

# Until we get started...

## Here are some helpful reminders

- If you are having trouble hearing the webinar and are participating using your computer's audio please switch the audio options from "Computer audio" to "Phone call".
- To listen using your phone's audio, and after dialing the phone number and Access Code, please dial **your Personal Audio PIN**.
- Please utilize the chat or questions box throughout the meeting for questions or comments.
- If you would like to be unmuted anytime throughout the meeting **please type into the chat box that you would like to make a comment and we will unmute you.**

# ECLC

*Early Childhood Leadership Commission*

## Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee

Friday, December 13, 2019 - 9:00-11:00am

The Colorado Health Foundation 1780 Pennsylvania  
St, Denver, CO 80203, USA

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2314496562438843139>



# Welcome and Review of Minutes

- Please type your name and organization you are representing into the chat box for introductions.
- Review meeting objectives
- Approval of meeting minutes from November 8th, 2019

# COLORADO SHINES BRIGHTER

PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT BIRTH THROUGH FIVE

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Ensuring all Colorado children are ready for school when entering kindergarten.



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# Colorado shines brighter...

- **5,265** family voices were captured
- More than **10,000** families, early care and education providers, early childhood professionals, program administrators, advocates, and policymakers participated
- First comprehensive, birth through five **needs assessment** since 2011
- First statewide, birth through five **strategic plan** aligned with the Early Childhood Colorado Framework, the Governor's priorities, and 38 state and local plans

...because of you.



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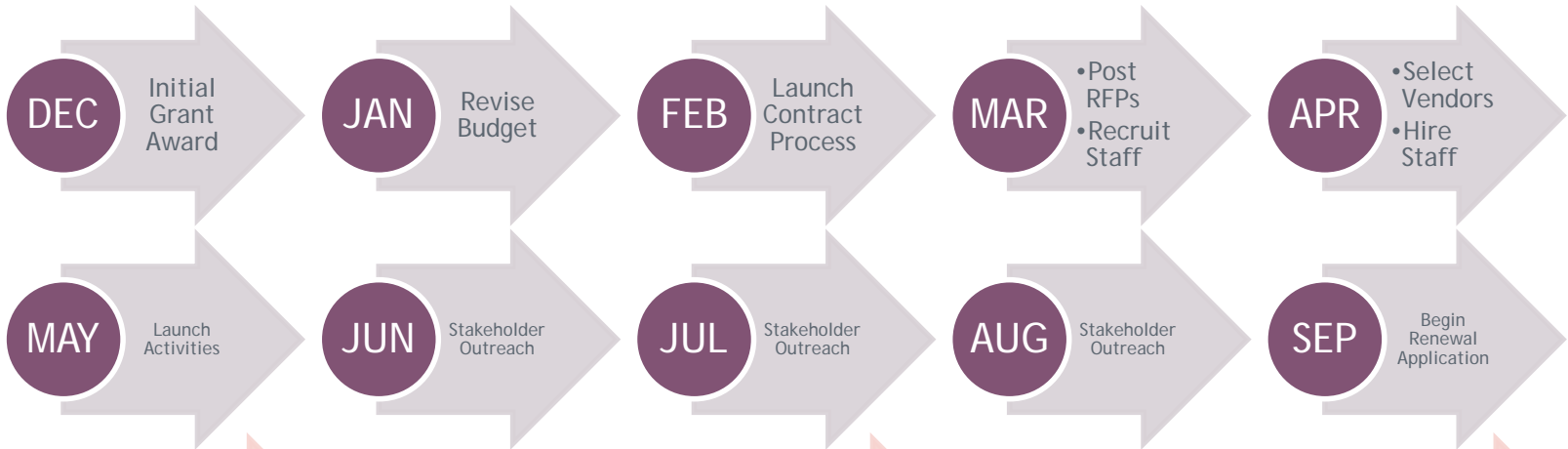
# Goals and Outcomes

1. Colorado families have access to quality formal early childhood care and education settings of their choosing which best meet the need of their child and family, especially those who are vulnerable and infants and toddlers.
2. Informal early childhood care and education environments (parental, friend, family, and neighbor care) are enhanced to enrich and support children's physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development.
3. Colorado's B-5 early childhood state system is coordinated and aligned to enhance the resources available to families and to improve the quality of relationships among families, caregivers and children.



