

Thank you for joining! We will begin shortly.

# ECLC

*Early Childhood Leadership Commission*

## Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee

July 8, 2022

9:00 - 11:00 am

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, Introductions and Approve Minutes

Jeanne McQueeney

# Meeting Objectives

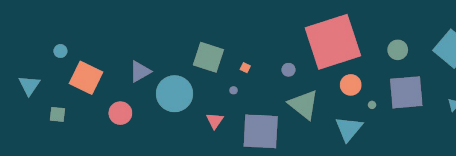
- Approve the May 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- Learn about Current Guidance for Early Childhood Programs related to COVID 19
- Review the Draft Home Visiting Investment Task Force 2022 Annual Report
- Learn about the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Working Group and Understand the Future Priorities and Opportunities related to the Federal Grant
- Discuss the Growing Readers Together Program and how the Program has Supported Families throughout the Pandemic
- Hear comments from the Early Childhood Community



# Current Guidance for Early Childhood Providers Related to COVID 19

Therese Pilonetti, REHS, CP-FS - Colorado Department of Public Health &  
Environment, and

Theresa Rapstine, MS, RN - Healthy Child Care Colorado



# Child Care Health Consultation and COVID-19

Theresa Rapstine MS RN



# Technical Assistance Provided July 2021-June 2022

COVID-19 specific technical assistance:

Month	COVID-19
July	26
August	46
September	36
October	35
November	40
December	24
January	44
February	32
March	31
April	9
May	9
June	15+
<b>Total</b>	<b>347+</b>



# COVID-19 in Child Care

- Screening – parents are mostly screening from home
  - Some reports of electronic screening
- Illness exclusions firm
- Continue to limit visitors
- Some vaccine questions – policy related
- Reports of programs needing CCHC
- Built relationships with local public health and licensing
- Support from CCHC and ECHMHC



# COVID-19 and Child Care Health Consultation

- Many CCHC continue to consult virtually
  - Particularly in rural Colorado
- Focus on best practices
  - (screening, exclusion, cleaning, outdoors, etc.)
- Shifting COVID-19 as inclusive of all illness practices
- Relationship with local public health
- Use of ECHMHC





# Support from Healthy Child Care CO

Website search and job board to identify CCHC

## Communications

- Huddles CCHCs monthly
  - CCHC Listserv
  - Newsletters
- Huddles Shared Audiences  
School Nurse Listserv

## Training

- Quarterly training for new CCHC
- 8/21 = 13      11/21 = 20      1/22 = 24      5/22 = 25

## Technical Assistance

- Contact Theresa at [info@healthychildcareco.org](mailto:info@healthychildcareco.org)



HEALTHY *child*  
*care* COLORADO

**Thank You!**

Theresa Rapstine MS RN  
303.339.6811



# Growing Readers Together Updates

Joyce Johnson, Colorado Department of Early Childhood





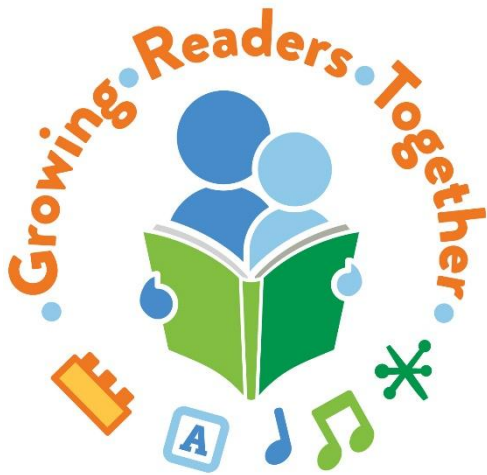
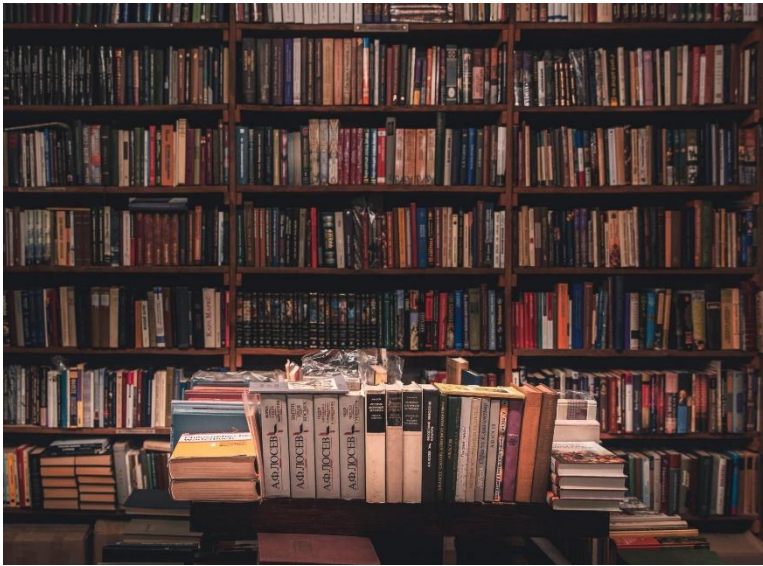
**COLORADO**  
**Department of Education**  
Colorado State Library

## *Growing Readers Together:*

*Libraries Engaging Family, Friend, and Neighbor Caregivers in Early Literacy*

ECLC Program Quality & Alignment Committee

July 8, 2022



## History & Background

- Initial inspiration & funding from Buell Foundation in 2016
- Focused on leveraging public libraries to serve FFN childcare providers
- Project goals have remained consistent throughout its life
- Included in the PDG in 2019 to expand the work of GRT

