



ECPAC

EARLY CHILDHOOD PARTNERSHIP
OF ADAMS COUNTY

ANNUAL REPORT

2015-2016

**Children are Healthy and
Ready to Learn and Succeed**





VISION ::::

All children are valued, healthy, and thriving

MISSION ::::

Building a community where each young child can reach their full potential

ULTIMATE GOAL ::::

Children enter school healthy and ready to succeed

ECPAC BOARD

- *TEVA SIENICKI, CHAIR**
Growing Home
 - *JILL ATKINSON, VICE CHAIR**
Community Reach Center
 - *MAT AUBUCHON, VICE CHAIR II**
Westminster Public Schools
 - *CARRIE MORRIS, SECRETARY**
North Metro Community Services
 - *PETER LIFARI, TREASURER**
Adams County Housing Authority
 - JILL BONCZYNSKI**
Tri-County Health Department
 - SUSAN HANSON**
Adams County Human Services
 - ERICA BRANSCUM**
Mapleton Public Schools
 - JUSTIN CUTLER**
City of Westminster
 - JESSIE ULIBARRI**
Senator District 21
 - GLORIA SANCHEZ**
Family Partner
 - JENNY WILLFORD**
Family Partner
 - DEBBY CARTER**
Child Care Innovations
 - SCOTT SMITH**
Children's Outreach Project
 - ISEBEL ARELLANO**
Adams County Human Services
- *EXECUTIVE TEAM*

DEDICATED STAFF

- LISA JANSEN THOMPSON**
Executive Director
- REBECCA WILSON**
Early Learning Initiatives Manager
- SHARON PENDERGAST**
Operations Manager
- VERONICA N. HARRIS**
Accountant
- STEPHANIE HENDERSON**
Health Integration Coordinator
(hosted by North Metro Community Services)
- REBECA SNOWDEN**
Family Initiatives Coordinator
(hosted by Growing Home)
- RACHEL HUBBARD**
Young Child Wellness Coordinator LAUNCH
- Early Care and Education
Quality Improvement Coaches:
MICHELLE DALBOTTEN, SUE LOHMILLER, NICOLE GONZALES, MICHELLE JICHA, ALISHA MULLINS, AND JACKIE SLOAN
(hosted by Child Care Innovations)
- NICOLE GONZALES**
Professional Development Coordinator
- Quality Improvement Navigators:
LILITH HUFF-MUNOZ AND SHARON PENDERGAST
- AMY WOJTOWICZ**
Administrative Assistant

In addition, through strong partnerships, ECPAC is able to help support positions at: Clinica Family Health Services, Community Reach Center, Mountainland Pediatrics, North Metro Community Services – with Mapleton Public Schools, District 14, Westminster Public Schools, Rocky Mountain Youth Clinic, and Tri-County Health Department

MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH*
Community Reach Center – Mental Health
North Suburban Hospital
Parent Representative
Rocky Mountain Youth Clinics
Tri-County Health Department

HOME VISITATION*
Community Reach Center
Family Tree - SafeCare
Growing Home – Parents As Teachers
Head Start - Home Instruction for Parents of
Preschool Youngsters (HIPPPY)
Tri-County Health Department – Nurse Family
Partnership and Nurse Support Program
St. Anthony's - Nurse Family Partnership

HEALTH INTEGRATION*
Adams 12 Schools
Adams 14 Schools
Adams County Human Services Department
Building Blocks Nurse Consulting
Children's Therapy Services of Colorado
Clinica Family Health
Colorado's Assuring Better Child Health and
Development (ABCD)
Community Reach Center
Family Representatives
Growing Home
Head Start
Kids First Health Care
Mapleton Public Schools
Metro Community Provider Network (MCPN) –
Dental
Mountainland Pediatrics
North Metro Community Services
Peak Pediatrics
Rocky Mountain Youth Clinics
Solace Home Healthcare
Tri-County Health Department
Westminster Public Schools

KINDERGARTEN READINESS*
Adams 14 Schools
Adams County Housing Authority
Adams County Youth Initiative
Anythink Libraries



Childcare Innovations
City of Thornton Preschool
Front Range Community College
Head Start
Mapleton Public Schools
Step by Step CDC
Sweet Pea Early Learning Center
Westminster Public Schools