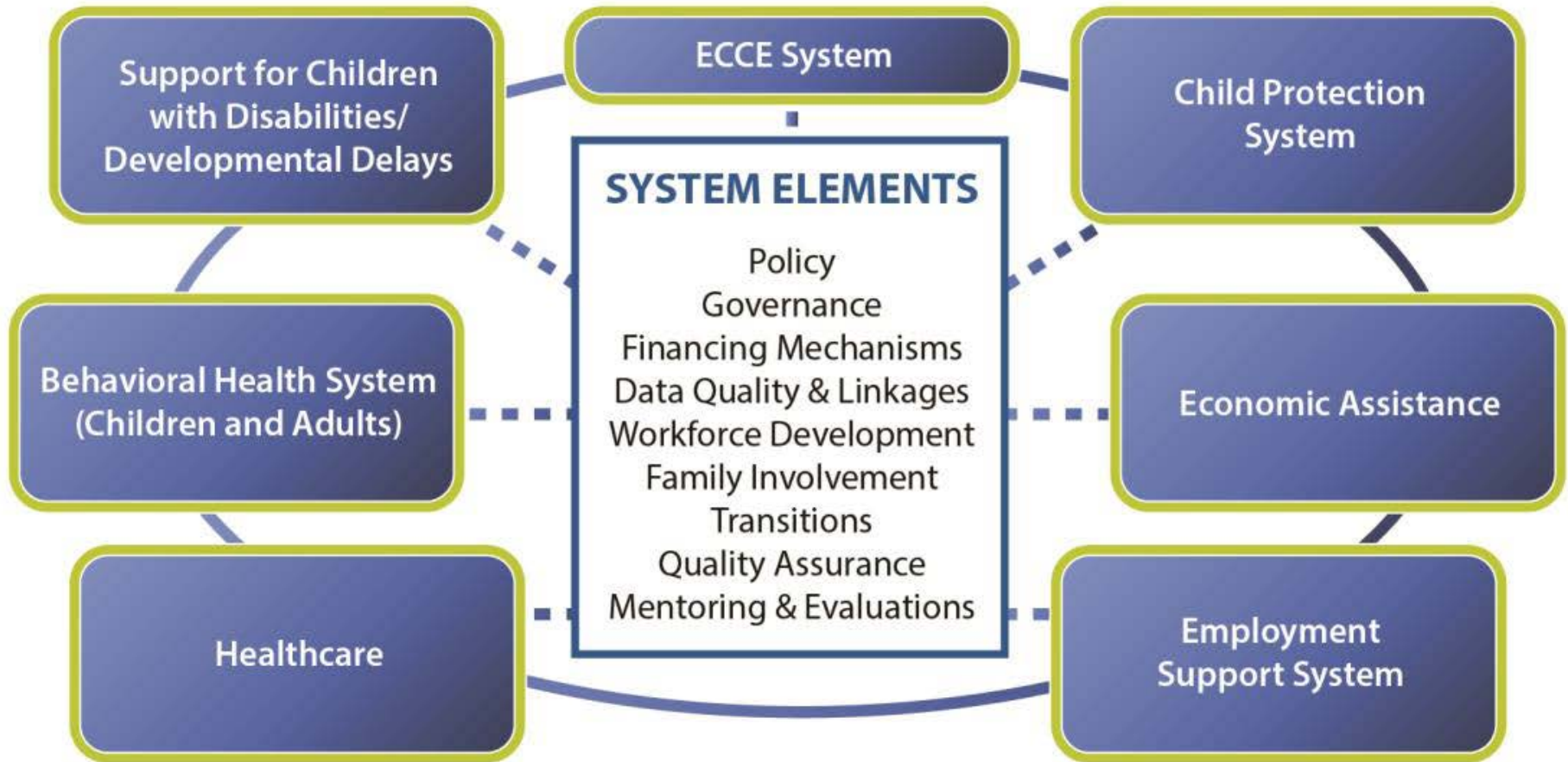
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# Timeline





# Grant Purpose



# Needs Assessment Requirements

1. Definitions.
2. Describe the populations of children who are vulnerable or underserved, and children in rural areas.
3. Identify the unduplicated number of children being served in existing programs and the unduplicated number of children awaiting service in such programs.
4. Identify the current quality and availability of ECE.
5. Identify gaps in data or research about the quality and availability of programming and supports for children B-5.
6. Describe the gaps in data or research that are most important for the state to fill in order to meet the goals of supporting collaboration between programs and services and maximizing parental choice.
7. Describe current measurable indicators of progress that align with the state's vision and desired outcomes.
8. Describe key concerns or issues related to ECE facilities.
9. Identify barriers to the funding and provision of high-quality ECE services and supports, and identify opportunities for more efficient use of resources.
10. Describe transition supports and gaps that affect how children move between ECE programs and school entry.
11. Describe policies and practices that support system integration and interagency collaboration.