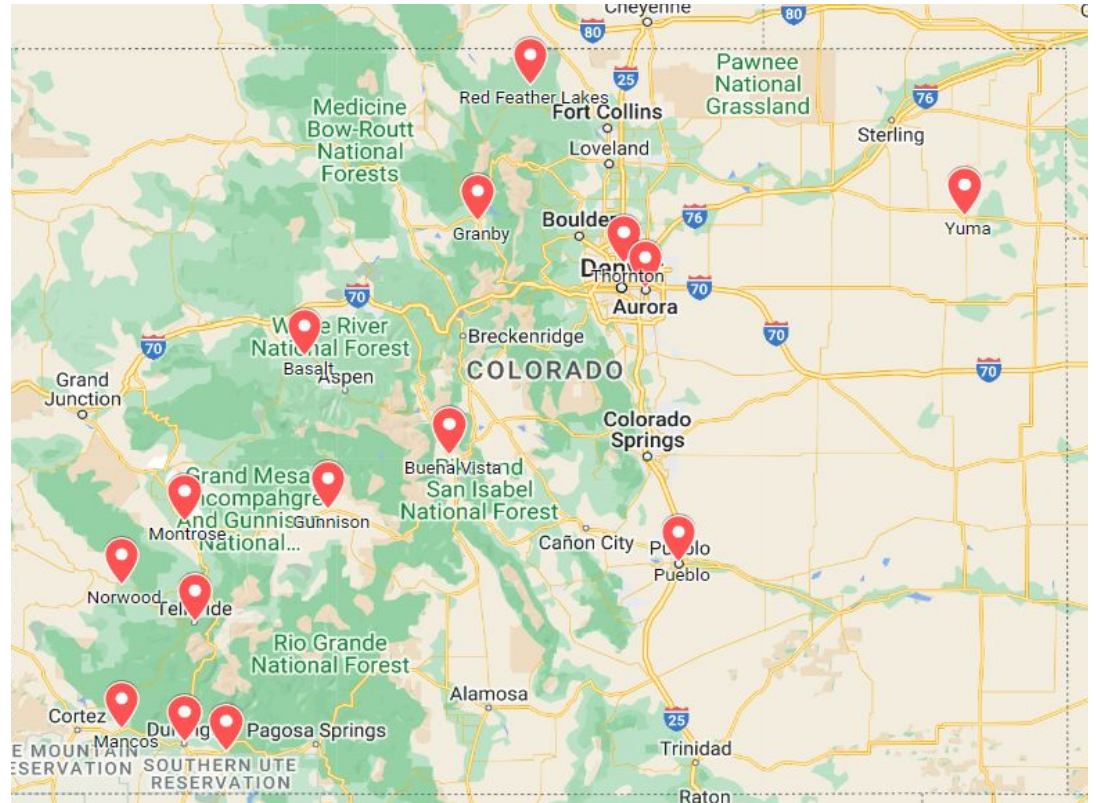


## 3 Major Approaches to the Work

1. Provide direct grants to library systems.
2. Provide resources and supports to ANY library system that will enhance their service to FFN, regardless of grant recipient status.
3. Build capacity in local public library staff through provision of professional development opportunities.

# Direct Grants- Current Recipients

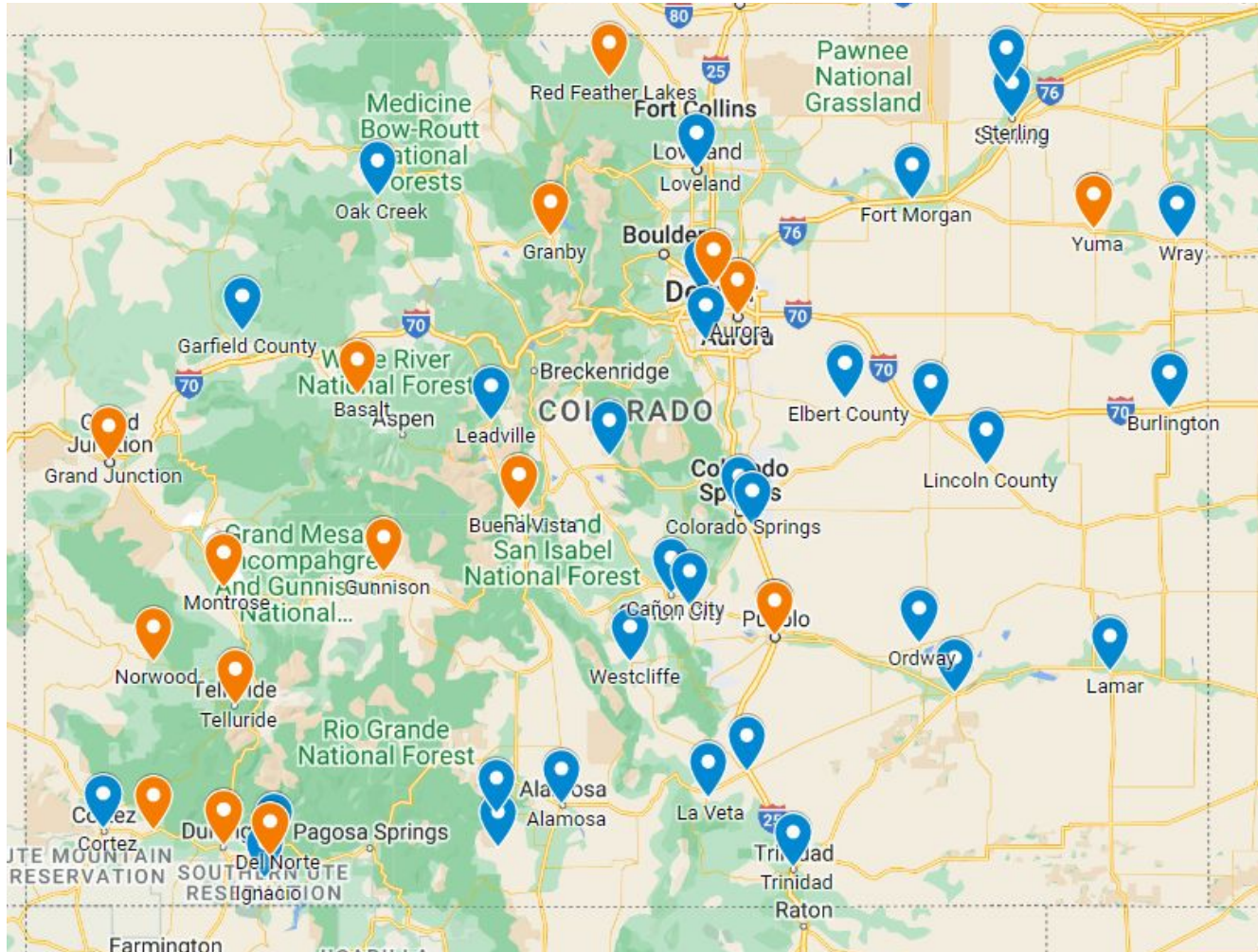
- Anythink (Adams County)
- Aurora Public Library
- Basalt Regional Library
- Grand County Public Library District
- Gunnison County Library District
- Lone Cone Library (Norwood)
- Mancos Public Library
- Mesa County Libraries
- Montrose Regional Library District
- Northern Chaffee County Library District (Buena Vista)
- Pine River Library (Bayfield)
- Pueblo City-County Library District
- Red Feather Lakes Community Library
- Southwest La Plata Library District
- Wilkerson Public Library (Telluride)
- Yuma Public Library







