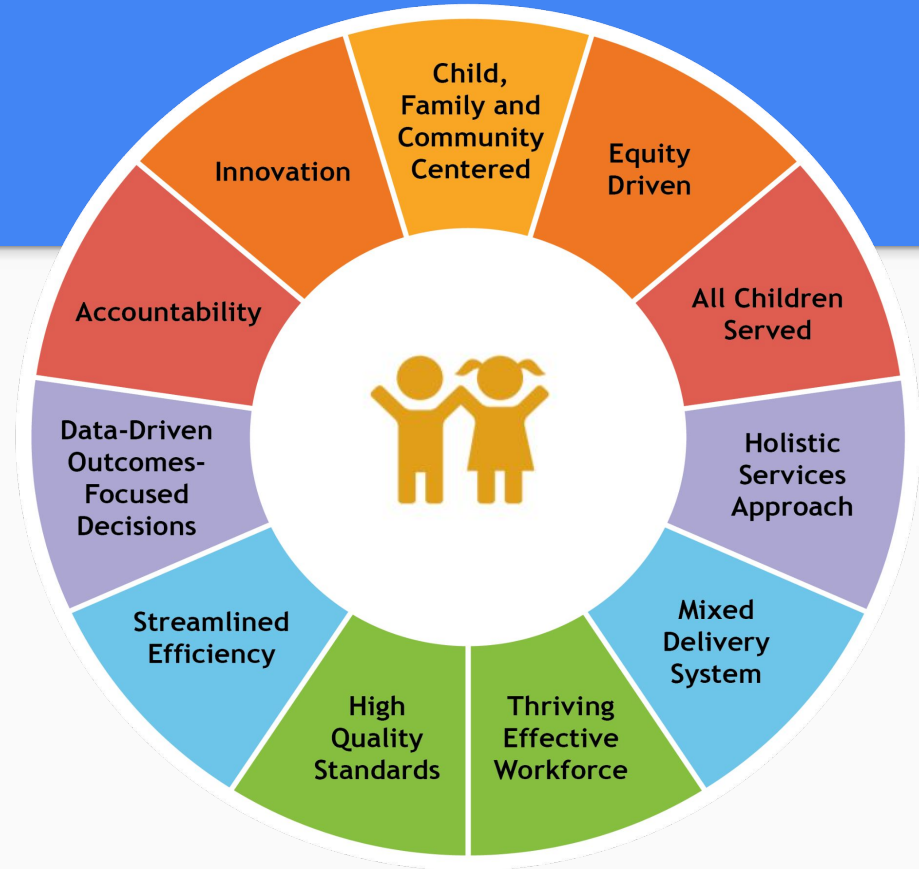
CDEC officially launched July 1, 2022!





# Guiding Principles

The CDEC and UPK reports centered on the guiding principles adopted by the ECLC



# ECLC Strategic Plan

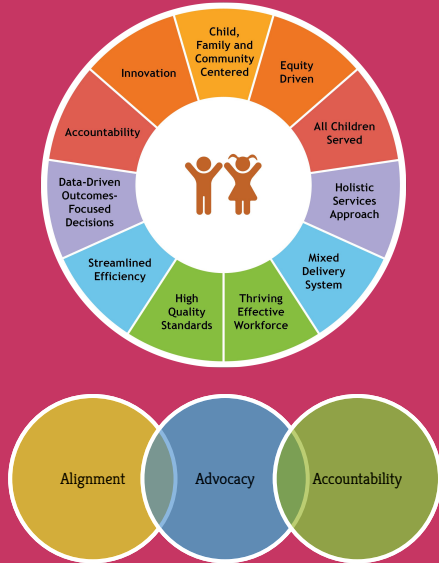
- The Early Childhood Leadership Commission (ECLC) is Colorado's federally-authorized state advisory council for early childhood.
- The role of the ECLC is to be a statewide leader, subject matter expert and champion of best and promising practices throughout the state.
- The ECLC recently created a new 10-year strategic plan to guide our work going forward
- The plan includes the guiding principles, strategies, levers for change, and desired outcomes that the Commission will use to support the state to achieve its shared vision that **all children are healthy, valued, and thriving**

