

Thank you for joining! We will begin shortly.

ECLC

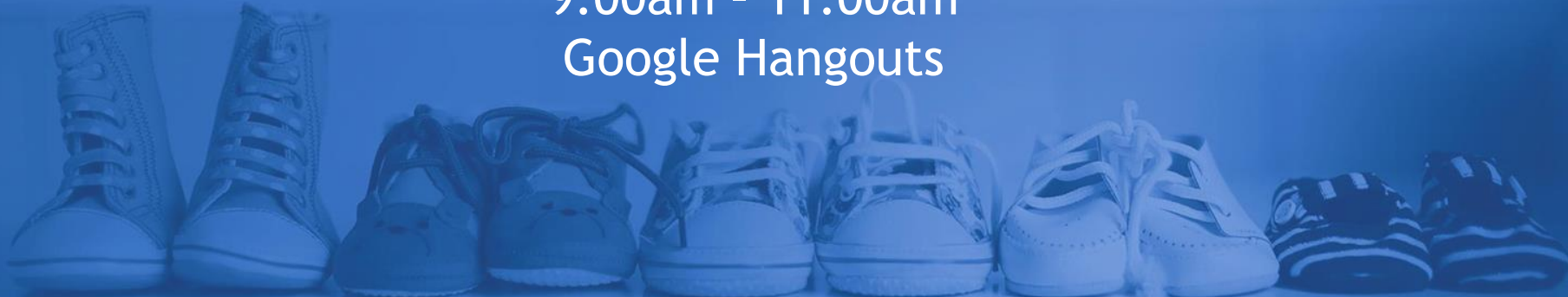
Early Childhood Leadership Commission

Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee

May 14, 2021

9:00am - 11:00am

Google Hangouts



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



Welcome and Approve Minutes

Meeting objectives

- Approve the March 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Hear updates on Preschool Development Grant Progress and the Coordinated Eligibility, Application and Enrollment Workgroup
- Provide feedback for the Early Childhood Family Engagement Framework
- Discuss the Home Visiting Investment Task Force Draft Plan and Recommendations and consider endorsement
- Offer input on Pandemic Recovery – Opportunities and Challenges
- Hear comments from the Early Childhood Community



New Early Childhood State Agency Legislation
Updates



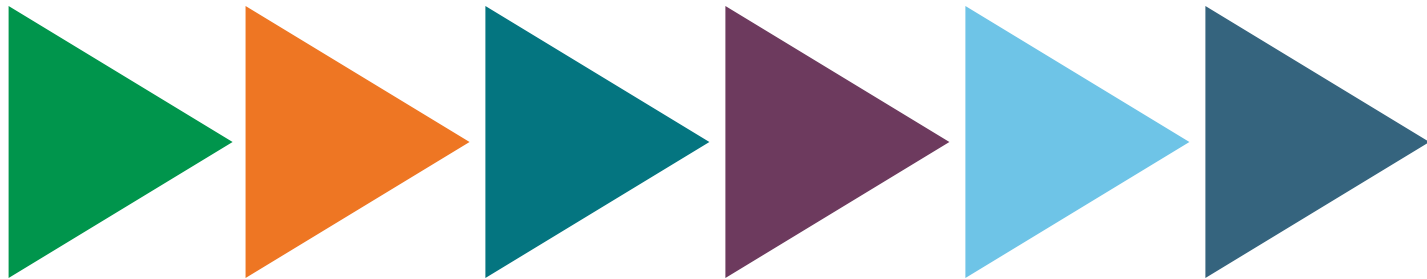
Preschool Development Grant Progress Updates

Lindsey Dorneman

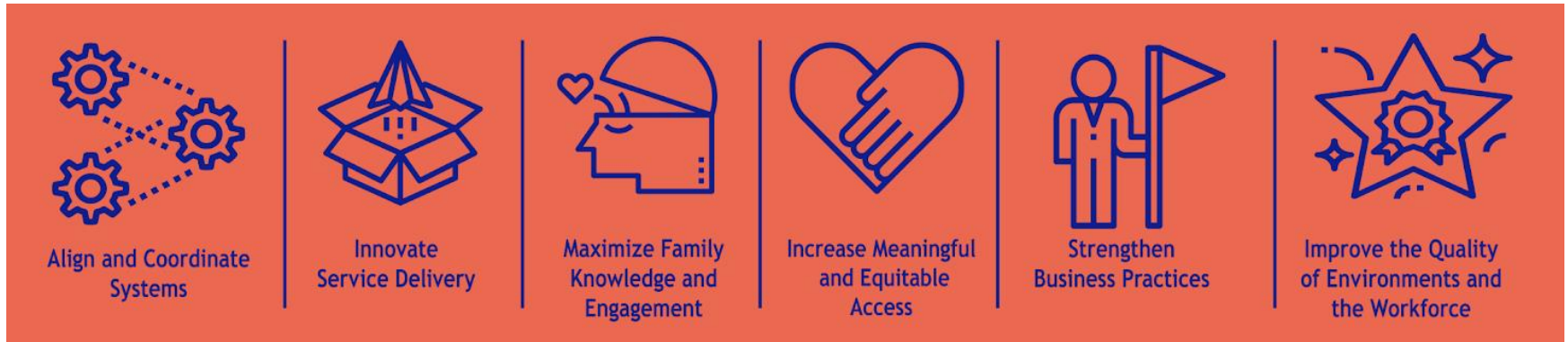
COLORADO SHINES BRIGHTER

Ensuring all Colorado children
are ready for school when
entering kindergarten

May 14, 2021



PDG Goals and Outcomes



- ✓ Colorado families have access to quality formal early 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.
- ✓ Informal early care and education environments are enhanced to enrich and support children’s physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development.
- ✓ Colorado’s birth through five 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.



New Resources

- Strategic Plan At-a-Glance (December 2020)
 - [English](#)
 - [Spanish](#)
- [PDG Progress Summary](#)
 - 2020 Milestones
 - 2021 Planned Activities
- [2020 PDG Evaluation Report](#)
 - Implementation Progress (Q3)
 - Quality of Partnerships
 - Cost Evaluation - Coming Soon!