# GRT's geographical reach, 2016 - 2022

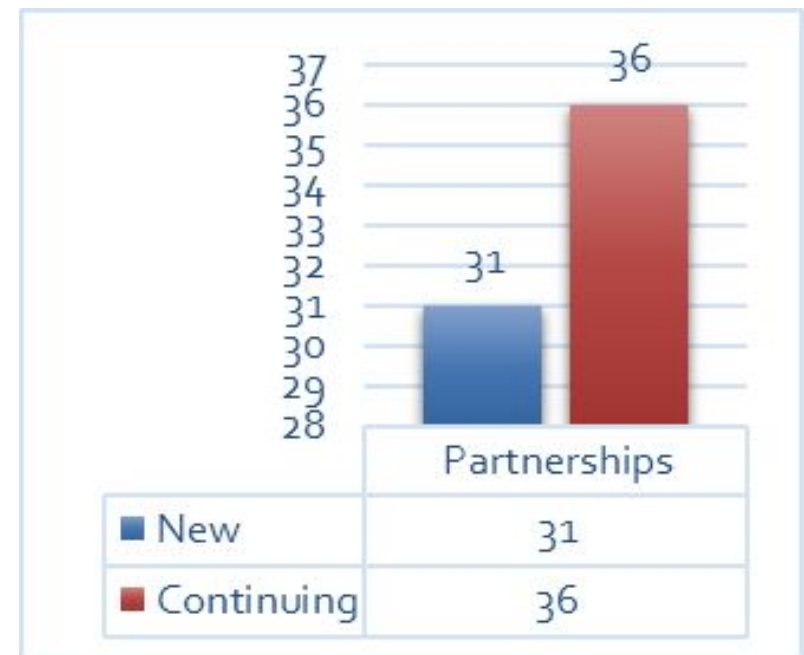
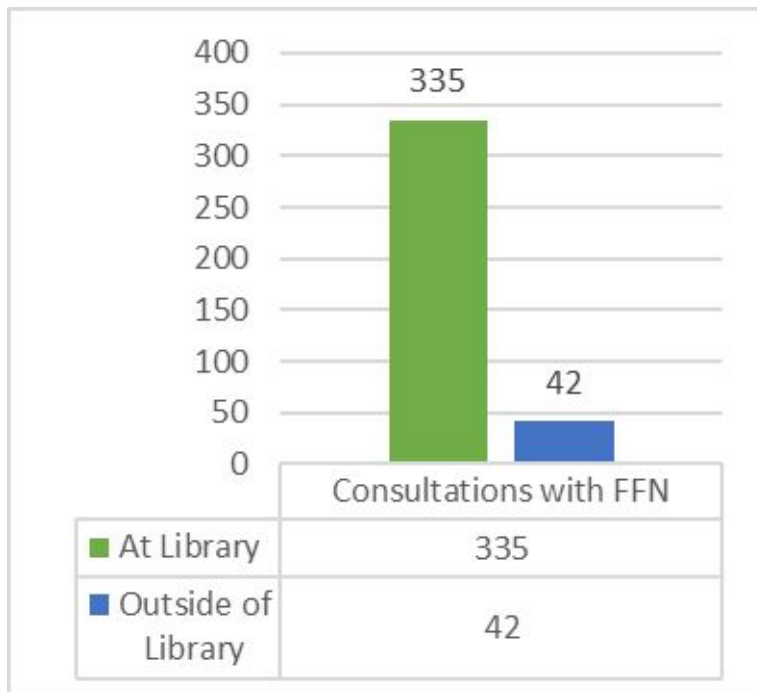


# GRT Grant Project Results- Output Measures



## Consultations

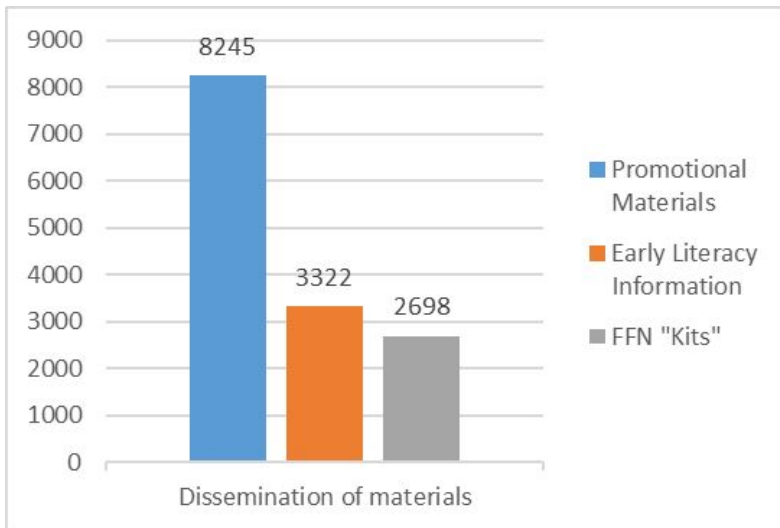
## Partnerships



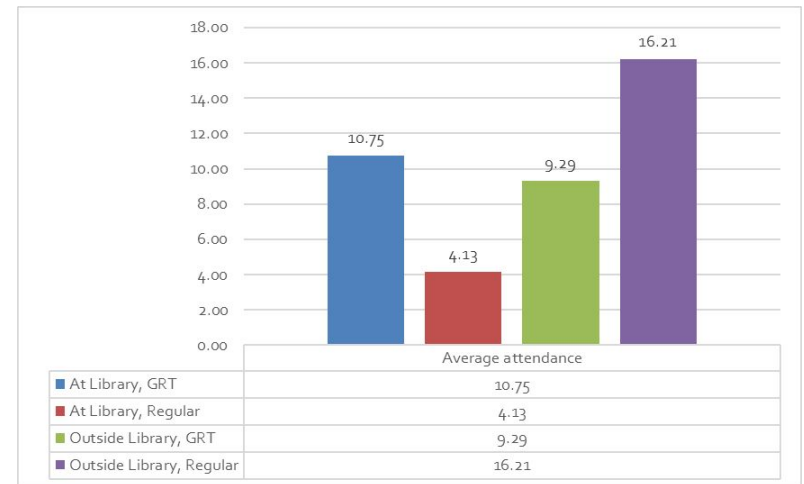
# GRT Grant Project Results- Output Measures