# 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 and education 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 and education 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.*

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



**COLORADO**

**Department of Early Childhood**

# **News from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood**

# Hiring Updates

## Recently Hired

- EQIT Lead - hired, Eva Jankovsky started May 6
- Contract Specialist - hired, Sharon Crocco started May 6
- DELAQ/CCCAP Quality Program Assistant - hired, Tyne Hall starts May 22
- Regional Coach, Southwest Region - hired, Stacey Speck starts June 5

## Application Review / Interviewing Candidates

- UPK Specialist (2 positions) - referred for interview
- LCO Specialist (5 positions) - extended offers for three positions
- Payroll Accountant - referred for interview
- Contracts & Procurement Director - in review
- Compliance Team Supervisor - in review
- Audits Team Supervisor - referred for interview

## Posted Last Week

- Deputy Executive Director

# Annual Family Survey

- The [Annual Family Survey](#) is designed to help CDEC understand what families with children between birth and 5 years old in the state of Colorado want and need.
- All parents or guardians of children under the age of 6 years old are invited to participate.
- CDEC will use the information collected in this survey to guide its work, make spending decisions, and support access to quality early childhood programs and services throughout the state.
- The survey is open until May 31.
- If you have any questions, please contact Shaina Swain at (303) 871-2568 or [shaina.swain@du.edu](mailto:shaina.swain@du.edu).
- A flyer with a link to the survey is available in English and Spanish, along with text that can be used for emails or newsletters ([English](#), [Spanish](#)).
- We encourage you to take the survey and share it with the families that you serve



**COLORADO**

**Department of Early Childhood**

# 2023 Legislative Updates

# Legislative Updates

- **SB23-269 - Universal Preschool Provider Bonuses - Passed by Legislature**
  - Establishes \$2.5 million in one-time bonuses for Universal Preschool providers with the goal of increasing provider participation to ensure that all children have access to a universal preschool classroom in their communities
- **HB23-1235 - CDEC Technical Clean Up Bill - Passed by Legislature**
  - Makes technical revisions to Early Childhood statutes to clarify statutory authority and ambiguities as a result of the transition of early childhood programs into the new Department
- **HB23-1290 - Proposition EE Funding Retention - Passed by Legislature**
  - Refers a measure to the 2023 ballot for voters to vote to retain \$23.65 million in excess Proposition EE revenue for universal preschool
- **SB23-217 - Separating Fees In Records And Reports Cash Fund - Signed into law**
  - Technical fix to separate a CDEC fund from unrelated CDHS costs