Early Childhood Systems

- [House Bill 21-1304](#) (as of 05/05/2021)
- New Department of Early Childhood Transition Plan by November 2021
- *Opportunity:* Leverage the Colorado Shines Brighter B-5 Strategic Plan and PDG Investments to Address Requirements



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
<p>26-6.2-304.(1)(d) Aligning and combining funding sources for early childhood services and programs to support the goals specified in section 26.5-1-102, taking into consideration the manner in which local communities, counties, and school districts have previously successfully supported streamlined and improved access to early childhood programs and services</p>	<p>1.2.1 Coordinated Application & Local Navigation. Research existing national and local models of coordinated enrollment/application and service navigation and identify recommendations for local implementation.</p>	<p>Finalize the Coordinated Application toolkit and pilot in local communities. Partner with the ECLC to form a workgroup to recommend how Colorado should develop and implement a statewide coordinated eligibility, application, and enrollment system. (\$25,000)</p>
	<p>1.2.4 ECC and FRC Organizational Capacity. Through stakeholder workgroups identify, prioritize, and implement recommendations to increase the capacity of ECCs and FRCs to enable the provision of early care and education and wraparound services to more underserved children and families. Expand the ECC triennial evaluation to include a cost analysis of the resources needed to fully fund the local system.</p>	<p>Pilot the <i>ECC and FRC Collaboration Guide</i>. Continue to convene workgroups to 1) solidify shared measures for ECCs; 2) engage in an organizational life-cycle analysis of ECCLA and FRCA; 3) formalize relationships among ECCLA, FRCA, their members, and the OEC; 4) identify training and resources to strengthen local partners; and 5) design the triennial evaluation of ECCs. (~\$200,000)</p>
	<p>5.1.5 Integrated Financing. Develop tools to inform and support the integration of early care and education funding streams including Colorado Child Care Assistance Program, Colorado Preschool Program, Head Start, and local subsidies, and provide guidance on blending and braiding funds.</p>	<p>Publish a series of business practices toolkits for child care providers, Small Business Development Centers, and employer-based child care, which include information on integrated financing for early care and education programs. (FTE time)</p>



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
<p>26-6.2-304.(1)(f) Technology to support parents in identifying early childhood program and service options, common applications, and unification of eligibility and payment systems</p>	<p>1.1.1 IT Solutions Roadmap. Implement the OEC’s Information Technology Solutions Roadmap through a multi-phase plan that: supports collaboration and communication; standardizes design for accessibility and usability; and provides transparency and security for publicly available data.</p>	<p>Complete the Professional Development Information System rebuild, CHATS builds for the implementation of contract for slots, and enhancements to the child care licensing system. Integrate early care and education provider-facing systems into the provider portal to streamline user access. Enhance the ECMH database, Early Intervention system, and reporting capability across Office of Early Childhood systems. (\$4,506,014)</p>
	<p>3.1.4 Information Hub. Consolidate parent-facing websites into a single online resource that will connect parents to information about early care and education, developmental milestones, early screenings, and other programs and services to support young children and their families.</p>	<p>Develop a summary of background research and best practices to inform the initial website goals and design. Engage stakeholders throughout the research, development and implementation phases. Launch the new website in Fall 2021, and initiate strategies to support statewide awareness and engagement. (\$365,000)</p>



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
<p>26-6.2-304.(1)(g)(II) Continuing efforts to align the increasingly unified early childhood system with the elementary and secondary public education system, especially kindergarten and grades one through three and the early literacy initiatives implemented at these levels, including strategies to reduce bureaucracy and ensure alignment with programs that are not unified under the new department</p>	<p>1.2.7 Local ECE Alignment. Support school district implementation of system coordination with community-based early care and education programs to improve children's transitions to kindergarten and early elementary school grades.</p> <p>1.3.1 Transitions Toolkit & Marketplace. Create a transition plan toolkit and online marketplace for early childhood professionals to communicate with families. Engage parents and caregivers to determine appropriate communication strategies for families.</p> <p>1.3.2 Transitions Roadmap. The OEC and the CDE P-3 Office will develop a birth through five transitions roadmap and identify the needed local training and tools for implementation. The roadmap will encompass support for children, including those with special health or developmental needs, their families, and early care and education and K-3 professionals, as well as home visitors, early intervention, child health, and early childhood mental health professionals.</p>	<p>Partner with the National P-3 Center to review the Action Plan for Transitions Roadmap in Colorado and initiate activities to 1) gain a breadth and depth of understanding about Colorado's local context with a particular emphasis on school districts; 2) support state agencies and state-level nongovernmental partners' efforts with local connections on the sending and receiving sides; 3) build a transitions toolkit of resources, training materials, and tools; disseminate and support implementation of the toolkit across the state; and 4) draft a transitions roadmap that articulates a statewide vision and plan for transitions to kindergarten. (\$100,000)</p>



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
<p>26-6.2-304.(1)(g)(II) Continuing efforts to align the increasingly unified early childhood system with the elementary and secondary public education system, especially kindergarten and grades one through three and the early literacy initiatives implemented at these levels, including strategies to reduce bureaucracy and ensure alignment with programs that are not unified under the new department</p>	<p>3.1.2 Growing Readers Together. Expand Growing Readers Together to increase quality in informal care environments and support early literacy for children not in formal (licensed) early care and education programs.</p>	<p>Disseminate the "Play, Learn & Grow" video to families and informal caregivers through the GRT website and local public libraries' websites and social media channels. Resume in-person "Play, Learn & Grow" workshops when allowed. Partner with Rocky Mountain PBS to promote the video and participate in the Colorado Classroom Project supporting early literacy and young children's virtual learning. Implement Re-imagining School Readiness, an initiative designed to train library staff on evidence-based early childhood programming. (\$150,000)</p>
	<p>3.1.3 Early Literacy Grants. Expand the Comprehensive Early Literacy Grant Program to ensure the essential components of reading instruction are embedded into public preschool through third grade instruction including universal, targeted and intensive interventions. Increase focus on family knowledge and engagement.</p>	<p>The first Comprehensive Early Literacy Grant Preschool Expansion grants were awarded to 10 preschool programs in four communities, representing the Colorado Preschool Program, Head Start, community programs, and programs receiving special education funding. Review and refine the request for application and award additional grants. Continue to focus on community engagement to support sustainability. (\$318,144)</p>



