Thank you for joining! We will begin shortly.



Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee

July 14, 2023

9:00 - 11:00 am

Google Meet

- Please remember to mute your computer or phone when not speaking
 - We will be recording the meeting
 - All materials can be found at: www.earlychildhoodcolorado.org/ program-quality-and-alignment-subcommittee



Meeting Objectives

- Approve the May 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- Learn about the Statewide Strategic Plan revision process and provide initial feedback
- Review the proposed new Early Childhood Colorado Framework and provide final feedback
- Learn about new Early Childhood math research efforts
- Hear comments from the Early Childhood Community

Updating Colorado's Early Childhood Strategic Plan

Tamilah Richardson, Katie Fisher, Susanne Beilmann, & Rebecca Klein, Start Early



Agenda

- Introduction
- Strategic plan process overview
 - Purpose and Scope
 - Activities
 - Hopes, dreams, fears
- Progress of current strategies (not funded by PDG) and updates needed
 - Breakout Groups
- Closing/Next Steps



Who We Are: Champions of Early Childhood





Purpose of Updating Strategic Plan

- To build on new needs assessment
- To expand the scope from birth-to-five to prenatal-to-five and to include other sectors beyond but related to early care and education
- To integrate goals and strategies from the broad array of CO plans related to early childhood that currently exist – the "plan of plans"
- To better integrate equity in the strategic plan
- To reflect progress that has been made since the original drafting of the strategic plan



Guiding Principles/Values for this Process

 We will make space (likely with ECLC Strategic Plan Working Group) to define principles/values that will guide this process of updating the strategic plan. For example:

Equity

- Whole child focus
- Engaging families as partners, leaders, and advocates
- Cultural and linguistic responsiveness
- Inclusiveness
- Accountability
- There are great resources in CO to pull from already!
 - o CO Early Childhood Family Engagement Framework
 - Draft updated Early Childhood Colorado Framework
 - CDEC is working on its own set of values



Our distinct approach to building equity & quality





Gather Information

Jul - Aug

Update Goals & Strategies

Aug

Finalize & Add Detail

Sep - Nov

Package, Endorse, Promote

Nov - Dec





Activities

- Map out strategy development process using Feedback Schedule, Alignment Communications Plan, and Partner Engagement Plan
- Convene Strategic Planning Working Group
- Draft cross-sector early childhood plan review and themes document
- Review needs assessment, evaluation, new EC system framework, etc.
- Gather information about progress of current strategies
- Hold key informant interviews
- Draft survey and focus group protocols
- Disseminate survey (translated into Spanish) and recruit for/host family and provider focus groups (8 focus groups with ~10 ppl, 2 in Spanish)
- Aggregate and analyze input; Draft Partner Engagement Findings Report

Milestones

- Initial findings from Needs Assessment available (7/30)
- Cross-sector EC plan review and themes document complete (7/31)
- Key informant interviews, focus groups, and survey complete (8/7)
- Partner Engagement Findings Report complete (8/18)





Key Partners, Community Conversations

- ECLC Program Quality and Alignment (PQA) Subcommittee today!
- Family Voice Council 7/17, 8/17
- ECLC Strategic Plan Working Group TBD (one meeting in Jul., two meetings in Aug.)
- CDEC staff, PDG Implementation Team TBD in Jul.
- ECLC Home Visiting Investment Strategy Working Group TBD
- ECLC Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Working Group 7/25
- CDEC State Intermediaries Quarterly Meeting 8/11
- Other Key Partners to Engage dates TBD: ECLC Data and Evaluation Subcommittee, Family Resources Centers Association, Early Childhood Council Leadership Association, Partnership for Thriving Families Leadership Team





Activities

- Use initial Needs Assessment findings, Partner Engagement Findings, cross-sector EC plan review, and other information gathered
- Collaborate with the Strategic Plan Working Group and others
- Determine what updates are needed to reflect current progress, what new strategies are needed to address current needs, and what changes are needed to advance equity
- Draft Strategic Plan At-A-Glance- goals, objectives, strategies
- Begin rebranding ideation