# Colorado's Approach

- Contracted with Colorado Health Institute in July
- Addressed 5 Key Questions
  - What do we have (current state)
  - What is enough (what do families want)
  - Where is there not enough (identify geographic areas)
  - Who is not getting enough (identify inequities in access)
  - Why is there not enough (market conditions, parental choice, cost)
- Utilized Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches
  - Parent Survey
  - Focus Groups, Key Informant Interviews
  - Administrative Data
  - Child Care Model



# Parent Survey: Demographics

Weighting Variable	Value	Unweighted Responses	Weighted Responses
Parent Age	Under 18	14	16
	18 to 24	162	197
	25 to 34	1,581	1,553
	35 to 44	1,421	1,432
	45 to 54	179	169
	55 to 64	32	28
	65 to 74	12	8
	75 to 84	3	2
Race and Ethnicity	White	2,389	2,109
	Hispanic	621	902
	Other Race	390	390
Region	Metro Area	1,604	1,987
	Central	455	512
	East	522	465
	Mountain	335	191
	Southeast	296	137
	Southwest	192	113

# Parent Survey: Key Populations

Key Populations		Survey Respondents (Weighted)
Parent(s) or Primary Guardian(s)	Working parents and primary caregivers	75%
	Household income < \$30,000/year	22%
	Household income under \$50,000/year	38%
	Recipient of SNAP, WIC, or TANF benefits	22%
	Active in the military	2%
	Under 18 years of age	1%
	Employed as a migrant worker	1%
	Experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless	4%
Child(ren)	Lives in a home where English is not the main language spoken	10%
	Special health care needs (such as food allergies, asthma, diabetes, takes prescribed medication, etc.)	12%
	Has a disability, identified developmental concern, or behavioral health issue	14%
	Has been involved in the child welfare system (including foster care placement)	4%
	Tribal member or reside on tribal lands	1%

# 12 Opportunities for Colorado's Early Childhood System

1. Increase Availability of Affordable, Convenient, and Quality Care, Especially for Infants and Toddlers
2. Engage Stakeholders to Provide More Equitable and Culturally Relevant Care
3. Increase Inclusivity and Access for Children with Special Needs
4. Continue Investing in Quality Enhancing Professional Development Opportunities and Supports across the ECE Landscape, including Workforce Recruitment and Retention
5. Continue to Engage Stakeholders in the Development of a Diverse Early Childhood Workforce
6. Increase Provider Supports and Knowledge around Child Care Licensing, and Develop and Provide Essential Business Supports for Child Care Providers



# 12 Opportunities for Colorado's Early Childhood System

7. Centralize and Increase Parent Access to Early Childhood Information
8. Increase Transition Knowledge and Associated Supports
9. Expand Access to Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Services
10. Invest in Rural Outreach
11. Integrate Disparate Data Sources
12. Enhance Cross-sector Collaboration to Build Data Systems that Support Coordinated Care and Capture Long Term Outcomes



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# Future Needs Assessment Topics

- **Parent choice.** Colorado should test levels of knowledge and understanding, and include a broader demographic reach, to allow for greater refinement of parent preferences by income, geography, race, and ethnicity.
- **Availability of formal child care.** Colorado needs a better understanding of seemingly simple issues like how many child care slots are available in licensed child care facilities at any point in time, in which communities, and for which ages.
- **Availability of infant and toddler child care.** Colorado should continue to explore the policy levers and investments that are necessary to increase the availability of these much-needed services.
- **Capturing long term outcomes.** Future work is needed to understand the interconnectedness of the state's early childhood system and to better demonstrate its benefits.