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
<p>26-6.2-304.(1)(g)(IV) Program and service alignment among the new department and the existing departments, including entering into memoranda of understanding and shared initiatives that achieve alignment across programs and services;</p> <p>(V) alignment with multi-generation strategies used by the new department and the existing departments to support child and parent outcomes that improve overall family well-being;</p> <p>(VI) coordination and collaboration with state agencies that oversee or operate programs that are not moved to the new department to maximize the effectiveness of the new department's early childhood services and programs;</p>	<p>1.2.2 Medicaid Billing Guide. Develop and make updates to Medicaid billing process guides for Child First, Healthy Steps, Early Intervention Colorado, Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation, Nurse-Family Partnership, SafeCare Colorado and other state-funded home visiting programs. Provide training and technical assistance.</p>	<p>Develop new, and update existing, Medicaid billing process guides for Child First, Healthy Steps, Nurse-Family Partnership, Early Intervention Colorado, Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation, and SafeCare Colorado. Provide training and technical assistance to state intermediaries to support utilization of the guides. (\$75,500)</p>
	<p>2.2.1 Quality Nutrition in ECE Settings. Coordinate with the Colorado Department of Human Services, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and Colorado Department of Education to increase early care and education provider participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), National School Lunch Program, and the School Breakfast Program.</p>	<p>Develop and disseminate tools to early care and education providers in order to support engagement in CACFP. Continue to analyze data to determine utilization and incorporate GIS mapping. Continue to convene the Quality Nutrition Workgroup to review and align standards and monitoring procedures across CACFP, the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, Head Start, and child care licensing. (Staff time)</p>



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
<p>26-6.2-304.(1)(g)(IV) Program and service alignment among the new department and the existing departments, including entering into memoranda of understanding and shared initiatives that achieve alignment across programs and services;</p> <p>(V) alignment with multi-generation strategies used by the new department and the existing departments to support child and parent outcomes that improve overall family well-being;</p> <p>(VI) coordination and collaboration with state agencies that oversee or operate programs that are not moved to the new department to maximize the effectiveness of the new department's early childhood services and programs;</p>	<p>4.1.2 Inclusion & Universal Design in ECE Settings. Increase the ability of early care and education professionals and programs to care for and educate all children by providing coaching, training, and materials focused on universal design and inclusion.</p>	<p>Evaluate the first cohort and launch the second cohort in April 2021. The second cohort will be expanded to 48 early care and education programs to better meet demand for the project. Develop the Introduction to Universal Design e-learning course. Partner with public libraries to pilot local lending libraries of low-tech inclusive items. (\$120,000)</p>
	<p>4.1.8 Early Start Model Development. Develop a model of direct service, care coordination, and parenting support to connect families of children up to age three who do not meet eligibility for IDEA Part C Early Intervention to programs and services that can address children's developmental needs.</p>	<p>Competitively procure a process management vendor to facilitate stakeholder engagement through workgroups, surveys, and other broad outreach activities. Develop a report of recommendations informing the design and implementation of Early Intervention Early Start. (\$50,000)</p>
	<p>6.1.5 Informed and Effective ECE for Children with Delays or Disabilities. Explore the development of local communities of practice to help formal (licensed) early care and education providers adopt inclusive practices and connect to early childhood mental health services and other resources in their community</p>	<p>Promote new eLearning courses. Work with Child Care Licensing and Administration to consider the addition of a training requirement to licensing rule. Partner with the CDE P-3 Office and the Positive Early Learning Experiences Center to develop a state-level vision of high quality inclusion for young children in early care and education settings and formulate an action plan. (\$27,000)</p>



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
<p>26-6.2-304.(1)(g)(VII) Robust stakeholder involvement in developing and implementing early childhood policies, which must include involvement of parents and legal guardians in developing policies and program decisions that affect them and their children;</p>	<p>3.2.1 ECLC Strategic Plan Leadership. The Early Childhood Leadership Commission (ECLC) will identify a leadership role for specific strategies and ensure voices from families and providers representing diverse races, ethnicities, languages spoken, and geographic regions are included.</p>	<p><i>Leverage the ECLC Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee to identify gaps and opportunities to move the strategic plan forward. Reconvene the Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan Workgroup to continue to review and update the strategic plan. Identify opportunities to engage more parents and caregivers in the ECLC and its subcommittees. (\$9,065)</i></p>
	<p>3.3.1 Parent & Stakeholder Engagement. The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) will continue to engage with the CDHS Family Voice Council, Head Start Collaboration Office, Colorado Head Start Association, and state and local family and caregiver networks to support ongoing family engagement and leadership.</p>	<p>Develop a statewide family engagement framework designed to align existing frameworks and provide a shared tool for all organizations to support more purposeful and meaningful engagement of families and caregivers to support young children's learning and development. Design and execute an Office of Early Childhood family advisory council to provide input to optimize the design and delivery of early childhood programs and services to ensure all children and families in Colorado are valued, healthy and thriving. (\$55,000)</p>