PROJECT LAUNCH YOUNG CHILD WELLNESS COUNCIL*
Adams 14 Schools
Adams County Housing Authority
Clinica Family Services
Colorado Drug Endangered Children
Colorado Department of Human
Services – Office of Early Childhood
Colorado Department of Public Health &
Environment – Maternal Child Wellness
Community Reach Center
Family Partners
Growing Home
Head Start
Invest in Kids
JFK Partners – University of Colorado
Mapleton Public Schools
North Metro Community Services
Rocky Mountain Youth Clinics
Tri-County Health Department
Westminster Public Schools

NEW! EQUITY*
Adams County Government
Adams County Housing Authority
Children's Hospital Colorado
Head Start
North Metro Community Services
Servicios de la Raza
Tri-County Health Department

NEW! FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP*
Adams 12 Schools
Adams County Housing Authority
EdUnity
Family Partner
Head Start
North Metro Community Services

ADVISORY COUNCIL*

Many Action Team Members, Board Members, and other community stakeholders and citizens attend the Quarterly Advisory Council in addition to representatives of: A Precious Child, Bright Beginnings, Kaiser Permanente – Brighton, Mile High United Way.

* Note: ECPAC staff attend all Action Teams to support efforts





SCALE OF RESILIENCY

THE NEED

Adams County Ranks Poorly for Child Well-Being

Adams County, one of Colorado's 25 largest counties, has the second highest percentage of children under the age of five. It also consistently ranks in the bottom four on the list that ranks Colorado counties on child well-being.

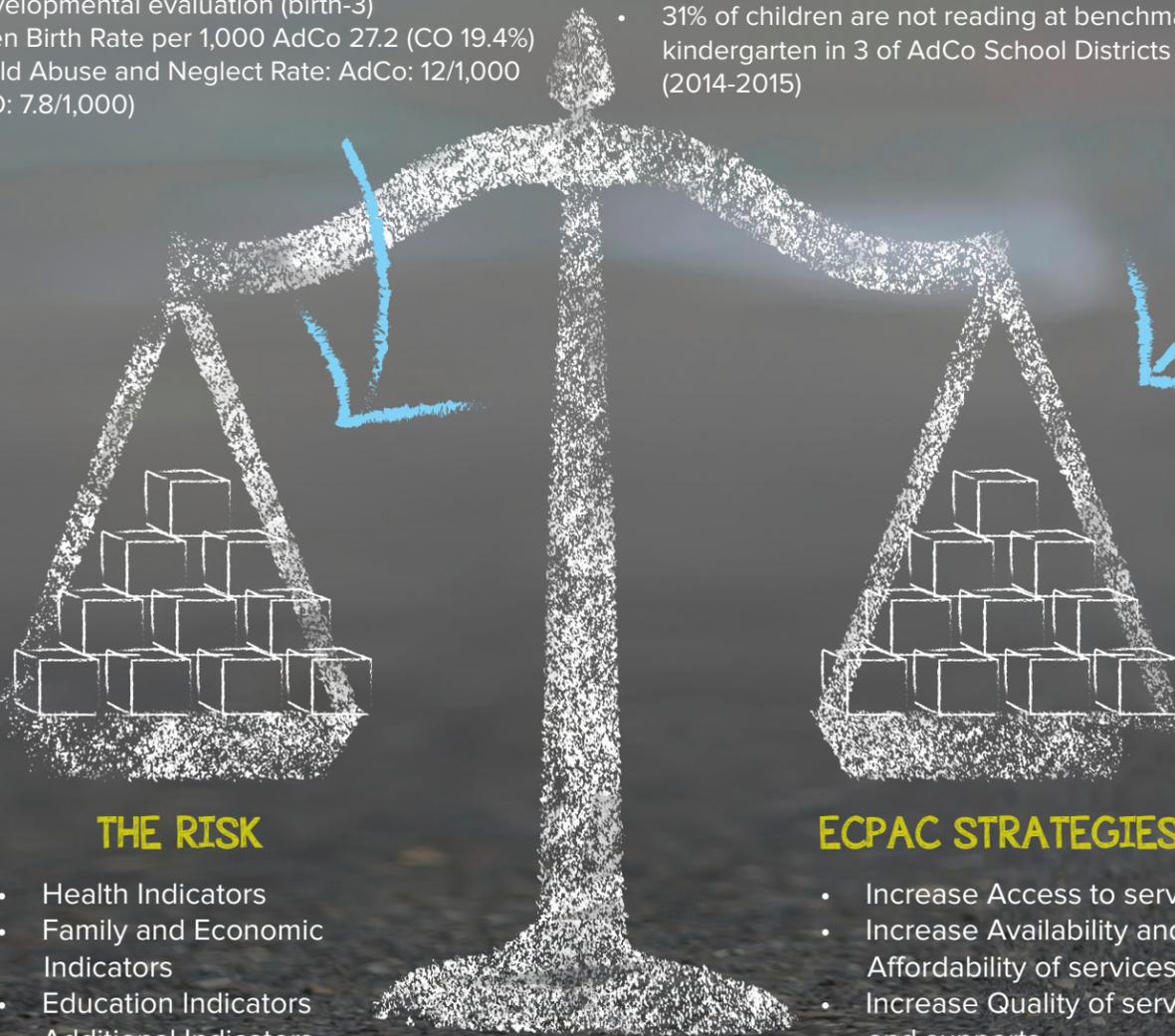
(Kids Count Colorado, 2011-2016.)