## Distribution of Materials



## FFN Program Attendance

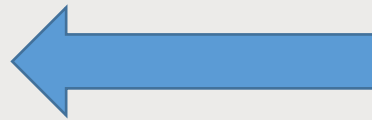






## Professional Development & Consultation

- **Melody Garcia**, GRT Regional Early Literacy Specialist, Front Range & Eastern Plains

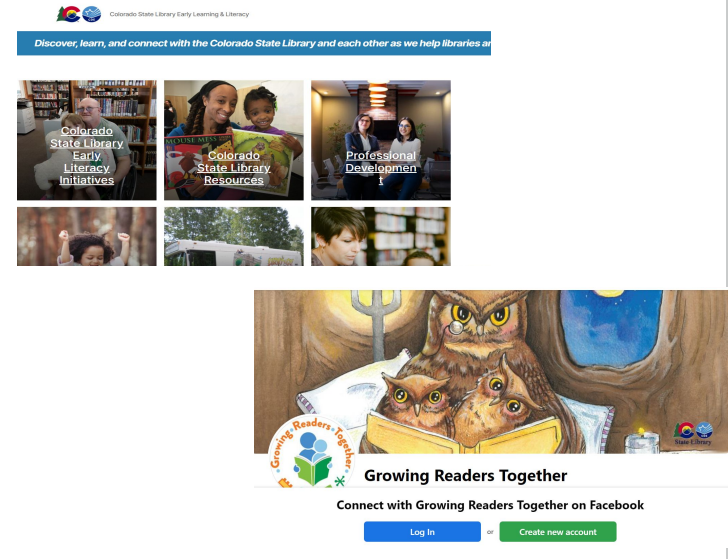


- **Kate Brunner**, GRT Regional Early Literacy Specialist, Western Slope



# Accomplishments

- Provided nearly 63 hours of professional development opportunities to 1,374 library staff across the state (cumulative)
- Manage GRT's social media accounts and designed/created new web pages (<https://www.coloradoearlylearninglibraries.org/>) highlighting State Library's early literacy work



# Accomplishments

- Created Play, Learn & Grow workshop series for use with FFN in library setting (2019). Presented workshops to 207 FFN across the state (cumulative, in-person)

*This video and other Growing Readers Together activities are made possible by the Colorado Department of Education, State Library, the Buell Foundation, the Colorado Department of Human Services' Office of Early Childhood, Colorado Shines Brighter and your local public library.*

*The project described is supported by the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Initiative (PDG B-5), 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.*

*This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.*

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**BUELL FOUNDATION**  
Buell Foundation

**COLORADO** Office of Early Childhood  
Department of Human Services

**MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES**

**Growing Readers Together**

The Colorado State Library presents:  
**Play, Learn, and Grow!**  
A video for anyone caring for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers.

- Converted Play, Learn & Grow workshop into video series that is available in both English (2020) & Spanish (2021) to provide libraries with safe programming options to serve FFN during pandemic. (Collectively viewed 708 times in 2021)

*Este video y otras actividades de Growing Readers Together son posibles gracias al Departamento de Educación de Colorado, la Biblioteca Estatal, la Fundación Buell, la Oficina de Primera Infancia del Departamento de Servicios Humanos de Colorado, Colorado Shines Brighter y su biblioteca pública local.*

*El proyecto descrito cuenta con el apoyo de la Iniciativa de subvención para el desarrollo preescolar desde el nacimiento hasta los cinco años (PDG B-5), número de subvención 90TP0054, de la Oficina de Cuidado Infantil, Administración para Niños y Familias, Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de EE. UU. Su contenido es responsabilidad exclusiva de los autores y no representa necesariamente los puntos de vista oficiales de la Oficina de Cuidado Infantil, la Administración para Niños y Familias o el Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de EE. UU.*

*Este proyecto fue posible en parte gracias al Instituto de Servicios de Museos y Bibliotecas.*

**COLORADO** Department of Education  
Colorado State Library

**COLORADO** Office of Early Childhood  
Department of Human Services

**BUELL FOUNDATION**  
Buell Foundation

**MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES**

**Growing Readers Together**

**¡Jugar, Aprender y Crecer!**

La Biblioteca del Estado de Colorado presenta:  
**¡Jugar, Aprender y Crecer!**  
Un video para cualquiera que cuide a bebés, niños pequeños y niños en edad preescolar.

**COLORADO** Department of Education  
Colorado State Library

**JUGAR APRENDER CRECER**

# Overall Outcomes- Libraries



## 5 QUOTES ON Why Libraries Join Growing Readers Together

•“Participating in GRT has been fabulous on several different levels. I really appreciated the networking with fellow librarians throughout Colorado at our meetings. There are some wildly creative people in this state, and it was a joy to get to know them. I also am thankful for becoming aware of FFN providers. Prior to this grant I had not heard the 'FFN' term, nor did I put any emphasis or focus on this group of people. I've now got a keen sense of awareness about who is bringing kids into the library and have developed a repertoire of questions to help uncover literacy and information needs for the FFN community.”  
 – Anythink (Adams County) staff

### TO INSPIRE STAFF

"Being a Growing Readers Together library has really empowered our whole staff to be more open to children and families and has helped to create more of a culture of community. I see staff really taking more of an interest in families, and that's wonderful!" - Alamosa Library staff



1

### TO INCREASE OUTREACH



"The mall story-times have been a huge success!! I had a total of 108 people attend in October. They are asking me when I will be back to do story-time and are very excited. A four year old boy walked up to me after story-time and said, "Thank you for the stories, you are great!" I am looking forward to doing more story-times at the mall in November. I am reaching a new audience and growing more young readers." - Pueblo City & County Library Staff

2

### TO SUPPORT EARLY LITERACY



"One of our FFN (informal child care providers) came into the library to let me know how grateful she was that she has reading packets to share with the children. She set up a schedule to read to the children which she had not done before. Now she reads to the children on a daily basis." - Conejos County Library District Staff

3

### TO CULTIVATE CONNECTIONS



"We are hosting a Growing Readers Together night for FFN and parents on the 3rd Monday of each month. Our GRT night in November had 10 attendees. Half of the people had been to the previous GRT night in October. Many of the grandparents have started to become regulars at our weekly story-time. The monthly GRT nights have been a great opportunity for our FFN and parents to really get to know one another." - Canon City Library Staff