# Questions?



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Break

# Strategic Plan Requirements

1. Identify the full range of stakeholders meaningfully impacted by the work and how these stakeholders were engaged in the strategic plan development/updates.
2. Clearly lay out a plan with goals and action steps that establish a comprehensive ECE system.
3. Identify the partnerships, collaborations, coordination, and quality improvement activities that will be used to leverage policy alignments and program quality and service delivery across ECE settings in the birth through five (B-5) system.
4. Identify activities that address improving transitions of children from ECE programs into elementary schools.
5. Delineate how the plan will build on and support improved coordination and collaboration among ECE programs.
6. Provide a strong framework for laying out how the state will increase the overall participation of children in high-quality ECE programs, services, and settings within and across a mixed-delivery system.
7. Assess current federal, state, and local statutory requirements and identify any potential barriers or roadblocks that these requirements put on future coordination.
8. Identify how the state will use indicator data to assess progress, assess key desired outcomes, inform cost and resource efficiency, and support continuous quality improvement.
9. Describe how the state will continue to involve the State Advisory Council in the implementation of the strategic plan.



# Colorado's Approach

- Contracted with Child Trends (Early Milestones Colorado, Marzano Research) in July
- Developed a 5-year strategic plan:
  - Aligning existing state and local strategic plans and frameworks
  - Broadly including stakeholders across the mixed delivery system
  - Building on existing initiatives and foundational systems
  - Utilizing the needs assessment findings



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# Needs Assessment Alignment

		12 Opportunities for CO's Early Childhood System					
GOALS		1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Align and Coordinate Systems	1. Increase Availability of Affordable, Convenient, and Quality Care, Especially for Infants and Toddlers	X					X
	2. Engage Stakeholders to Provide More Equitable and Culturally Relevant Care		X		X		X
	3. Increase Inclusivity and Access for Children with Special Needs				X		
2. Innovate Service Delivery	4. Continue Investing in Quality Enhancing Professional Development Opportunities and Supports across the Early Care and Education Landscape, including Workforce Recruitment and Retention						X
3. Maximize Family Knowledge and Engagement	5. Continue to Engage Stakeholders in the Development of a Diverse Workforce					X	X
4. Increase Meaningful and Equitable Access	6. Increase Provider Supports and Knowledge around Child Care Licensing, and Develop and Provide Essential Business Supports for Child Care Providers		X			x	
5. Strengthen Business Practices	7. Centralize and Increase Parent Access to Early Childhood Information	X		X			
	8. Increase Transition Knowledge and Associated Supports			X	X		
6. Improve the Quality of ECE Environments and the Workforce	9. Expand Access to Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Services		X	X	X		X
	10. Invest in Rural Outreach		X		X	X	
	11. Integrate Disparate Data Sources	X					
	12. Enhance Cross-sector Collaboration to Build Data Systems that Support Coordinated Care and Capture Long Term Outcomes	X					

# Strategic Plan and Renewal Grant

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	IMPLEMENTATION LEADS	APPROACH	CONTEXT
Statewide Birth through Five Strategic Plan (Roadmap)	5 years 2020-2025	Multiple Partners: Governor's Office, State and Local Agencies, ECLC, Other Stakeholders	Needs Assessment Family and Stakeholder Engagement	Early Childhood Colorado Framework State Landscape
PDG B-5 Renewal Grant (Funding)	3 years 2020-2022	Colorado Department of Human Services	Needs Assessment Family and Stakeholder Engagement	Initial Grant Activities Scoring Criterial

# Goal 1: Align and Coordinate Systems

- 1.1.5 Explore barriers and strategies to implementing a unique child identifier to enable data informed decisions concerning child outcomes
- 
- 1.1.6 Utilize data to identify opportunities for supporting the broader early childhood workforce, including home visitors, coaches, and early childhood mental health consultation (ECMHC) professionals
- 1.2.3 Promote integrated and preventative maternal and child physical, behavioral, and oral health, exploring current models including Head Start and the maternal and child health priorities of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- 1.2.5 Determine core early childhood and family support services to be made available in each county and create a plan to address current gaps
- 1.2.6 Enhance ongoing coordination and collaboration across state agencies including the Colorado Departments of Human Services (CDHS), Education (CDE), Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF)



# Goal 3: Maximize Family Knowledge, Engagement, and Support

- 3.1.5 Implement a “no wrong door” statewide parent awareness and engagement campaign, and coordinate across systems to ensure tools and practices to support “no wrong door” are in place
- 3.1.7 Investigate families’ attitudes and decision-making around choosing ECE programs
- 3.2.1 Explore opportunities for the Early Childhood Leadership Commission (ECLC) to lead specific strategies with a focus on incorporating input from families and front-line professionals, such as formal (licensed) and informal (license-exempt) ECE, K-3, ECMHC, and home visitation professionals
- 3.3.2 Build the capacity of local ECCs to engage family leaders, including consultation and engagement with local FRCs and Head Start programs