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
26-6.2-304.(1)(g)(VIII) Education and training regarding how to identify and address child and family trauma and support a trauma-informed approach to early childhood;	<p>2.1.1 Trauma-informed Care Training. Offer Roots™, Branches and Seedlings trauma-informed training to Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation professionals, community support providers, early care and education providers, and families.</p>	<p>Initiate efforts to sustain training, including transitioning the three-day, in-person Roots™ training to a hybrid course. Develop the Branches-T module and invite Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation professionals to become certified trainers on the modular, trauma-informed care curriculum designed for the early care and education workforce. Host Roots™ training Branches-T and Seedlings Certification opportunities for professionals who have completed the Roots™ curriculum. (\$84,150)</p>
	<p>2.1.3 ECMHC Practices. Complete an Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation service delivery model evaluation to inform workforce standards, model-development and quality improvement.</p>	<p>Launch implementation of the newly developed dosage guidelines. Partner with the Evidence-based Practices Implementation for Capacity Resources Center and the Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab to continue model development and to design an evaluation. Launch workgroups designed to elicit actionable recommendations for state government, higher education, and philanthropic organizations to bolster the ECMH workforce pipeline, recruitment and retention. (\$113,000)</p>
	<p>2.2.2 ECMHC Warm-line & Telehealth. Create an Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation warm-line and explore telehealth options for both families and early childhood education providers in rural communities.</p>	<p>Augment the Early Intervention Colorado telehealth e-training to meet the needs of early care and education consultation professionals. Launch the warm-line and dispatch services, incorporating local lessons learned to optimize the warm-line. (\$131,500)</p>



Transition Plan (HB21-1304)	Strategic Plan	PDG Activities (Budget)
<p>26-6.2-304.(1)(h) Early childhood data system strategies to inform planning, leverage resource allocations, maximize children’s access to programs, and support data-driven decision-making</p>	<p>1.1.2 Data-Driven Decision Making. Build a public-facing dashboard to support community-level information on the state of the local early childhood system and data-driven decisions.</p>	<p>Formulate an early childhood integrated data system (ECIDS) strategic plan. Engaged stakeholders and provide recommendations for 1) ECIDS vision and purpose; 2) model of ECIDS, 3) early childhood systems to be included, 4) data governance, security, privacy and sharing processes for ECIDS data; and 5) cost of creation and ongoing operations, including capital investments and FTE. (\$130,000)</p>
	<p>1.1.5 Unique Child Identifier. <i>Accelerate strategies to implement a unique child identifier (per Colorado House Bill 08-1364) to enable data-informed decisions concerning child outcomes. Coordinate across early childhood settings to explore existing or needed technologies and data-sharing agreements and unique child identifier implementation challenges.</i></p>	<p><i>Conduct an early childhood unique identifier concept study using existing data sharing agreements and infrastructure to 1) conduct identity resolution for Early Intervention, CCCAP and school districts; 2) assess match quality and data source quality; and 3) make recommendations for source-system data improvements. (TBD)</i></p>



Questions?

Thank you!

Lindsey Dorneman
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This project is supported by the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Initiative, Grant Number 90TP0054, 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.



**PDG: Coordinated Eligibility, Application and
Enrollment Workgroup Updates**
Kristen Lang

PDG: COORDINATED ELIGIBILITY, APPLICATION, AND ENROLLMENT WORKGROUP UPDATE

PQA Meeting May 14, 2021

Kristen Lang
PDG Program Access Manager
Office of Early Childhood



**COLORADO
SHINES
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Background

Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan

OBJECTIVE 1.2: Ensure Coordinated Services

- 1.2.1: Research existing national and local models of coordinated enrollment/application and service navigation and identify recommendations for local implementation work.



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Workgroup Interest Form

- 24 responses
- Add: CDE and CDHS representatives
- Seeking more parents to ensure user-centered design
 - Stipend offered for parents and providers

Role	Number
Parent	1
FCCH provider	1
Child Care Center (Director, Teacher or Staff)	2
EHS/HS (provider, teacher, staff, grantee)	2
ECE support professional (EI, ECMH, EQIT, Quality Coach, etc.)	2
ECC	4
School District	3
County Human Services	1
State Agency or Governor's Office	3
Early Childhood Advocacy Organization or Individual	2
Local Funding Source - DPP	1
Professional Membership Organization for ECE Professionals	1
Higher Ed	1



Next Steps

- Firm up membership
- Select and send meeting dates and times
- TA support through PDG



**COLORADO
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QUESTIONS?

- Kristen Lang: kristen.lang@state.co.us



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Early Childhood Family Engagement Framework

Amanda Culbertson

COLORADO SHINES BRIGHTER

PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS BIRTH THROUGH FIVE

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



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Purpose

3.3.1 Parent & Stakeholder Engagement. The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) will continue to engage with the CDHS Family Voice Council, Head Start Collaboration Office, Colorado Head Start Association, and state and local family and caregiver networks to support ongoing family engagement and leadership.

- Colorado Shines Brighter Needs Assessment:
 - Provide more equitable and relevant care
 - Centralize and increase parent and caregiver access to early childhood information
- Develop a framework through a collaborative effort to combine research and best practices to provide resources integrating family engagement into early childhood systems and programs
- The purpose of the Family Engagement Framework is to define, align and identify important family engagement concepts to be applied across early childhood sectors and agencies
- The framework is intended for agencies and organizations across the early childhood sectors



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Key Activities and Timeline

May- July	Collect local and national family engagement frameworks
May- August	Literature review and review of national best practices Analyze local and national family engagement frameworks for alignment with Early Childhood Colorado Framework and literature review on best practices to identify commonalities and gaps
August- September	Develop recommendations for a family engagement framework based on analysis
May- November	Stakeholder input and feedback on recommendations and development of family engagement framework
December- March 2021	Draft and finalize content for an early childhood family engagement framework *Jan- March 2021 second round of stakeholder feedback



PQA Role

- Work with PQA throughout the process to gather feedback and input from the members
 - Gather existing family engagement frameworks
- Place to share out updates and status on the work
- Members to solicit feedback and share updates with their networks
- Consider framework for endorsement



Collect Family Engagement Resources

- Marzano Research will do the analysis, development of recommendations, and facilitate stakeholder input
- Submit family engagement frameworks, research, or resources that you/your organization use to guide interactions with families and caregivers
- The resources will be reviewed and used to inform the development of a unifying Family Engagement Framework
- Submission link: <https://forms.gle/sWPo5QRFWQ93vKeFA>
- Resources will be collected through July 1, 2021



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SHINES
BRIGHTER**

Thank you!