4

### TO COLLABORATE FOR IMPACT



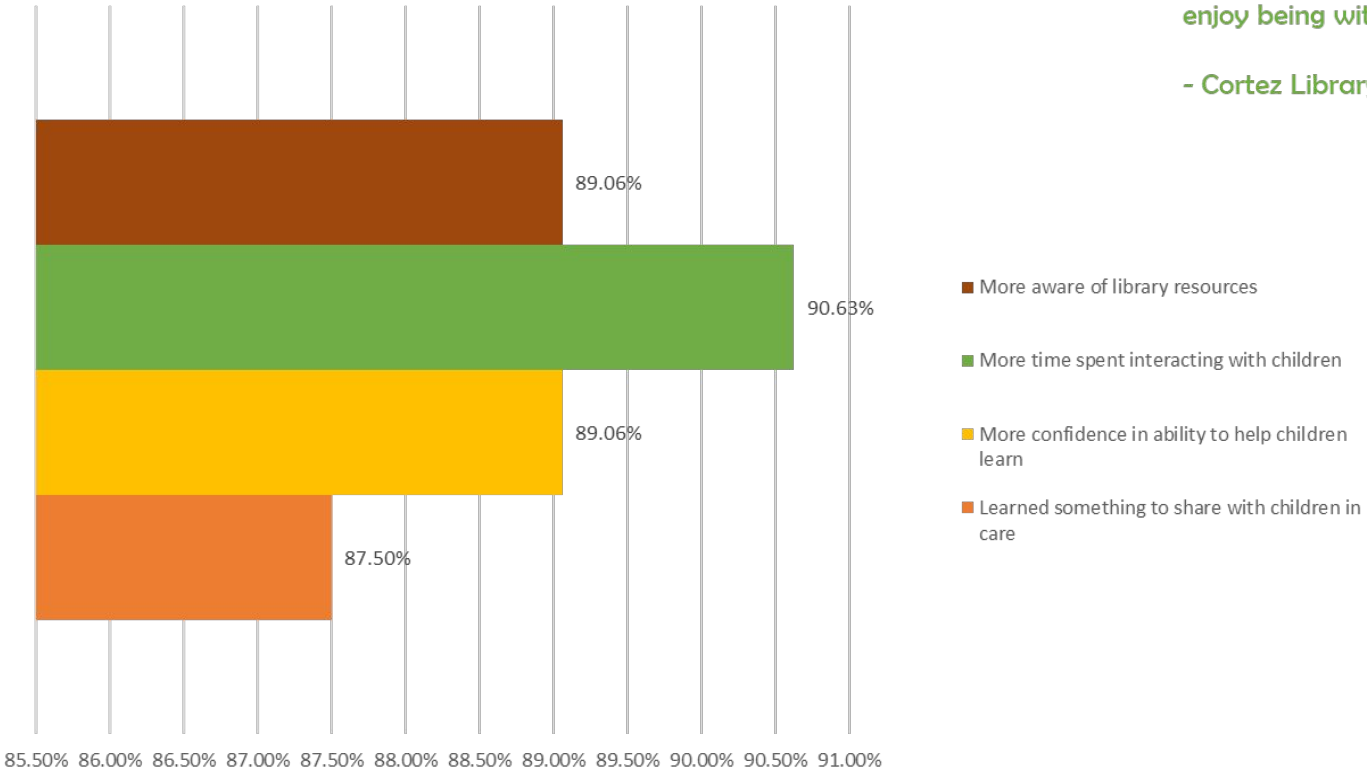
"What we're learning is that collaboration is vital for reaching different demographics. It's something we are all doing and seeking out anyway. And the grant helped us do this faster and be more creative about who we are collaborating with." - Pikes Peak Library District Staff

5



# Overall Outcomes- FFN

Percent agreeing or strongly agreeing with the following statements



**“The library helped me learn how to work with my child at home...how to read with them and enjoy being with them.”**

**- Cortez Library participant**

*“We have an excellent program in Wray- I especially liked the great time my granddaughter had. I can't top the fresh ideas they have for improving things!”*

*- Wray Library participant*



## “What was the best thing about the workshop?”



- *“The breakouts were helpful to get ideas from others.”*
- *“Being given the supplies to do the activities mentioned in the class.”*
- *“The suggestions of how to ask questions: “I notice..., I wonder.... Tell me more.” I liked having the child development part from the films, and the dialog/instruction from the leaders. Nice combination & variety.”*

# A glimpse into the future

- Continue acting as “bridge builders” to connect libraries to Colorado’s early childhood infrastructure.
- Continue to seek funding opportunities that will allow GRT to sustain its work.
- Develop and release an online, interactive toolkit for any library system to use to serve FFN providers.
- Share additional outcome information and celebrate successes to date at the upcoming Growing Readers Together Summit (October 14, 2022).



Questions?

[johnson\\_joyce@cde.state.co.us](mailto:johnson_joyce@cde.state.co.us)



# Home Visiting Investment Task Force - Updates & Draft Annual Report

Kendra Dunn, Colorado Department of Early Childhood

[DRAFT: Home Visiting Investment Task Force 2022 Annual Report](#)



