Welcome and thank you for joining!



- 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





Early Childhood Transition Plan Monthly Town Hall

September 2022

Introductions

Early Childhood Leadership Commission Co-Chairs:

- Susan Steele President & CEO, Buell Foundation
- Tom Massey Deputy Executive Director, Colorado
 Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
- Dr. Pamela Harris President & CEO, Mile High Early Learning

Agenda

- News from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood
- Demonstration of Universal Preschool Family Application
- Mythbusting and Q&A
- Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

Voices from the Field

Jessica Jones

Director,
Broomfield Early
Childhood Council

Dayna Scott

Executive Director,
Broomfield FISH Food Bank
and Family Resource Center

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





News from the Colorado Department Early Childhood

Dr. Lisa Roy, Executive Director Michael Cooke, Early Childhood Transition Director September 2022

CDEC Staffing Updates

New hires for key positions:

- Dawn Odean, Universal Preschool Program Director
- Colleen Lynn, Director of Business, Innovation, Technology, and Security (BITS)

Key vacancies

- Division Director: Strategy, Communications, Policy, and Partnerships (posting closes tomorrow)
- Director of Administrative Solutions
- Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
- Rules Advisory Council (RAC) Manager
- Universal Preschool and Local Coordinating Organization Staff
 - LCO manager and specialists to provide support and professional training
 - UPK manager and team to focus on stakeholder collaboration, program logistics, vendor management, and alignment with partner programs



Rules Advisory Council Update

Past meetings

- Welcome meeting: August 18, 2022
- Initial training / orientation meeting: September 1, 2022

Upcoming meetings

- Orientation continued + rule review: September 15, 2022
 - CCCAP federal poverty rates
 - First set of rules relating to UPK eligibility
- Public hearing for above rules: September 29, 2022



Approved LCOs

Adams: Westminster Public Schools on Behalf of a County Collaborative

Arapahoe: Arapahoe County Early Childhood Council **Boulder:** Early Childhood Council of Boulder County

Delta, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan, San Miguel: Bright Futures

Broomfield: Broomfield Early Childhood Council **Chaffee:** Chaffee County Early Childhood Council

Cheyenne, Kiowa, Lincoln: Cheyenne, Kiowa & Lincoln Counties ECC

Moffat, Rio Blanco: Connections4Kids & Moffat County School District

Custer: Custer County School District & Custer County Kids Council

Denver: Denver Preschool Program

Douglas: Douglas County Early Childhood Council

Eagle River Valley Only: Eagle County School District & Early Childhood Partners

Fremont: ECHO & Family Center ECC

El Paso: Joint Initiatives for Youth and Families

Elbert: Elbert County Early Childhood Council

Grand, Jackson: Grand Beginnings

Gunnison, Hinsdale: Gunnison-Hinsdale Early Childhood Council

Huerfano, Las Animas: Huerfano-Las Animas Counties Early Childhood Council



Approved LCOs

Larimer: Early Childhood Council of Larimer County

Logan, Phillips, Sedgwick: Early Childhood Council of Logan, Phillips and Sedgwick

Mesa: Mesa County Partnership for Children and Families & Mesa County Dept of Human Services

Morgan: Early Learning Ventures

Eagle (West), Garfield, Lake, Pitkin: Rocky Mountain ECC & Mountain Valley Development Services

Routt: First Impressions of Routt County

Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache: Early Childhood Council of the San

Luis Valley

Pueblo; Bent, Otero, Crowley; Prowers, Baca: Children First Department of Pueblo Community

College/ Pueblo Early Childhood Council

Archuleta; La Plata; Dolores, Montezuma: San Juan BOCES

Summit: Early Childhood Options & Summit County Government

Teller, Park: Teller Park Early Childhood Council

Clear Creek, Gilpin, Jefferson: Bright Futures

Weld: United Way of Weld County

Yuma, Washington, Kit Carson: Early Childhood Council for Yuma, Washington

and Kit Carson



HB 22-1295 UPK Quality Expectations

- TO ESTABLISH QUALITY STANDARDS FOR PUBLICLY FUNDED PRESCHOOL PROVIDERS THAT PROMOTE CHILDREN'S EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT, SCHOOL READINESS, AND HEALTHY BEGINNINGS.
- THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL ESTABLISH BY RULE THE QUALITY STANDARDS THAT EACH PRESCHOOL PROVIDER MUST MEET TO RECEIVE FUNDING THROUGH THE COLORADO UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL PROGRAM.
- THE QUALITY STANDARDS MUST, AT A MINIMUM, REFLECT NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY-INFORMED BEST PRACTICES WITH REGARD TO SCHOOL READINESS, ACADEMIC AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT, HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS, SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING, AND CHILD AND FAMILY OUTCOMES.