Research shows that when children experience these risk factors, they are more likely to have poor academic outcomes, including being less likely to graduate, and more likely to be involved in the criminal justice system or to be a teen parent.

Adams County Risks

- 1 in 7 women experience Pregnancy Related Depression
- Births to Women with less than 12 yrs of education AdCo 19.2% (CO 12.2%)
- 60% of families follow through with a developmental evaluation (birth-3)
- Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 AdCo 27.2 (CO 19.4%)
- Child Abuse and Neglect Rate: AdCo: 12/1,000 (CO: 7.8/1,000)

- Children in Poverty AdCo 17.7% (CO 15.6%) - some schools have a 91% Free and Reduced Lunch rate
- Fourth graders reading below grade level AdCo 67.9% (CO 58.3%)
- High School Graduation Rate AdCo 72% (CO 77.3%)
- Of the 365 child care programs, few are quality-rated (59) with only 30 have a high rating
- 31% of children are not reading at benchmark in kindergarten in 3 of AdCo School Districts (2014-2015)



THE RISK

- Health Indicators
- Family and Economic Indicators
- Education Indicators
- Additional Indicators

ECPAC STRATEGIES

- Increase Access to services
- Increase Availability and Affordability of services
- Increase Quality of services and supports
- Enhance Systems Building

THE SOLUTIONS

Start Early to Mitigate Risk Balancing/Tipping the Scale to Positive

Research has shown 90% of the brain is developed by age five. On the positive side, this means a young child's brain is more impressionable and open to learning and enriching influences. On the negative side, it means that young children's brains are more vulnerable to developmental problems if their environment proves to be especially impoverished or un-nurturing. (Zero to Three: <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/series/frequently-asked-questions-about-brain-development>)

Building a Community to Reach Full Potential

Children need many things to grow up healthy, safe, and educated. In our community, the children face a number of risk factors. The cumulative effect of these challenges can make it difficult for a child to succeed. The organizations in The Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County (ECPAC) are combining their efforts to prevent and mitigate these risk factors.

Coordinated, Comprehensive Supports and Services

ECPAC is comprised of more than 45 early childhood service and support organizations that work together to: identify gaps in support and prevent and/or mitigate the impact of negative risk factors for Adams County's youngest children and their families.

ECPAC Prevention/Mitigation Impact Strategies

- MMH Action Team – Reduce stigma and increase referrals for services, supports, classes
- Improved Partnerships to increase coordination and shared accountability
- HI Action Team – Coordinated Referrals to increase access to Services
- Quality Improvement Project in Early Care and Education
- KR Action Team – ECE Professional Development and Parenting Classes in Early Literacy
- Equity Action Team – data informed strategies to reduce inequities
- HV Collaborative – increased referrals to high quality services
- Project LAUNCH – Enhancing capacity and expanding social emotional supports and services
- FEL Action Team – to create a pipeline for family leadership to ensure efforts meet community needs
- Increased Public Awareness, Advocacy Policy, Financial Investment, and Professional Development





THE WORK: INCREASE ACCESS TO SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

“Home Visitation programs are a great support for families of children who do not qualify for early intervention services but still need extra support.”