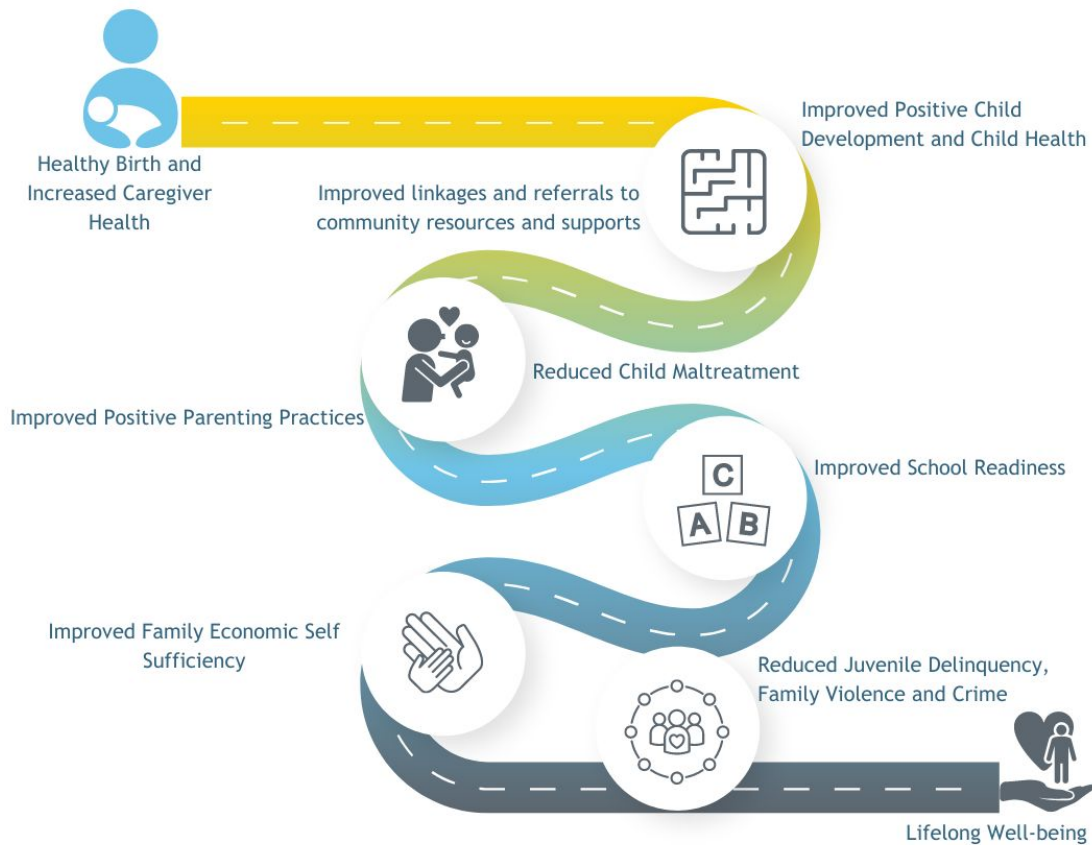
# Home Visiting Investment Plan Annual Progress Report 2022

# Home Visiting

- “Home Visitation” is used to refer to evidence-based home visiting programs identified in national evidence-based program resources and promising practices under evaluation. More broadly, home visiting is a voluntary program that serve parents /caregivers with children up to age six for the purpose of ensuring child and family well-being.
- Families voluntarily enroll in services at no personal cost as a way to improve outcomes for their children’s futures. These programs have demonstrated a positive impact on a variety of child, parent/caregiver, and family outcomes. Further, home visiting provides a return on investment ranging from \$1.75 to 5.70 for every dollar invested.

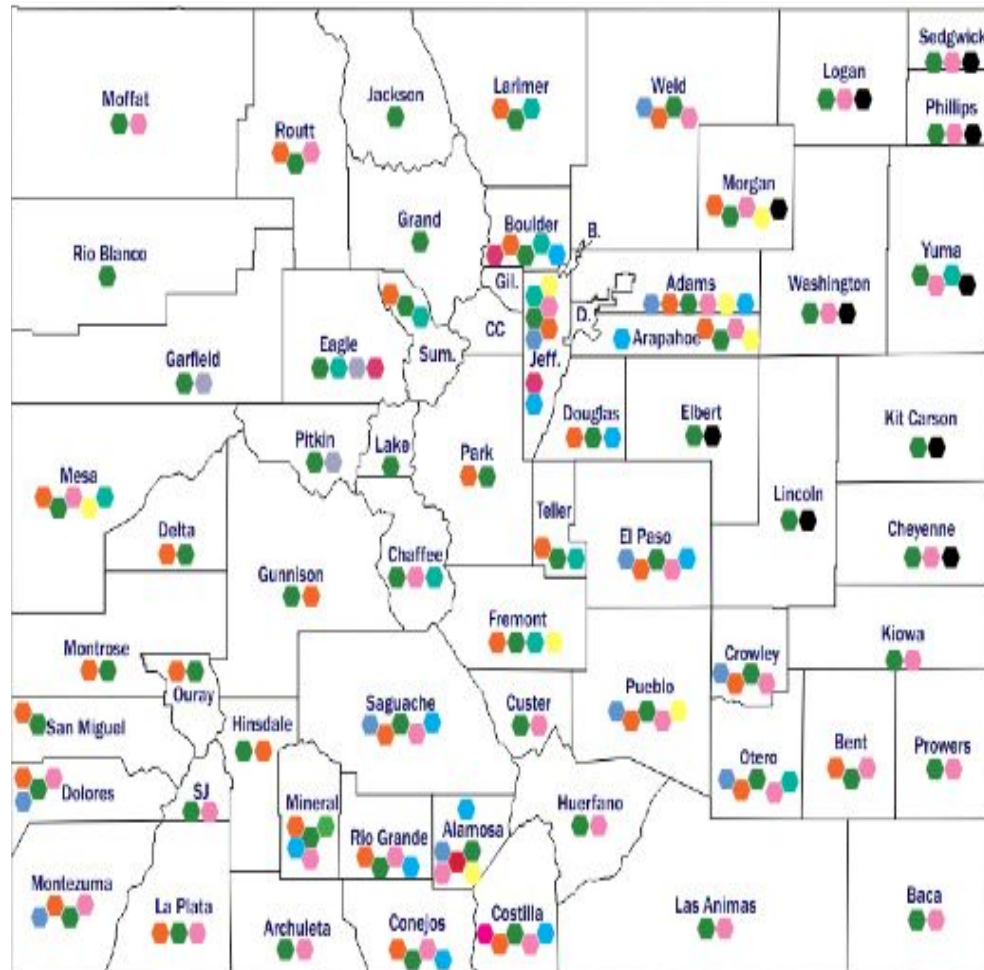
# Home Visiting Outcomes

## How Home Visiting Promotes Healthy Outcomes Across Generations





# HV Coverage Map



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

While some level of home visiting services are available in all Colorado counties and Evidence-Based Home Visiting services reach over 10,000 families per year, coverage is incomplete due to the lack of resources, eligibility criteria, and difficulty in accessing the right services at the right time for the right family.