Milestones

- Updated Early Childhood Colorado Framework complete
- Draft Strategic Plan At-A-Glance complete (8/31)

Key Partners, Community Conversations

- ECLC Strategic Plan Working Group TBD
- CDEC Staff Café Conversation 8/31





Activities

- Use initial Needs Assessment findings, Partner Engagement Findings, cross-sector EC plan review, and other information gathered
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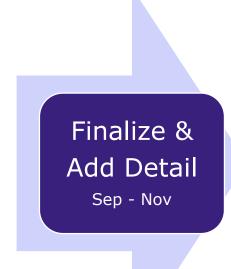
Milestones

- Updated Early Childhood Colorado Framework complete
- Draft Strategic Plan At-A-Glance complete (8/31)

Key Partners, Community Conversations

- ECLC Strategic Plan Working Group TBD
- CDEC Staff Café Conversation 8/31





Activities

- Incorporate feedback into draft Strategic Plan At-A-Glance
- Create Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Strategic Plan and process for managing progress on strategic plan using KPIs
- Draft Strategic Plan Report (includes description of process, rationale)
- Work with graphic designer on refreshed Strategic Plan title, tagline, brand colors/design elements for Strategic Plan At-A-Glance and Report

Milestones

- Finalized Strategic Plan At-A-Glance ready for graphic design (10/2)
- Final Needs Assessment report complete (10/30)
- Draft Workforce Plan by Early Milestones available in Oct.
- Strategic Plan Report content ready for graphic design (11/8)

Key Partners, Community Conversations

- ECLC PQA Subcommittee 9/8
- ECLC Strategic Plan Working Group TBD (two meetings Oct. and Nov.)
- Family Voice Council 9/21
- ECLC ECCS Working Group 9/26, 10/24
- ECLC 10/26

Note: This timeline may shift. The timing of activities and engagement of various groups should be considered tentative.





Activities

- · Complete graphic design
- Translate Strategic Plan At-A-Glance and Report into Spanish
- Draft partner register, promotion plan, and promotional deliverables

Milestones

- Designed Strategic Plan At-A-Glance in English and Spanish complete (11/15)
- Partner register and promotion plan complete (11/16)
- Designed Strategic Plan Report in English and Spanish complete (11/30)
- Promotional deliverables complete (11/30)
- ECLC Endorsement of Strategic Plan Report (12/21)
- Final Workforce Plan by Early Milestones available in December

Key Partners, Community Conversations

• ECLC - 12/21



Strategic Planning Process Reflections

What are your hopes, dreams and fears for Colorado's strategic planning process?

- Please add your thoughts to the <u>JamBoard</u>.
- We will ask for a few share-outs!



Strategic Plan Progress Updates

Please join one of the breakout sessions listed below. There are two focus questions and a reference document to capture notes on each of the identified goals and objectives. **Each group will need to identify a recorder to make notes in the sheet.**

- **Group 1-** Align and Coordinate Systems
- **Group 2-** Maximize Family Knowledge, Engagement and Support
- Group 3- Meaningful and Equitable Access: Building Community Practice
- **Group 4-** Meaningful and Equitable Access: Supporting Customer Affordability
- **Group 5-** Strengthening Business Practices
- **Group 6-** Implementing Quality Standards



Strategic Plan Progress Updates: Focus Questions

- 1. What is the progress of current strategies (not funded by PDG) for your group's goal and objectives?
- 2. What are the updates needed for each of these strategies?

Reference Document: Early Childhood Systems Strategic Plan Updates





Every child has equitable opportunity to reach their full potential to thrive in school and in life.