(April Advisory Report, Home Visitation Collaborative)

THE GOAL

Early childhood families have access to available community services and supports that effectively meet their needs and engage them to promote their child(ren’s) healthy growth, development, and readiness for school with dedicated focus on children and families experiencing disparities.

THE IMPACT

All of ECPAC’s Action Teams work to identify and address barriers to families and young children accessing the services and supports they need to help ensure children are developing on-track and are entering kindergarten ready to learn and succeed. Based on the area of focus, Action Teams choose different, but aligned strategies at improving access.

166 service providers from 27 community organizations were trained on how to use best practices in identifying and referring families of young children to indicated developmental, mental health, home visitation, and other community resources. Six organizations received more intensive technical assistance



FACT:

Since 2012, 424 service providers have been trained. As a result - the IMPACT is that referrals to Early Intervention (developmental services for children 0-3) has increased by 19% across all types of referrals and by 53% by Medical Providers (the preferred referral source). Follow through rates of referrals from Medical Providers during this same time has increased from 52% in 2012 to 65% for the first quarter of 2016.

4 Care Navigators are hired through partner organizations to increase support provided to families in following through with indicated referrals



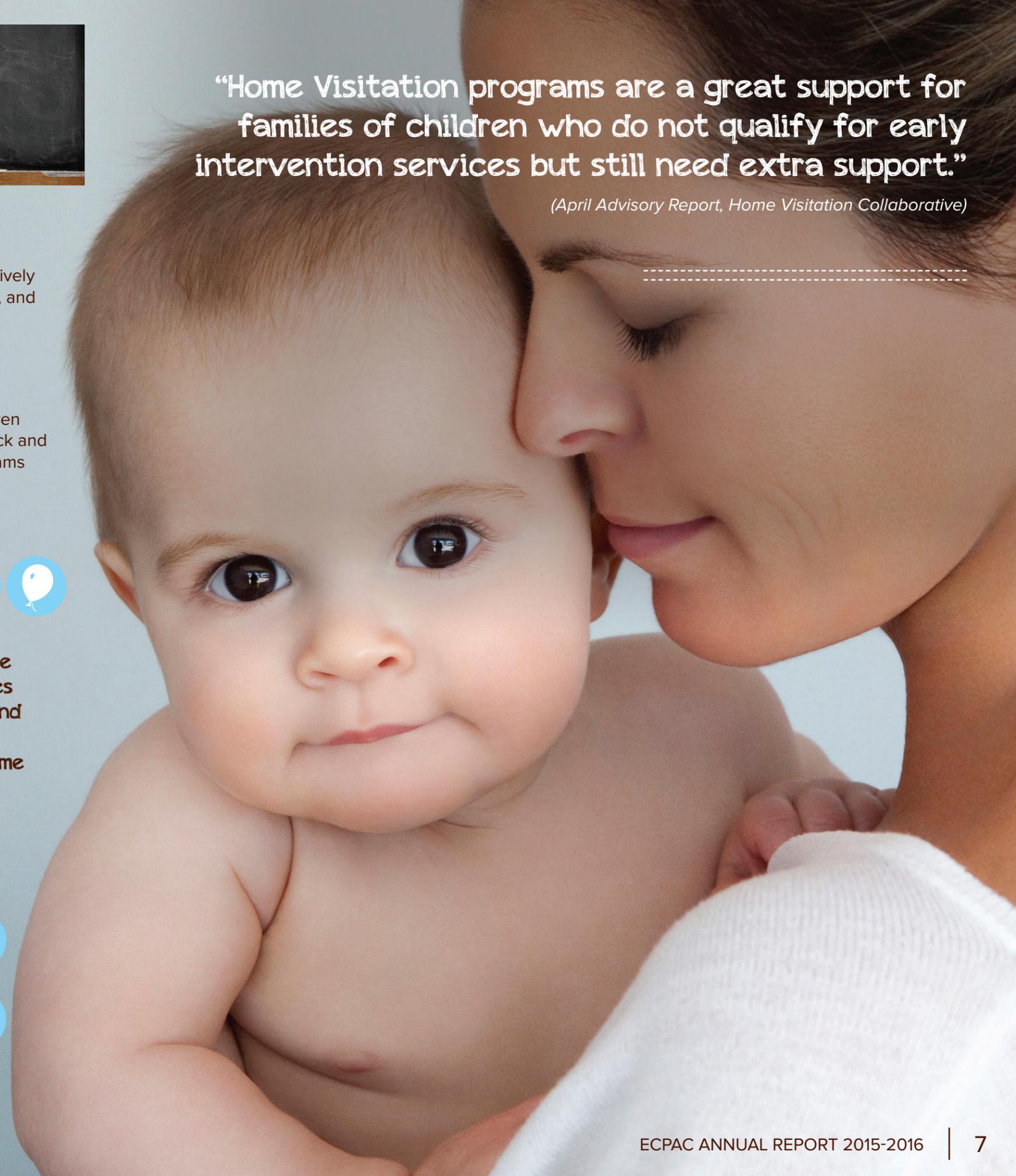
Educational materials were provided to families of young children on the topics of Early Literacy, Maternal Mental Health, Kindergarten Transition