Amanda Culbertson

Family Engagement Manager, Preschool Development
Grant B-5

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**COLORADO
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Office of Early Childhood Family Voice Council



COLORADO
Office of Early Childhood
Department of Human Services

You are a leader.
You are a change maker.
We need your voice!

JOIN THE OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY VOICE COUNCIL



The Office of Early Childhood Family Voice Council is for people who are pregnant and parents and caregivers of children birth through age eight.

As a Council member you will join other parents and caregivers to share your experiences, advocate for you and your child's needs, and develop skills in outreach and advocacy.

Meetings will be held once a month, and will begin in late summer, 2021. Members are asked to participate for one year.

You will be compensated for your time and expertise. Child care, mileage reimbursement and food will also be offered.

A virtual option will be available.

Please fill out the interest form by June 14, 2021, or contact Amanda

Culbertson for more information by email, text or phone call.

Email: amanda.culbertson@state.co.us

Phone call or text: 720-557-5802

1.877.338.2273
COLORADOOFFICEOFEARLYCHILDHOOD.COM

Updated April 2021



COLORADO
Office of Early Childhood
Department of Human Services

Si está embarazada, o es un padre, una madre o un cuidador de un niño recién nacido hasta ocho años de edad, necesitamos su opinión.

¡Únase a la Comisión de la Voz de la Familia de la Oficina de Primera Infancia!



Comparta sus experiencias, defienda sus necesidades y las de su hijo, y desarrolle habilidades de divulgación y de defensa. Lleve adelante cambios en los programas y los servicios mediante los cuales se brinda apoyo a los niños y a las familias.

¿Cómo se utilizarán sus comentarios?

En cada reunión, el personal de la Oficina de Primera Infancia le pedirá su opinión sobre temas y cuestiones importantes, recopilará sus comentarios y, más tarde, le informará cómo se están utilizando sus comentarios específicos.

Se lo compensará por su tiempo y experiencia.

También se ofrecerá servicio de guardería, reembolso de millas, y comida.

Habrà una opción virtual disponible.

Complete el formulario de interés adjunto antes del 14 de junio de 2021 o

comuníquese con Amanda Culbertson para obtener más información por teléfono, correo electrónico o mensaje de texto.

Correo electrónico: amanda.culbertson@state.co.us

Teléfono: 720-557-5802

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Updated April 2021



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Home Visiting Investment Task Force Updates and Draft Plan Recommendations

Ida Rhodes, Kendra Dunn

A photograph of three young children in a playroom, overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The children are standing around a table with various educational toys, including an abacus and alphabet cards. The text 'Home Visiting Investment Task Force Recommendations' is centered in a white box over the image.

Home Visiting Investment Task Force Recommendations



COLORADO
Department of Human Services



Home Visiting Investment Plan

Purpose

To strengthen family capacity and maximize children's development potential across Colorado.

Method

The plan will scale a continuum of culturally and linguistically appropriate evidence-based home visiting services and other family - strengthening supports. Colorado families will have access to the home visiting services that most benefit them and their communities.

Outcome

When fully implemented and funded, a minimum of **1700 additional families will receive home visiting services (a 20% increase)** over the next five years.



Defining Home Visiting

Home Visiting programs are national evidence-based programs that support families and children from birth to age six in their own home.

Families enrolled in home visiting programs demonstrate:

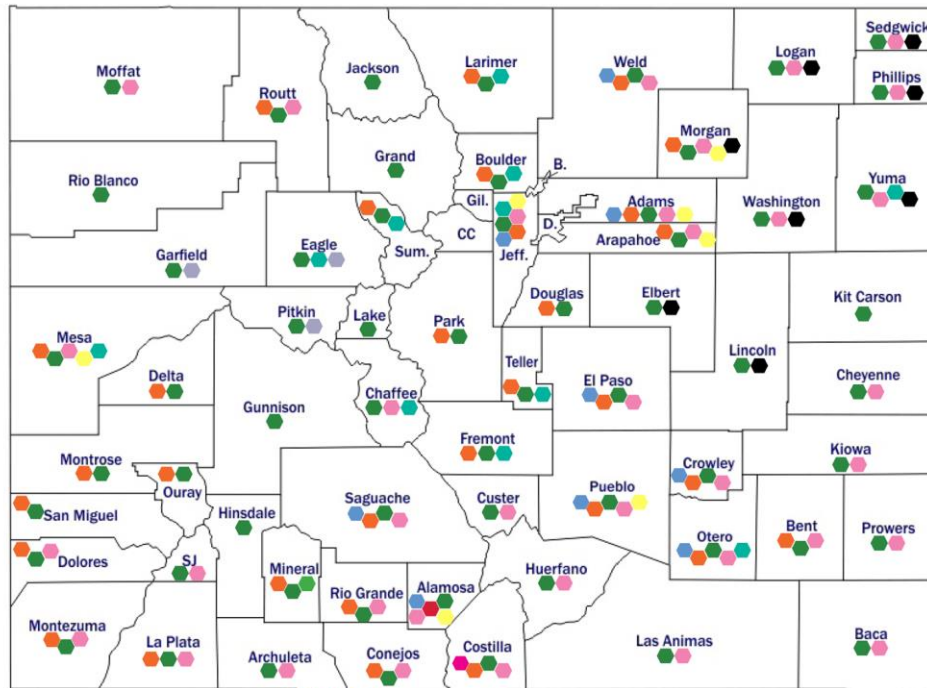
- Reduced child maltreatment
- Improvements in child health
- Increased maternal health
- Improved positive parenting practices
- Increased knowledge of child development
- Improved financial health and economic self sufficiency
- Less family violence

Home Visiting Landscape

- Colorado has seven evidence-based home visiting models being implemented.
 - SafeCare Colorado
 - Nurse-Family Partnership
 - Parents as Teachers
 - Early Head Start and Home-Based Head Start
 - HealthySteps
 - Home Instruction for the Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)
 - Healthy Families America
- There are also several locally developed home visiting programs.
- In addition, there are efforts underway to bring two additional evidence-based programs - *Child First* and *Family Connects*.
- These programs are all different based on who they serve, duration, content covered, and intended outcomes.