# Goal 4: Increase Meaningful and Equitable Access

- 4.1.1 Increase the availability of developmental screening and referral processes in appropriate EC settings
- 4.1.4 Explore opportunities to increase access to mixed-delivery ECE with an emphasis on serving infants and toddlers
- 4.1.5 Develop a policy analysis tool to examine how current and future programs and policies affect the availability of, or could prioritize funding for, infant care, with an focus on dual language learners, families living in poverty, families living in rural areas, and families who have children with special health or developmental needs
- 4.1.6 Explore the potential of cross-training on ECE regulatory and policy changes with CDHS, ECCs, local regulatory entities, the Office of Economic Development, and professional associations
- 4.1.7 Equip local and state business leaders and business support organizations with resources and knowledge to support ECE through the possibility of public-private partnerships



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# Goal 4: Increase Meaningful and Equitable Access

- 4.2.2 Expand and enhance affordable mixed-delivery pre-kindergarten for all Colorado 4-year-olds
- 4.2.3 Analyze eligibility and family income thresholds to ensure equitable access to multiple services for families with young children



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# Goal 5: Strengthen Business Practices

- 5.1.1 Explore how business consultants/navigators could address specific challenges to ECE pre-licensing and start-up requirements, and support starting and maintaining sound businesses with livable and sustainable wages
- 5.1.3 Study and implement financing strategies to incentivize weekend and off-hours ECE and ECE for children with special health or developmental needs
- 5.1.6 Study the effect of local regulations on the availability of formal (licensed) infant and toddler ECE and family ECE homes



# Goal 6: Improve Quality

- 6.2.4 Explore reciprocity in credentials and licensures across states, beginning with those in Region VIII, and between countries, beginning with those countries with populations most present in Colorado, and provide supports for transcript review and other approval processes
- 6.2.7 Explore strategies to ensure worthy and livable compensation for ECE professionals



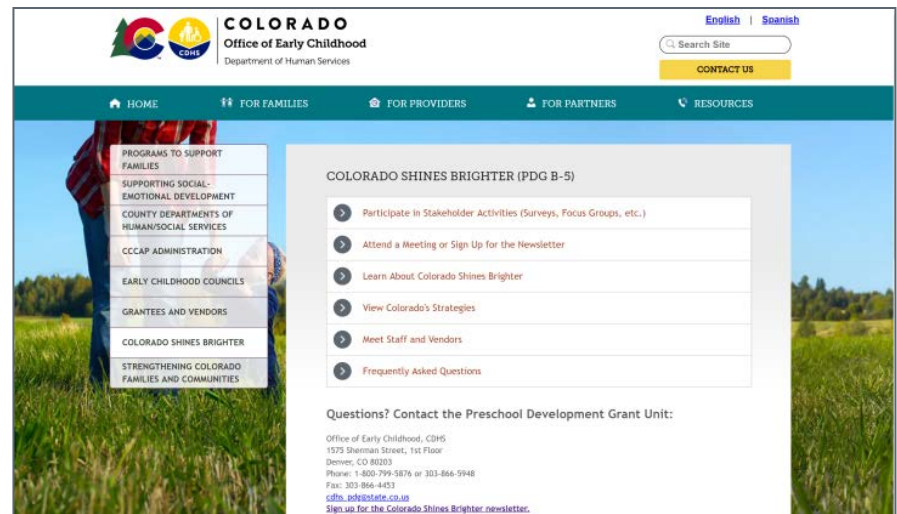
# Questions?



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# Thank you!

- [ColoradoOfficeOfEarlyChildhood.force.com/oec/pdgb-5](https://ColoradoOfficeOfEarlyChildhood.force.com/oec/pdgb-5)
  - Project updates
  - Meetings and webinar recordings
  - Newsletter sign-up form
- Contact
  - [CDHS\\_PDG@state.co.us](mailto:CDHS_PDG@state.co.us)



*The project described is supported by the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Initiative (PDG B-5), Grant Number 90TP0009-01-00, from the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Office of Child Care, the Administration for Children and Families, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.*



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# Public Comment and Member Updates

## Next Steps and Adjourn

- Agenda Topics for Future Meetings



**Next Meeting:**  
**ECLC Program Quality & Alignment**  
**Friday, January 10 , 2020**  
**from 9:00-11:00 am at the Colorado**  
**Health Foundation**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2314496562438843139>