StartEarly.org/Consulting

Find startearlyorg on: **f** in 🗿

rklein@startearly.org
trichardson@startearly.org
sbeilmann@startearly.org
kfisher@startearly.org



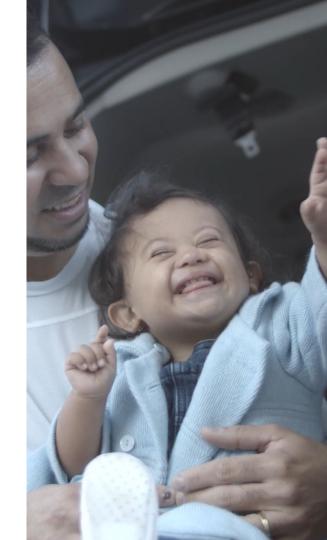
Early Childhood Colorado Framework Refresh Review and Feedback Nicole Sharpe and Leila Sammander, School Readiness Consulting



WELCOME!

EARLY CHILDHOOD COLORADO FRAMEWORK REFRESH

Program Quality and Alignment Subcommittee Meeting - July 14



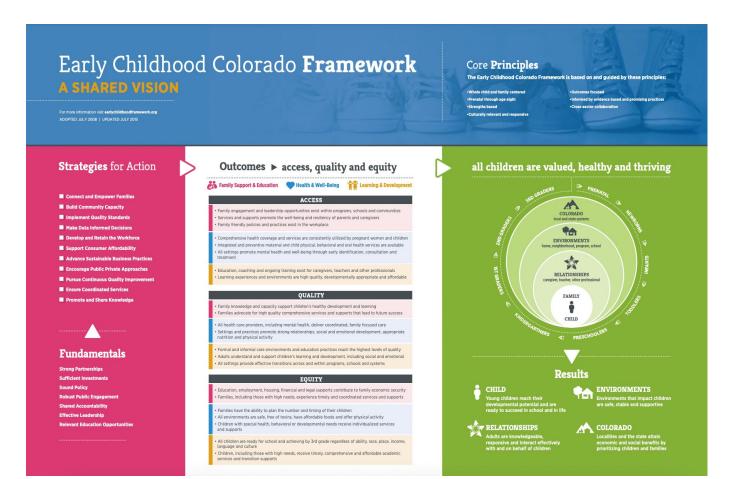
EARLY CHILDHOOD CO FRAMEWORK REFRESH



FACILITATE A STATEWIDE
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
PROCESS TO PROVIDE AN
UPDATED EARLY CHILDHOOD
COLORADO FRAMEWORK

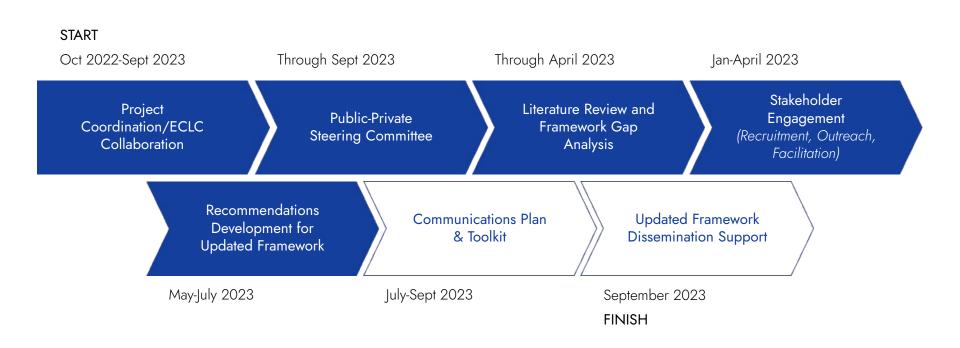


GROUNDING IN THE FRAMEWORK



PROCESS AND TIMELINE

October 2022-September 2023





OUTREACH AT-A-GLANCE

AS A RESULT OF SUPPORT FROM ECLC AND THE STEERING COMMITTEE...