Home Visiting Coverage Map



County Coverage: Denver (D) ●●●●●●●●
 Gilpin (Gil) ●●●●●●●●
 Clear Creek (CC) ●●●●●●●●
 Broomfield (B) ●●●●●●●●

Note: Seven metro counties, including Denver County, have been discussing ChildFirst®.

Home Visiting programs are available in all Colorado counties and reach over 10,000 families per year.

Even with these programs, only a small percentage of families (3-8% of families at any time) are served due to lack of resources, eligibility criteria, and difficulty accessing the right services at the right time based on family need.

- The home visitation programs funded by the State of Colorado are:
- Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters ([HIPPY](#)) ●
 - Parents as Teachers ([PAT](#)) ●
 - Nurse Family Partnership ([NFP®](#)) ●
 - [SafeCare® Colorado](#) ●
 - [HealthySteps®](#) ●
 - Early Head Start, Early Head Start-Home Based Option ([EHS-HBO](#)) ●
 - [Healthy Families America](#) ●
 - [Baby Bear Hugs](#) ●

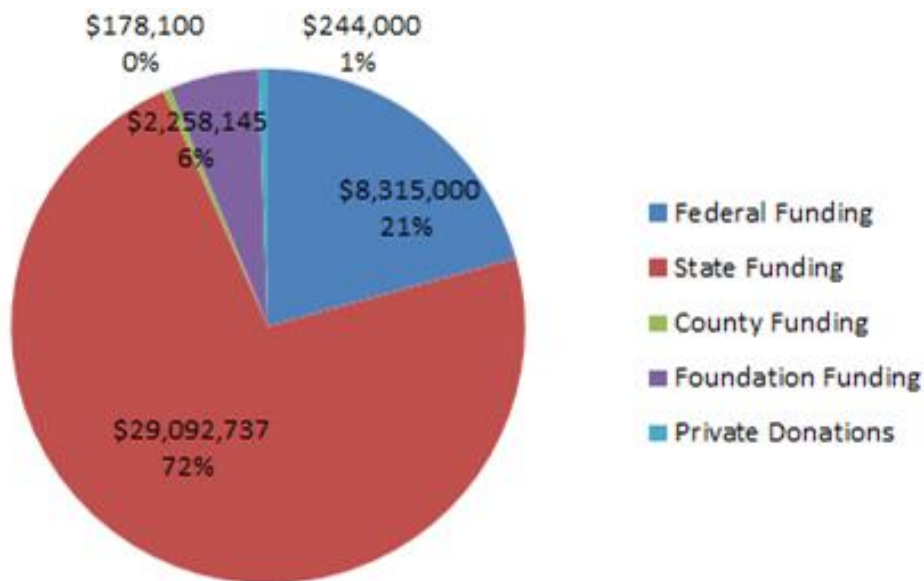
Existing Funding Landscape

The Colorado Department of Human Services assessed the current investment in home visiting services in order to be able to measure any increased investment in the future.

In 2019, approximately \$40 million of public and private funding was invested in home visiting services.