Support for English- and Spanish-speaking Family Leadership Training Institute alumni to connect to leadership opportunities in the community



Supported 34 organization locations to receive 2,547 books, which were distributed to children and youth in our community



“Everything! Love all the information received because it can help me engage with my child.”

A parent in a Cradling Literacy class when asked what she learned and will try at home



THE WORK: INCREASE AVAILABILITY OF AFFORDABLE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

THE GOAL

Increase availability of affordable, community-based services and formal and informal parent/family engagement, education and support opportunities to help ensure families have the services and supports they need to best support their child’s health and development.

THE IMPACT

ECPAC works with many partners to increase availability of services and supports for young children and their families. ECPAC believes strongly in building the capacity of community partners to deliver needed services and supports. ECPAC either co-locates positions or co-facilitates/co-offers parenting classes with community partners.

Continue to support efforts to improve affordability of services in early learning, health, and family support and education through working to reduce barriers and increase investments to offer services and supports at no-cost

A maternal/caregiver wellness video was created and is being distributed to hospitals, OB GYN offices, pediatric offices and home visitation professionals to share with their clients

Parenting Classes - provided in English and Spanish - to support social emotional development and early literacy have been provided in partnership with community organizations - with 34 families completing

14 parenting class facilitators (from 6 partner organizations) were trained to provide classes to support early literacy skills in the fall of 2016 with intended outcomes to increase the percent of children who are meeting benchmarks on kindergarten literacy assessments

21 women attended the Wellness Classes in partnership with community organizations

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation was offered to 17 early care and education programs to increase social-emotional support in classrooms



FACT:

ECPAC’s \$25,000 donation to the Front Range Community College Scholarship Fund unlocked an additional \$25,000—doubling the impact and allowing FRCC to award additional ECE students.



THE WORK: INCREASE QUALITY OF SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

THE GOAL

Expand and enhance Adams County's ability to provide high-quality early childhood and family services and supports with dedicated focus on best serving at-risk children ages birth to eight.

THE IMPACT

The primary strategy to Increase the Quality of Services and Supports, revolves around providing professional development opportunities and implementation support for the Adams County professionals who interact with young children and their families and providing on-site coaching to early care and education providers.