602 PEOPLE

throughout the state provided their ideas, feedback and insights through stakeholder engagement

340 COMPLETED THE SURVEY

256
ATTENDED
LISTENING
SESSIONS

11
PARTICIPATED
IN 1:1 CHATS





RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UPDATES

Grounded in stakeholder engagement, literature review, and other framework gap analysis

- 1 Be clear around purpose and audience
 Intro that defines purpose, audience, and utilization of
 Framework as roadmap
- 2 Highly graphic and accessible in multiple languages, formats and platforms

 Emphasis on visuals, language justice, and reading level to support accessibility; creating communication tools to support learning and sharing
- Grounding in the importance of early childhood
 "Making the case" for early childhood in Colorado to set
 context and emphasize a shared responsibility
- 4 Clear, brief, consistent vision
 Ground in the current vision and make clearer connections to how system components lead to the vision

5 Elevate foundational system values

Elevate equity to show how it's threaded throughout, as well as expanding upon definitions (values statements) and adding other priority values

Expand on core components that support the system

Expand on the "green circles" to highlight infrastructure and name the important role the community plays

7 Highlight interconnectedness and multitude of supports

Define the current domains to represent the comprehensiveness of services; adding a fourth domain (economic supports)

8 Revisit the outcomes based on current needs and priorities

Update outcomes to reflect priorities; emphasis on alignment and coordination across system; embed equity across outcomes

THEORY OF CHANGE

If WE BELIEVE



* VALUES

Equitable

Every child deserves the same chance to thrive.

WHOLE-CHILD CENTERED

Babies and young children are of the highest priority.

FAMILY-FOCUSED

Healthy families mean healthy children.

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE Culture, language, and lived experiences must be honored.

INCLUSIVE

Shared power and decision-making are essential for lasting change.

EVIDENCED-BASED INNOVATIVE

Proven and promising practices lead to better outcomes

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN

Each community has unique needs to be met.

ACCOUNTABLE

Understanding impact is key to making real progress.

And BUILD A STRONG SYSTEM



* EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM

Collaboration

Farly care and education that fully support the healthy nurtures children's physical, bodies and minds of children and their families.



WORKFORCE

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

LEADERSHIP

that support families on

their child's first caregiver

and most important teacher.

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

FUNDING to fully meet the needs of children, families, and

communities.

Information to better understand the early childhood system and plan future actions that sustainable, and more

social-emotional, and

families are financially

stable and have their

basic needs meet

DATA & RESEARCH

intellectual growth.

It WILL LEAD TO



* OUTCOMES



Access

All children and families early childhood services that are culturally relevant, meet their needs and preferences. and are equitably allocated and available.

Quality

Every young child experiences a safe and nuturing environment that affirms all aspects of their identity and supports all areas of development.



Alignment

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

The **FUTURE OF COLORADO**



* VISION



* RESULTS

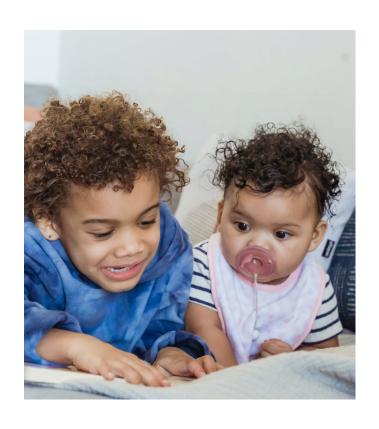


CHECK OUT THE UPDATED FRAMEWORK!

FEATURES OF THE UPDATED FRAMEWORK

- Introduction defining what the Framework is (and is not) and how to navigate the expanded Framework as a roadmap
- Highly visual theory of change that connects how the system components, domains, and outcomes work in alignment and coordination towards a shared vision
- Narrative that provides expanded context to represent comprehensiveness of the Framework (star pages)
 Vision, Values, the System, and Outcomes and Results
- Acknowledgement and appreciation to the families, providers,
 and communities that contributed to the Framework

WHAT RESONATED



- Accessibility through visuals and language
- Theory of change graphic
- *Comprehensive and content-rich folks feel "seen" and represented in the system
- Expanded focus on equity + role of the community

ADDITIONAL SHIFTS

Since these shifts, we have also met with the Core team, Steering Team, and ECLC and are planning to make a number of additional enhancements.