Existing Funding Landscape



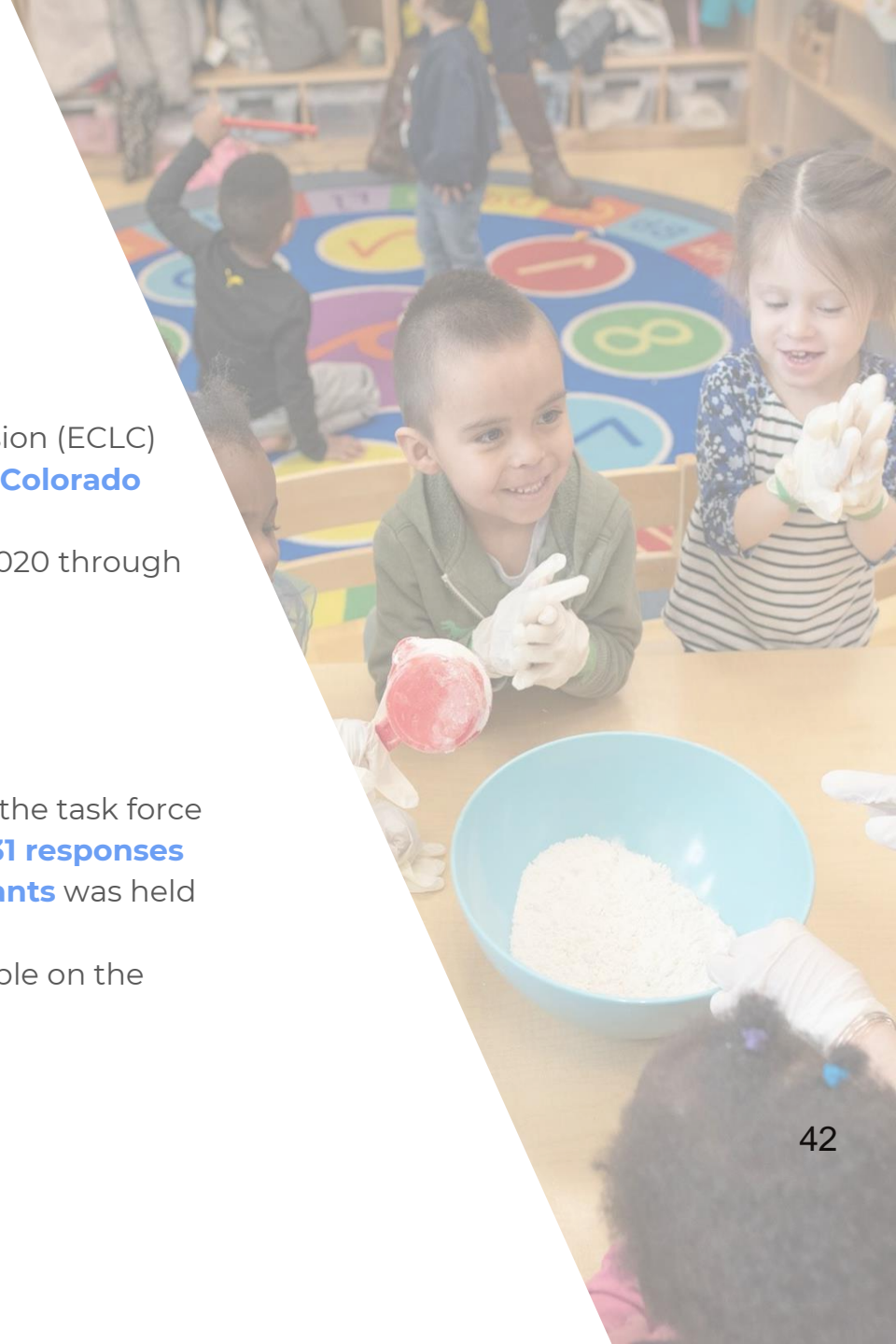
Total: \$40,087,982

The current investment amount of \$40,087,982 is aggregated funding (Government - Federal, State, and Local - and Foundation) for evidence-based home visiting models and other known programs.

This baseline number is comprehensive but not exhaustive. The estimate did not include all Medicaid reimbursements for all programs or county investment in locally developed home visiting programs.

Task Force Process

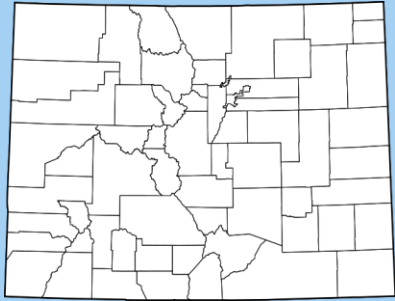
- Created by the Early Childhood Leadership Commission (ECLC) **to address the scaling of home visiting services in Colorado**
- Meetings occurred twice-monthly from November 2020 through April 2021
- **Six subcommittees were created** to develop the recommendations within the plan
- Parent representatives were invited to participate in the task force
 - A survey (in English and Spanish) **received 1,431 responses**
 - A focus group consisting of **13 parent participants** was held
- All materials, the final plan and the charge are available on the [ECLC website](#).



Task Force Members

Rebecca Alderfer - Zoma Foundation
Carsten Baumann - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Melissa Buchholz - Assuring Better Child Health & Development
Megan Burch - Eagle County Human Services
Katherine Casillas - Kempe Center
Alexa Chenoweth - Parent Representative
Heather Craiglow - Colorado Department of Human Services
Deborah Daro - Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago
Kelly Dougherty - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Kendra Dunn - Colorado Department of Human Services
Samantha Espinoza - Colorado Children's Campaign
Courtney Everson - Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab, University of Denver
Senator Rhonda Fields - Colorado Senate, Co-Chair

Brooke Greenky - Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
Scott Groginsky - Office of the Governor
Kristina Heyl - Early Childhood Leadership Commission
Lisa Hill - Invest in Kids
Katelyn Lammie - Caring for Colorado
Jenny Lerner - Colorado Department of Education
Lesa Nesbit - Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation
Ida Rhodes - Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo, Co-Chair
Christy Scott - Colorado Department of Human Services
Ruth Seedorf - Baby Bear Hugs
Amanda Smith - Parent Representative
Sandra Swanson - Family Visitor Programs
Kellie Teter - Denver Health
Heather Tritten - Parent Possible
Sherri Valdez - Early Childhood Council San Luis Valley
Jade Woodward - Illuminate Colorado



Task Force Values

Promoting evidence-based or promising practices in home visitation.

Advanced linguistic inclusivity and culturally- appropriate services

Integration of family voice in all stages of the process

Support for and expansion of access for all Coloradans engaging in home visiting services

Coordinating the recommendations made with local, state and national efforts including the HRSA and ASTHVI

Maximizing efficiency of services across the State

Promoting equity in access, experience and outcomes for diverse Colorado families and communities

Supporting a two-generation, or multi-generational approach

Parent Feedback

Results of the survey and focus group included the following areas of improvement identified by families:

- Help **building social capital** would be appreciated
- Desire for **system coordination** so that data gathering did not have to be repeated
- Parents were primarily offered home visiting through medical facilities, reporting the **trusted relationships** at those facilities was beneficial
- There is a need for **marketing to increase awareness**
- Recommended **including fathers, partners, spouses and other family members** in programming and visits.



Proposed Strategies

Availability and Collaboration

Expand capacity by 20% to reach additional families based on an analysis of gaps and opportunities for expansion

Extend access to culturally and linguistically appropriate family services by using diverse means of service delivery

Create systems to provide all new parents the opportunity to discuss concerns and learn about resources by capitalizing on formal and informal sources of support.

Coalition and Advocacy

Establish a broad coalition of home visiting support across the early childhood system in Colorado

Advocate for the expansion of MIECHV funding during reauthorization

Develop consistent messaging stakeholders can use to educate and raise awareness of home visiting needs and services

Host an annual “Home Visiting Awareness Day” at the Colorado State Capitol

Proposed Strategies

Financing and Funding Opportunities

Grow and diversify investments in home visiting utilizing private, local, state and federal resources

Explore tax and fee structures to support early childhood and family outcomes

Align COVID-19 stimulus funding with implementation plan

Innovation and Learning from COVID-19

Expand virtual home visiting service delivery and improve access for families

Link existing efforts and identify strategies for cross-agency data sharing for families receiving home visiting services

Bring together existing evidence-based models and emergency home visiting practices to better meet multiple family needs

Proposed Strategies

Outreach, Marketing and Awareness

Hire an outreach and engagement coordinator to increase family and partner knowledge

Create home visiting family advocates to increase the capacity of parents to build social capital