32 health care professionals from 13 organizations attended *the Substance Use and Mental Health in the Perinatal Period and Recommendations for Intervention* Dinner and Learn Event



An overwhelming majority of 56 ECE teachers and directors surveyed reported their Quality Improvement Coach is effective, knowledgeable and individualizes the coaching strategies used



65 Home Visitors trained at 1st Annual event and 21 trained in Motivational Interviewing



34 Early Care and Education providers trained in Pyramid Model to improve social-emotional support in classrooms



Increase from 159 to 382 ECE providers (duplicated) trained in best practices



Mental Health Consultation provided to 4 Home Visitation programs to increase capacity to support social emotional development and maternal mental health and to 39 ECE programs



12 early childhood professionals have begun work on achieving their Infant Mental Health Endorsement



ECPAC funded outside training, for 37 professionals including 18 college scholarships



Increase from 17 programs (2015) engaged in CO Shines to 82 programs (2016)



Increase in ECE programs rated from 18 in 2015 to 80 in 2016, with 28 of these having high quality rating (out of 312 total programs)



As of May 2016 33% or 292 of Adams County children receiving Child Care Assistance (CCAP) are in high quality programs and 16.4% of CCAP programs are high quality

FACT: Community members taking advantage of one or more professional development opportunities in 2015/16 increased by 79% over last year.





THE GOAL

ECPAC is able to facilitate the Adams County early childhood system to be efficient, effective and elegant so that service providers are connected to one another and families' needs are met.

THE IMPACT

The Board and ECPAC Systems Staff take primary responsibility for progress in enhancing the early childhood system to help us reach our goals. Additionally the work of all Action Team and Initiatives have systems building strategies and their direct work in the community informs systems work.



THE WORK: ENHANCE SYSTEM CAPACITY

Partnerships continue to grow both in number and in level of collaboration and integration of efforts - with ECPAC staff dedicating time to engaging missing or less engaged partners

8 family partners and 23 organization staff were trained in the Community Café model to increase family leadership and voice in ECPAC and other community decisions

ECPAC has 38 formal agreements with partners, with many of these including data sharing agreements to ensure Action Teams can use data to inform decisions

Increase in funding continues (note: Funding Page)

ECPAC Board completed self-assessment

ECPAC Board and a Board Taskforce spent the year assessing the growth of ECPAC (staffing and funding) to plan how to ensure an effective and sustainable organizational structure

Some of ECPAC's Board Members and Staff visited the Capital with Board Member, Senator Jessie Ulibarri, to help advocate for policies impacting young children and supported several bills or other legislative issues

Continues to be a Children's Campaign Its About Kids leader to inform state level policy

2 new Action Teams were launched this year (Equity and Family Engagement and Leadership) to further address barriers to families and young children accessing available, high quality services and supports

Staff participate in statewide efforts to best align efforts and to inform statewide decisions

ECPAC is planning a preschool, early literacy and social emotional communications campaign

Sustainability strategies of efforts are embedded in all work plans

Use of national best practices to inform work plan for addressing equity, including collecting data from community partners on demographics served, partner participation in Health Equity Learning Series, and hosting a Community Equity Discussion – with a total 64 individuals from 31 organizations engaged throughout the year

Family Partners are either involved or being recruited to Action Teams to help guide strategies that will meet the needs of the community



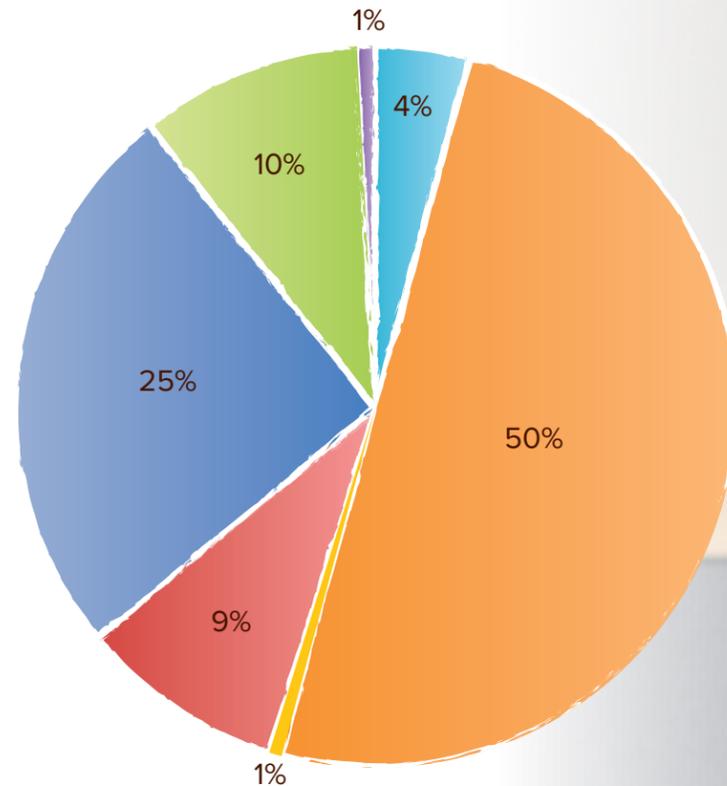
“ECPAC is a powerful avenue to make changes and we need to make changes.”