Upcoming Rule Package

- THE LEVEL OF INCOME THAT IDENTIFIES A FAMILY AS BEING LOW-INCOME FOR PURPOSES OF IDENTIFYING CHILDREN WHO ARE THREE YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER AND ARE ELIGIBLE FOR PRESCHOOL SERVICES AND PRIORITIZING FUNDING FOR THOSE ADDITIONAL PRESCHOOL SERVICES.
- THE QUALIFYING FACTORS THAT A CHILD MUST MEET TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL PRESCHOOL SERVICES. THE QUALIFYING FACTORS MUST INCLUDE IDENTIFICATION AS A DUAL-LANGUAGE LEARNER OR A CHILD WITH DISABILITIES AND MAY INCLUDE SUCH OTHER FACTORS AS THE DEPARTMENT MAY IDENTIFY.
- THE NUMBER OF HOURS OF PRESCHOOL SERVICES THAT AN ELIGIBLE CHILD (THREE YEARS OF AGE & YOUNGER IN WAIVER DISTRICTS) MAY RECEIVE.
- THE NUMBER OF HOURS OF ADDITIONAL PRESCHOOL SERVICES THAT AN ELIGIBLE CHILD MAY RECEIVE.



Unified Application System

Demonstration of Universal Preschool Program Application

Grace Kretschmer-Tran
UPK Product Owner



Family Application - Invitation to Negotiation (ITN)

- ITN Vendor Selection Timeline:
 - July 1: Vendor finalists selected
 - July 15: Demonstrations & Proof of Concept interviews
 - July 29: Intent to Award issued to BridgeCare
 - July 31: Vendor Selected Notice of Intent to Award
- September December: Agile implementation & testing
- UPK Family Application opens: January 2023





Family Application Proof of Concept

Overview

Eight total participants tested vendor solutions and provided their feedback to two test scenarios related to the family experience.

Participant Profiles

- Three families
- One center provider
- One home-based provider
- Three school district providers

Test Scenarios

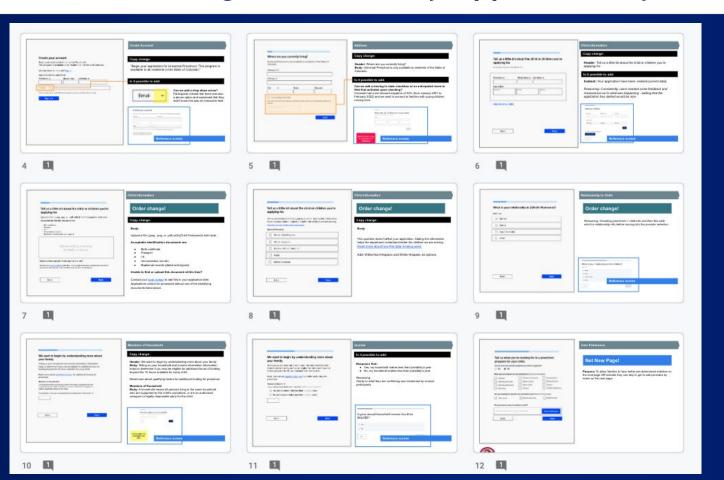
- How might a family reliant on public transportation use a universal preschool application?
- How might a family who is relocating search for preschool providers in a new area with a child with special needs?

Additional Evaluations

- Responsiveness across devices and low bandwidth
- Accessibility for visually impaired
- Complexity analysis
- API, data, and storage Evaluation



Bridgecare's Family Application System



Demonstration of Bridgecare's family experience in searching for preschool providers and then submitting an application.

Technology & program teams are working through changes to be reflective of the user experience. The software you see today will continue to evolve and will look different in January.



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: <u>cdec.colorado.gov</u>
- Sign up for the <u>CDEC Newsletter</u>
- Follow the CDEC on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram
- Feedback Form
- Newsletter updates through the <u>Our Voice Newsletter</u>
 - Please sign up for Our Voice to continue to receive updates!
- Monthly town halls
 - Next Town Hall: Tuesday, October 11 at 5:30pm

Thank you!