Create shared messaging for community use

Qualified Workforce

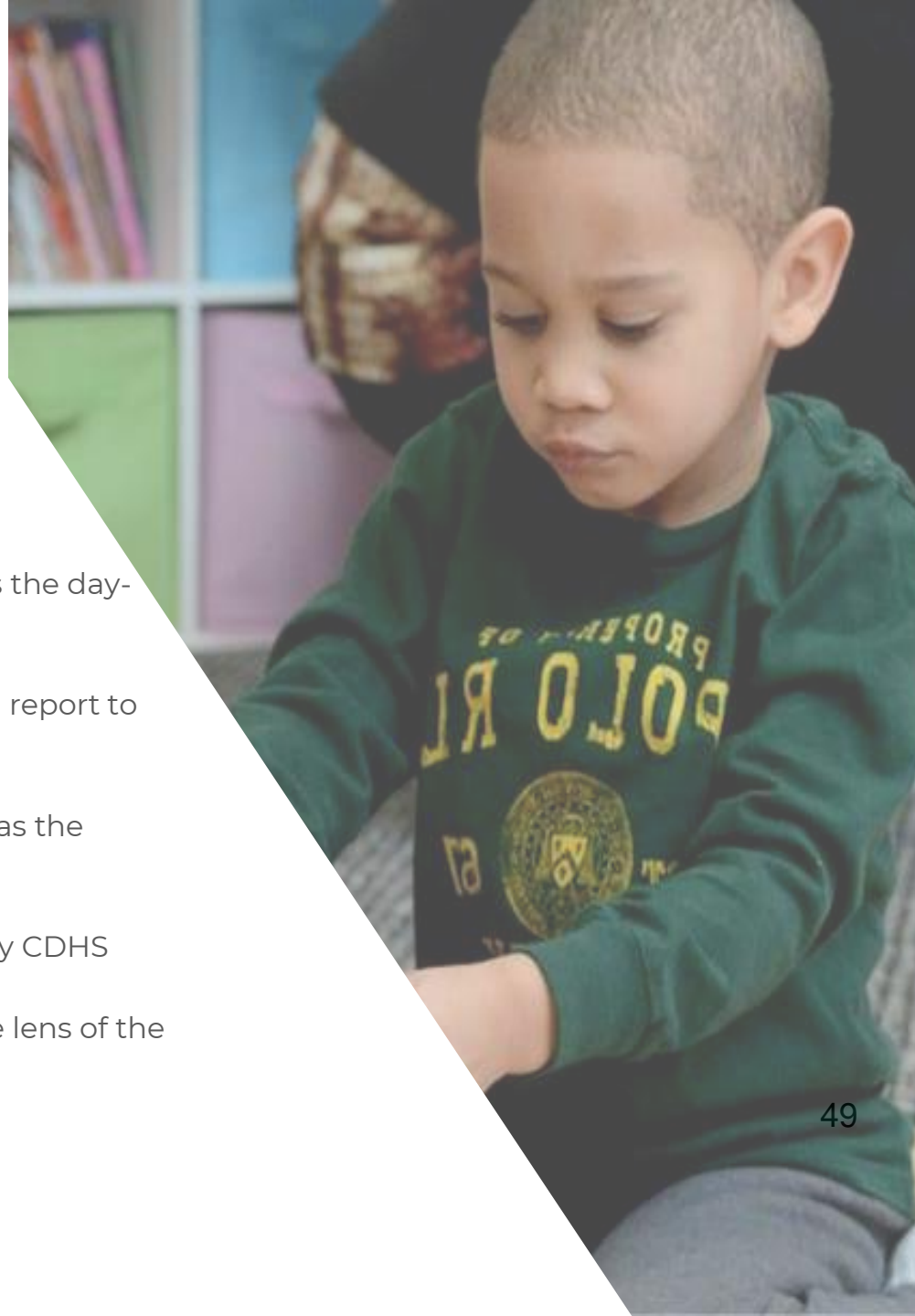
Increase the benefits and compensation for home visitors

Support efforts to recruit and train a diverse workforce

Increase workforce retention by elevating home visitor voices and expanding strategies to promote professional and personal wellbeing

Implementation Steps

- The ECLC will annually reauthorize the home visiting task force to oversee implementation
- A robust implementation plan is underway
- The home visiting investment task force will act as the day-to-day implementation entity
- The home visiting task force will submit an annual report to the ECLC
- The ECLC program quality and alignment will act as the oversight entity
- Staffing and facilitation support will be provided by CDHS
- All future investments will be decided through the lens of the Investment Plan



Conclusion

When this plan has been fully implemented:

- Home visiting services will be **expanded and offered in culturally-appropriate ways**
- Increased advocacy and partnerships will result in **more consistent service provision**
- Streamlined funding will allow for **maximum utilization of funds**
- Embracing **innovations will allow for further reach and impact**
- **Consistent, shared messaging** will align Colorado behind supporting home visiting
- A minimum of **1700 additional families** will be engaged in home visitation.



A photograph of three young children in a classroom. On the left, a young boy with curly hair is seen from the side, wearing a white shirt and denim overalls. In the center, a young girl with long hair and a white clip is wearing a white shirt and denim overalls with a pineapple patch. On the right, another young boy is wearing a red shirt and denim overalls. They are standing in front of a table with various toys and educational materials. The background shows a wall with letters 'B' and 'D' and a colorful abacus.

Questions?

Kendra Dunn, Director,
Division of Community and Family Support, Office of Early Childhood

kendra.dunn@state.co.us



COLORADO
Department of Human Services



Small Group Discussions: Early Childhood Pandemic Recovery

Small Group Discussions: Early Childhood Pandemic Recovery

- What changed for you, your organizations or the services you provide as a result of the pandemic?
- What communities, groups or sectors have been most impacted (positively and negatively)?
- What do you hope will continue / what do you want to keep doing going forward?
- What next steps should we take as an early childhood community to elevate these opportunities and challenges?



Member Updates and Public Comment



Next Steps, Final Thoughts and Adjourn

ECLC

Early Childhood Leadership Commission

Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee



Next Meeting:
Friday, July 9, 2021
9:00-11:00 am