Young Child Wellness Council Family Partner

FY 2015-2016 FINANCIAL REPORT

PERCENT SPENT PER FUNDING CATEGORY

- Contracted Services
- Personnel with Benefits
- Admin Fee
- Other
- Travel
- Supplies
- Supplies



ECPAC FUNDERS

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - Project Launch | 24% |
| COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - Early Learning Challenge Grant (Race to the Top) | 21% |
| COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - School Readiness Quality Improvement Program | 17% |
| CDHS/DECC – CCCAP: ECE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT | 8% |
| COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - Systems Building Grant | 7% |
| CARING FOR COLORADO: HEALTH INTEGRATION | 5% |
| TEMPLE HOYNE BUELL - COLLEGE ECE SCHOLARSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | 5% |
| DANIELS FUND: ECE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT | 4% |
| MILE HIGH UNITED WAY | 3% |
| PITON FOUNDATION | 2% |
| COMMUNITY FIRST: PREGNANCY/POSTPARTUM WELLNESS | 2% |
| COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - Maternal Infant Home Visitation Project | 1% |
| COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Expanding Quality in Infant and Toddler Care | 1% |
| ADDITIONAL FUNDS (includes specific funds less than 1% and unrestricted funds from fees and donations) | >1% |

2015-2016 FINANCIAL REPORT

THANK YOU FUNDERS!

ECPAC FUNDING FY 2015-16



**ECPAC WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE WHO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT
ADAMS COUNTY THROUGH FUNDING OR OTHER DONATIONS.**

THE FUNDERS ::

- » Caring for Colorado
- » Colorado Department of Human Services (6 grants)
- » Colorado Department of Education
- » Colorado Trust
- » Community First
- » Daniels Fund
- » Mile High United Way
- » Piton – Gary Community Investments
- » Rose Community Foundation
- » Temple Hoyne Buell

**ECPAC WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THE THANK INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR
GENEROUS DONATIONS OF TIME AND RESOURCES.**

THE VOLUNTEERS ::

- » Becky Hoffman
- » ECPAC Staff
- » Rhonda Ronczka
- » Thornton Teen Advisory Council (10 teens)
- » Teenager (anonymous)
- » Tassi Angel
- » Angie Bartolo
- » Stephanie Bliss

Thank you to Mapleton Public Schools for their generous support as ECPAC's Employer and Fiscal Sponsor

THE DONORS ::

Reduced Costs/Donations

- » Chalk Spinner, LLC
- » Constructive Playthings
- » Discount School Supply
- » Kaplan Early Learning
- » Lakeshore Learning
- » School Specialty
- » Tazikis Restaurant

In-Kind

- » Adams County Youth Initiative
- » Adams School District 12
- » Adams School District 14
- » Adams School District 50
- » City of Westminster
- » Community Reach Center
- » Growing Home
- » Front Range Community College
- » Mapleton Public Schools
- » Margaret W. Carpenter Recreation Center
- » North Metro Community Services
- » Rocky Mountain Youth Clinic
- » Tri-County Health Department

- » Traci Chamberlain
- » Jennie Garner Christoffel
- » Alexandria Dalbotten
- » Jacqueline Dalbotten
- » Michelle Dalbotten
- » Faith Enzman
- » Nicole Gonzales
- » Lisa Lambrecht
- » Laryssa Lopez
- » Emma Pendergast
- » Katherine Richmond



ECPAC
EARLY CHILDHOOD PARTNERSHIP
OF ADAMS COUNTY

9291 Clayton Street · Thornton, Colorado 80229 · 303-853-1407
info@ecpac.org · www.ecpac.org

THANK YOU