- 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
- Family Connects
- Child First

# Task Force Membership

Amy Call – Parent representative

Alexa Chenoweth – Parent representative

Brooke Greenky – Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

Carsten Baumann – Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Christina Walker- Clayton Educare

Christy Scott – Colorado Department of Early Childhood, Early Intervention

Collinus Newsome – Colorado Health Foundation

Courtney Everson- University of Denver, Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab

Deborah Daro – Chapin Hall at University of Chicago

Heather Craiglow – Head Start State Collaboration Office

Heather Tritten - Parent Possible

Ida Rhodes – Co-Chair, ECLC Commissioner, Catholic Charities of Southern Colorado

Jade Woodard – Illuminate Colorado

Jenny Lerner - Colorado Department of Education, Migrant Education

Katherine Casillas - Kempe Center

Kellie Teeter – Maternal and Child Health Program Manager for Denver Health

Kelly Dougherty - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Mental Health Promotion Branch

Kendra Dunn – Co-Chair, Colorado Department of Early Childhood

Kim Mauthe – Teller County Human Services Director

Kristina Heyl – Early Childhood Leadership Commission - non-voting

Lesa Nesbit – Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation

Lisa Hill - Invest in Kids

Lisa Mayer – Colorado Department of Human Services, Child Welfare

Lisa Schell - Jefferson County Public Schools

Lynne Bakalyan - Beacon Health Options

Maegan Lokteff - Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance

Melissa Buchholz- Assuring Better Child Health and Development

Patty Velasquez - Family Resource Center Association

Ruth Seedorf - Baby Bear Hugs

Samantha Espinoza – Colorado Children’s Campaign and RAISE Colorado

Senator Rhonda Fields – Co-Chair, Senate District 29

Sherri Valdez – Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley

# Task Force Values



# Home Visiting Investment Plan

- In 2021, parents, home visitation providers, state and local entities, families, and philanthropic groups came together to create the Home Visiting Investment Plan for Colorado. The Home Visiting Investment Task Force shifted the focus to implementation of the recommendations in 2022 so support progress toward the goal of expanding culturally and linguistically-appropriate services to families.

# Progress By Strategy

## Availability, Collaboration, and Innovation

The joint working group reviewed the 6 recommendations initially proposed by the two committees and realigned them under four revised recommendations;

The committee developed a robust methodology to insure accurate baseline data on current service capacity across the state's evidence based models and method to track service expansion overtime;

The committee gathered initial data from intermediary agencies and direct service providers on their use of virtual home visiting technology and other innovations being implemented to expand home visiting service access to underserved populations and communities.

Working in partnership with other subcommittees and advocates across the state, the committee is able to document that 105 additional MIECHV-funded home visiting slots were made available, and 20 Child First slots were made available to families this year utilizing both public and philanthropic funding streams. This is not wholly encompassing of all slot expansion in Colorado, but does demonstrate the progress made towards serving all Colorado families in need.

# Progress by Strategy

## Advocacy and Coalition

The task force members are acutely aware that many people do not understand home visiting, the outcomes, or program options and requirements. As a result, the group spent time thinking deeply about the strategies to develop consistent, shared messaging. This resulted in proposals for communication and messaging support and the desire to achieve philanthropic support for these efforts.

Members of the group were actively involved in the creation of the new Department of Early Childhood and actively engaged in ensuring that the home visiting work was included in the new structure and strategies.

The Colorado Home visiting Coalition has taken the lead on all federal advocacy efforts while coordinating with their members who are on the task force.

## Financing and Funding Opportunities

Funding and Financing tools have been developed to support funding requests across existing governmental entities and allocations as well as with new funding sources. In particular, Medicaid billing guides were created to help programs maximize the amount they can bill Medicaid for eligible services. In addition, opportunities were explored to fund home visiting at the local level with TANF and ESSA funds.

Colorado was able to invest several types of Federal stimulus funds in home visiting programs and to support the workforce.

# Progress By Strategy

## Outreach, Marketing and Awareness

The workgroup has focused on how reach to families can be maximized. Based on input from families, the goal is to develop a robust outreach and marketing campaign upon receiving funding.

The workgroup thought deeply about reaching underserved communities, supporting the goal of equity, and elevating the workforce.

## Qualified Workforce

A workforce survey was conducted to establish a baseline of home visitor and supervisor experience.

A thorough analysis of workforce needs is underway, and this study will be used to develop further recommendations.

# Intended Outcomes

- As we continue to implement this plan we can expect:
  - 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.



# Next Steps

- The ECLC will annually reauthorize the home visiting task force to oversee implementation
- The Home Visiting Investment Task Force will act as the day-to-day implementation entity
- The ECLC PQA will act as the oversight entity
- The first implementation report will be shared with ECLC in August and then posted online
- Staffing and facilitation support for the Task Force and work groups will be provided by CDEC



# Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Working Group Updates

Dawn Newby, Illuminate Colorado



# The ECCS Working Group

## **ECCS Working Group Charter -** *Working Group Charge*

“The Working Group is charged as an **advisory group** for the ECCS Grant. The Working Group will engage stakeholders in the system of wrap-around supports for families during pregnancy through the first three years of a child’s life to ensure alignment of Colorado’s early childhood and maternal child health systems. In order to advance health equity of P-3 services, the Working Group will collect information and examine data from diverse partners to inform a Health Equity Action Plan.”

# Colorado Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems: Health Integration Prenatal-to-Three Project (CO-ECCS)



# Structure

Coordinated  
Intake and  
Referral System  
(CIRS)  
[Goal 1]



Healthcare and  
Early Childhood  
Partnerships  
[Goal 2]



Early  
Childhood  
Health Equity  
Planning  
[Goal 3]

## Implementation Teams

## Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Working Group

Led by three co-chairs; includes voting members;  
open for additional stakeholders.

# Co-Chairs and Members

## Co-Chairs:

Joint leaders of the Working Group

Leader of an Implementation Team

- 1) Coordinated Referral and Intake System
- 2) Health Care and Early Childhood Partnerships
- 3) Early Childhood Health Equity Planning

