

Landscape Analysis Overview Video

SPEAKER: This video provides an overview of the landscape analysis collected as part of the Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan Update. This update is part of the Colorado Shines Brighter Preschool Development Grant Birth Through Five. This grant was awarded to the Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Early childhood in 2019 for three years.

The grant funds will be used to implement activities identified in the Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan to maximize the number of high quality early care and education options available to families, especially families identified as under-resourced, such as those living in rural areas, families of infants and toddlers, and families of children with special needs.

The purpose of the landscape analysis was to develop an inventory of organizations around the state of Colorado that are moving the strategic plan forward. Organizations submitted information on the populations and locations they serve, and activities aligned with the Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan Strategies.

To ensure representation from a diverse group of stakeholders, the landscape analysis data was collected via an electronic survey. The landscape analysis survey was open for one month. A total of 63 unique organizations responded to the survey, representing 20 of 64 Colorado counties. However, most organizations serve the Birth Through Five system statewide.

Organizations indicated that they serve populations across the early childhood system, from Birth Through Five, and the early childhood workforce. Organizations submitted activities that are aligned across all six goals of the strategic plan. Organizations are doing work that align with strategies covered under the preschool development grant, as well as those that are not.

As a reminder, the Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan currently includes 56 strategies. 35 of the strategies are funded under the Preschool Development Renewal Grant. The remaining 21 need to be implemented in partnership with the Early Childhood Leadership Commission and other state and local organizations.

The results of the landscape analysis were used to produce a documented inventory of the organizations who responded to the survey via a searchable Excel file. In the Excel file, you can find information on ages served, location, and strategies addressed by each organization. You can access the Excel file on the Early Childhood Leadership Commission website.

Now, let's look at the Excel file and how to use it to find out more information about the work being done related to the strategies. The Excel file includes five tabs. It is recommended to begin on the first tab, the instructions tab.

Read through all of the instructions on this tab before you begin. Scrolling down the page, you will find an example of how to use the landscape analysis dashboard and the last tab. The next tab labeled Summary Tables provides an overall summary of the information included in the landscape analysis.

It might be helpful to begin your review of the information with this tab, to orient yourself to the information included. Again, be sure to scroll down to see all of the information that's included.

The next tab, labeled CSB Strategies, provides the full title for each of the 56 Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan strategies. For the complete strategic plan, please visit the Colorado Shines Brighter Preschool Development Grant website.

The next tab, labeled Variable Descriptions, provides the variable names and descriptions for the information found in the landscape analysis dashboard on the last tab. Review this information to familiarize yourself with what is included in the dashboard before you begin.

The last tab, labeled Landscape Analysis Dashboard, can be used to search for organizations conducting activities that are aligned with the Colorado Shines Brighter Preschool Development Grant Strategic Plan.

When you first open the file, it should be sorted alphabetically by organization. To use the landscape analysis, you might find it easiest to use the filter arrows at the top of each column. You can sort the information by strategic planned goal, objective, and strategy, along with other options.

For example, if you want to find all of the organizations who submitted activities aligned with strategy 411, click on the strategy arrow. Clicking on the strategy arrow will open a new pop-up. You will then need to uncheck, select All, and then scroll down to check 411 and click OK.

Then only the organizations that submitted activities aligned with strategy 411 will appear in the dashboard. If you want to select a new strategy to view, or reset the dashboard, you will need to unselect strategy 411 and select your new strategy that you're interested in. Or you can simply select all strategies again to reset the dashboard, so that the information is, again, organized alphabetically by the organization.

If you have additional questions about the landscape analysis, please contact Kristina Heyl at kristina.hey@state.co.us, or 303-866-5223.