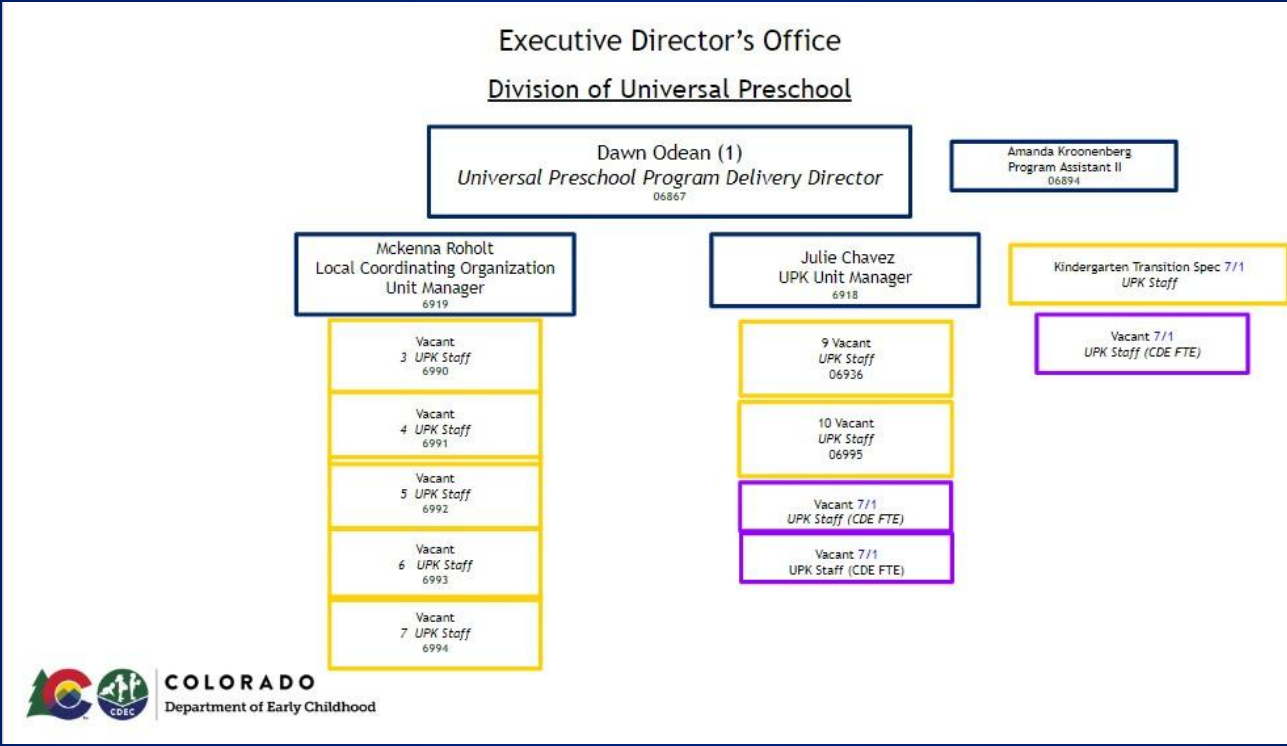
# Legislative Updates

- **HB23-1091 - Child Care Contribution Tax Credit - Passed by Legislature**
  - Extends the credit for 3 years
- **HB23-1246 - Support In-Demand Career Workforce - Passed by Legislature**
  - Allocates funds to community and technical colleges to fund students to obtain specified in-demand credentials, including early childhood
- **HB23-1300 - Continuous Eligibility Medical Coverage - Passed by Legislature**
  - Requires the state to seek federal authorization to extend continuous eligibility coverage for children less than 3 years of age



Updates

# Staff Updates



# Matching Updates

- Total number of eligible four-year-olds in round 1 = 27,036
- Families of four-year-olds matched to their first choice = 81.7%
- Families matched to any one of their choices = 91.5%
- Total number of three-year-olds matched = 3,496
- Families that have accepted their match = 17,949 (72.5%)

# Enrollment Timeline

- Round one - in progress; May 10 deadline to accept matches
- Round two - on or around May 17
- Subsequent rounds - ongoing
- UPK classes start - Fall 2023!

# UPK Quality Standards Planning

- UPK Quality Standards phases of work include:
  - Phase I - Research, review and stakeholdering for UPK Quality Standards Rule
    - [Preliminary Stakeholder Input](#)
    - [Crosswalks of Requirements to Existing Standards](#)
    - Environmental scan underway; recommendations forthcoming
  - Phase II - Develop Cross-Department Standards, including workforce, professional learning credentials and pathways
  - Phase III - Resource library, pathways, reporting plan
- [Operating memo](#)
- [Press release](#)
- RFP

# Mythbusting and Questions



# Upcoming Engagement Opportunities





# Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

Stakeholder engagement will remain critical to the success of CDEC and the universal preschool program. Stakeholders can expect to remain informed and engaged through the following new and existing channels:

- CDEC Website has officially launched: [cdec.colorado.gov](https://cdec.colorado.gov)
- Sign up for the [CDEC Newsletter](#)
- Follow the CDEC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#)
- [Feedback Form](#)
- Newsletter updates through the [Our Voice Newsletter](#)
  - Please sign up for *Our Voice* to continue to receive updates!
- Monthly town halls
  - Next Town Hall: June 13 at 5:30pm

Thank you!