CONTENT

- Aligning values with guiding principles adopted for the early childhood system
- Expanding on equity
 definition and clearly
 defining language access
 and justice
- Visually integrating the workforce as a system component and expanding list of key supports

 Further considerations for how economic supports is defined as a fourth domain

USABILITY

- Increasing accessibility
 to support learning and
 sharing (multiple formats
 and languages)
- Small terminology and formatting tweaks to increase clarity

FOR THE FUTURE...



- · Further define and clarify accountability
- Metrics or a dashboard aligned to the Framework
 to measure and monitor progress
- Supporting implementation to engage with the Framework (e.g., user guides and related resources)



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Based on what you have heard today, we are excited to hear from you all one last time before we work to finalize.



Do these additional shifts resonate?



Is there anything that doesn't feel clear?



Any other input or feedback before the Framework is finalized?

WHAT'S AHEAD



NEXT STEPS

- · Incorporate feedback to finalize the revised Framework
- Draft communication materials to support sharing and dissemination
- · Share a refreshed Framework in September

UPCOMING ENGAGEMENTS

- · ECCLA (today!)
- · Family Voice Council (7/17)
- · CDEC Leadership (Early Aug)
- · ECLC Co-Chairs (Early Aug)

Early Childhood Math Highlight: Working Together to Make Math Meaningful to Promote School Readiness and Life Success
Alvaro Arias, University of Denver and Kids Play Math and Lana Hansen, The Learning Carpet

University of Denver Kids Play Math in Partnership with The Learning Carpet

WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE MATH MEANINGFUL TO PROMOTE SCHOOL READINESS AND LIFE SUCCESS

ECLC Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee

Meeting

July 14, 2023

Dr. Alvaro Arias, Chair, Dept. of Math, University of Denver

Lana Hansen, PAEMST, The Learning Carpet, Inc.



WHY IS EARLY MATH

IMPORTANT? Early math achievement upon entering

- Early math achievement upon entering
 Kindergarten is the best predictor of later school success, in both math and reading.
- A small investment in children's early math learning pays large dividends. It affects children for many years, improving educational outcomes.
- It's not very hard to make big improvements in early math. The past 25 years of research tells us how, but this information is rarely shared with teachers in ways that support knowing what to do to make a difference.
- Our professional development and materials are grounded in current research and align with national and state standards.



Experience Matters

Through a mixed delivery system we serve programs nationally, including Puerto Rico. We also provide international support in Canada. We train teachers, assistants, coaches and coordinators in English and in Spanish. We adapt our work to meet the needs of each organization we serve. Past clients include:

Head Start
Migrant Head Start
School Districts
Private Schools and Centers
Home-based Centers
Refugee Programs

Our training and resources align with the new HB-22-1205 Resource Bank Preschool Curriculum



KIDS PLAY MATH

15+ YEARS OF TRAINING TEACHERS

1,000+ teachers and 500+ coaches including migrant, immigrant and refugees using bilingual training and resources

2 MULTIPLE GRANTS AWARDED

Head Start, Colorado Department of Education, and Toyota, USA Foundation supported efforts to equip teachers and coaches with engaging, practical, easy to implement ideas to build sustainability

RESEARCH INTO ACTION

Blend key research using Guided Play to increase teacher knowledge and child outcomes in early mathematics. We mesh social emotional and academics to focus on the whole child



THE LEARNING CARPET

RESEARCH BASED GUIDED PLAY

Aligned to Head Start ELOF, Colorado Academic Standards, and GOLD Teaching Strategies to focus on critical content

TEACHER TESTED, STUDENT APPROVED

Informal assessments, games and routines enhance any
curriculum. Multiple visuals and suggestions for individualization
aid teachers to meet the needs of each child

30+ YEARS OF HELPING CHILDREN

27,000+ Learning Carpets sold in the US and Canada to help teachers help children PreK-5 build build social emotional skills as they engage with others to deeply understand foundational mathematics and literacy concepts





WE MAKE ANY INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN BETTER!