## **Eileen Auer Bennett**

*ABCD - Executive Director*

Team: Coordinated Referral and Intake System

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TBD

Team: Health Care and Early Childhood Partnerships

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## **Tanya Weinberg**

*Early Milestones Colorado - Portfolio Director: Health and Well-Being*

Team: Early Childhood Health Equity Planning

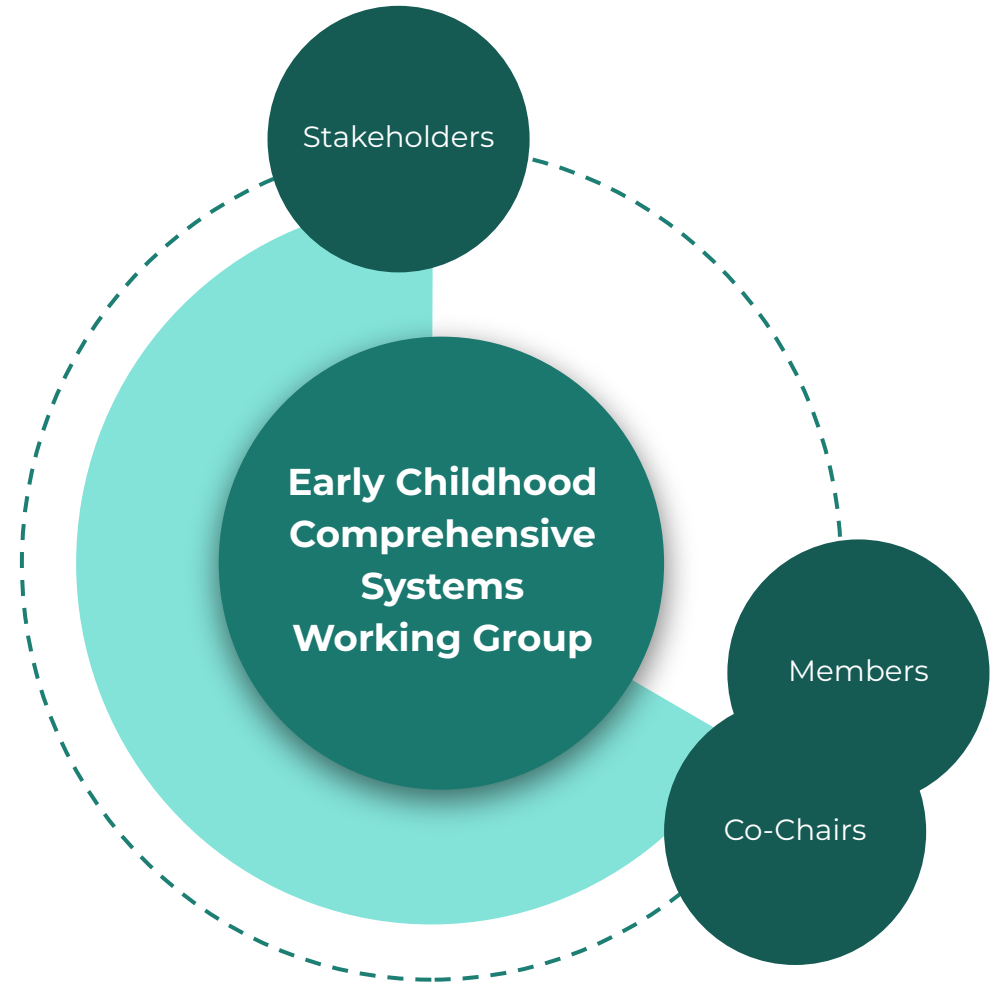
# Co-Chairs and Members

## Members:

Committed to the work of the CO-ECCS grant

Looking to this group to actively participate in guidance and recommendations

Providing votes on matters where a consensus cannot be reached.



<b>Families</b>	<b>Lisa Schwartz Franklin</b> - Parent 2 Parent	<b>Statewide Early Childhood Organizations</b>	<b>Theresa Rapstine</b> - Healthy Child Care CO	<b>Refugee Services</b>	<b>Lauren Dorn</b> - Pamoja ECE Program	
CO Department of Human Services (CDHS)	None confirmed		<b>Heather Tritten</b> - Parent Possible	<b>Housing Services</b>	None yet confirmed	
CO Department of Early Childhood (CDEC)	<b>Melissa Frank Williams</b> (interim)		<b>*Eileen Auer Bennett</b> - ABCD	<b>Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Services</b>	<b>Jenni Mortimeyer</b> - The Cornerstone Resource Center	
CO Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)	<b>Jennie Munthali</b>		<b>Alisha Lacombe-Emile</b> - Primrose School @ DTC			
CO Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF)	<b>Rachel Hutson</b>		<b>Local Departments of Public Health</b>	<b>Ilesha Mitchell</b> - Invest in Kids	<b>Colorado Office of eHealth Innovation (OeHI)</b>	<b>Gabby Elzinga-Marshall</b>
	<b>Gina Robinson</b>			None yet confirmed		
Healthcare System Partners	<b>Ayelet Talmi</b> - Children's Hospital	<b>Local Regional Accountability Entities (RAEs)</b>	<b>Lynne Bakalyan</b> - Beacon Health	<b>Philanthropy</b>	<b>Mara Holiday</b> - Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation	
	<b>Jamie Cabrera</b> - CPCQC	<b>Local Community Providers for Oral, Mental and Physical Health (including Nutrition)</b>	<b>Dr. Sandy Stenmark</b> - CU Anschutz School of Medicine			
Local Early Childhood Organizations	<b>Claudia Strait</b> - ECCYWK			<b>Colorado Department of Education (CDE)</b>	<b>Joyce Johnson</b> - Growing Readers Together	
	<b>Emily Bustos</b> - Denver ECC					



# CO-ECCS Project Overview

## *Grant Goals*

### GOAL 1:

**Increase the engagement** of new stakeholders, such as **families** and **health providers** in the **system of wrap-around supports** for families during pregnancy through the **first three years** of a child's life.



# CO-ECCS Project Overview

## *Grant Goals*

### GOAL 2:

**Align early childhood and maternal child health systems** to advance the **sustainability** of multi-generational **preventive** services and systems.



# CO-ECCS Project Overview

## *Grant Goals*

### GOAL 3:

**Advance health equity** by creating an **Early Childhood Health Equity Action Plan** focused from the **prenatal** period through the **first three years** of a child's life.



# Coming Activities

## **Strategic Asset and Gaps Analysis (SAGA)** & **Strategic Plan**



# How to Get Involved

Subscribe to the  
Newsletter & Updates

Check out the CO-ECCS Page

Attend Working Group  
Meetings

Check out the ECCS Working  
Group Page



Dawn Newby  
Strategic Initiatives Manager  
[dnewby@illuminatecolorado.org](mailto:dnewby@illuminatecolorado.org)



# Member Updates and Public Comment

Anna Jo Haynes



# Next Steps, Final Thoughts and Adjourn

Anna Jo Haynes

# ECLC

*Early Childhood Leadership Commission*

## Program Quality & Alignment Subcommittee



Next Meeting:  
Friday, September 9, 2022  
9:00-11:00 am