ALIGNED WITH

Colorado Academic Standards
Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework
Teaching Strategies GOLD

INCREASED

Instructional Support: Concept Development and Quality of Feedback in CLASS

Positive Attitudes from Teachers and Children

SUSTAINABILITY AND SCHOOL READINESS IS OUR GOAL!

Year One

School Districts Private Childcare Head Start

Basic Bilingual Plan

One day onsite math training for teachers, assistants and coaches in foundational math concepts in counting & cardinality and geometry

The Learning Carpet PreK Power Sets or individual materials available for integrating Guided Play.

Year One

School Districts Private Childcare Head Start

Comprehensive Bilingual Plan

One day onsite math training for teachers, assistants and coaches

Follow up coaching and online support to meet the needs of your site

The Learning Carpet PreK Power Sets or individual materials available at for integrating Guided Play.

Year One

Home Childcare

Home Bilingual Plan

Flexible online or in-person training in 3 hour time blocks

Flexible scheduling to provide individualized support

The Learning Carpet PreK Power Set resources and materials form the foundation for instruction using Guided Play

Basic Bilingual Plan

One day onsite math training for newly hired teachers, assistants and coaches to build consistent instructional culture

One day onsite math training for advanced users on assessment, individualization, and integration of math throughout the day

How to Help at Home resources to build parent partnerships

The Learning Carpet PreK Power Sets or individual materials available for integrating Guided Play

Year Two

School Districts Private Childcare Head Start

Comprehensive Bilingual Plan

One day onsite math training for newly hired personnel to build consistent culture

One day onsite math training for advanced users on assessment, individualization, and integration of math throughout the day Follow up coaching and online support to meet the needs of your site

How to Help at Home resources to build parent partnerships

The Learning Carpet PreK Power Sets or individual materials available for integrating Guided Play

Year Two

School Districts Private Childcare Head Start

Home Bilingual Plan

Flexible online or in-person training in 3 hour time blocks on assessment, individualization and integration of math using Guided Play

Flexible scheduling to provide individualized support

How to Help at Home to build parent partnerships

Year Two

Home Childcare

PRICING

ONSITE TRAINING	HOME-BASED ONLINE	PRE-K POWER SET
Onsite training \$300/person (Minimum of 15; discount for large groups) Additional travel expenses may occur Online Support and Follow Up Coaching \$200/hour	Online Course (\$250) The Learning Carpet PreK Power Set (\$747.50) Online Support available	The Learning Carpet PreK-2 Structure Cards Super Shapes Set Geo-Data Cards Alphabet Cards Giant Counters
SITE SPECIFIC PRICING	\$997.50 / PROVIDER	\$747.50/ SET

TESTIMONIALS

"I think instructionally being hands on and visual [helped me to] internalize it. Also being in groups and peer learning helps me to internalize this math training."

Maria
Migrant Head Start Coach

"I didn't know math had meaning growing up. I love how diverse the cards are; it's just like how diverse our learners are. The world doesn't look the same and math doesn't look the same. What you have done is plan for different needs so each child can work to make meaning in the ways that work best for them."

Andrea
Cherry Creek ECE Instructional Coach



CONTACT US

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303-902-1955

Lana Hansen, The Learning Carpet lana@thelearningcarpet.com
720-242-6412



Public Comment





Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee

Next Meeting:

September 8, 2023 9:00 - 11:00 am

Thank you!