

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT



ECPAC
EARLY CHILDHOOD PARTNERSHIP
OF ADAMS COUNTY



Vision

All children and their families are valued, healthy and thriving.

Mission

Building a community where every young child and their family can reach their full potential.

Purpose

A strong, coordinated system is essential to ensure a comprehensive approach to supporting young children and their families.

Welcome!

The Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County (ECPAC) is pleased to share this 2017-2018 annual report, highlighting its continued positive impact on local children and families and progress toward the **ultimate goal of ensuring that all Adams County children enter kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed.**

ECPAC is incredibly grateful for all of the people who help us realize our mission and vision on a daily basis. The following individuals and organizations support ECPAC's goals and programming by serving on the board, one or more collective impact action teams or committees or the quarterly advisory council, or have otherwise contributed.

PARTNERS

A New Generation
Adams 12 Five Star Schools
Adams 14 Schools
Adams County Human Services Department
Anythink Libraries
Bright by Three
Bright Horizons ECE at Horizon High School
Bundles of Babies
Centura Health
Child Care Innovations
Children's Hospital Colorado
City of Thornton
City of Westminster
Clinica Family Health
Community Reach Center
DentaQuest
Every Child Pediatrics
Family Tree – Safe Care
Front Range Community College
Growing Home
Head Start

Kaiser Permanente
Kids First Health Care
Mapleton Public Schools
McNamee & Associates
Mile High United Way
Mountainland Pediatrics
MSU Denver Early Family Literacy
North Metro Community Services
North Suburban Medical Center
Parent Representatives—Melissa Santizo, Heather Hicks, Jessica Pepperling, Lidia Lucio, Beverly Warner, Elba Ayala
PASCO (Personal Assistance Services of Colorado)
Peak Pediatrics
Salud Family Health Services
Step-by-Step Child Development Center
Sweet Pea Center for Early Learning
Tri-County Health Department
Unison Housing Partners
Westminster Public Schools
Worklife Partners
Youth Initiative of Adams County



STAFF

Lisa Jansen Thompson, Executive Director
Sharon Pendergast, Director of Operations
Rebecca Wilson, Early Learning Initiatives Manager
Rachel Hubbard, Young Child Wellness Coordinator
Sabrina Andrade, Administrative Assistant
Nicole Gonzales, Early Childhood Education (ECE) Quality Improvement Coach and Professional Development Coordinator
Jackie Sloan Hee, ECE Quality Improvement Coach
Michelle Jicha, ECE Quality Improvement Coach

Sue Lohmiller, ECE Specialist
Ann Martens, Child Care Navigator
Alisha Mullins, Child Care Navigator

Rebeca Snowden,* Family Initiatives Coordinator
(hosted by Growing Home)

Stephanie Henderson,* Health Integration Coordinator
(hosted by North Metro Community Services)

**hired by partnering agencies*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

** Indicates executive officer*

Alix Hopkins
Nurse Manager, Tri-County Health Department
Carrie Morris*
Director, North Metro Community Services
Kristen Morel
Director of Early Education, Mapleton Public Schools
Justin Cutler*
Recreation Services Manager, City of Westminster
Joshua Zygielbaum
Family Partner

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Jill Atkinson*
Director, Community Reach Center
Julia Brink
Quality Improvement Program Coordinator, Child Care Innovations
Anita Deshommes
Chief Financial and Operating Officer, Growing Home
Nicole Kinney
Head Start Family Services Manager, Adams County Human Services



This Year's Highlights

Approved in 2015, ECPAC solidified its five-year strategic plan with these overarching priority goals: 1) Enhance system capacity; 2) Increase quality of services and supports in the areas of early learning, health, mental health, and family support and education; and 3) Increase access to affordable services and supports. ECPAC has specifically focused on the following four objectives:

(1) Increase advocacy efforts to build community investment in early childhood efforts, through:

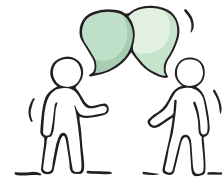


Holding an **Early Childhood Policy Summit** in October 2017, with 15 community leaders, including four elected officials, in attendance, who together **developed Adams County Early Childhood Policy Priorities**. The results of this report have been shared with over 56 leaders and elected officials.



Partnering with a consultant to **complete an Early Care and Education Accessibility and Affordability Study** to guide recommendations for the upcoming year.

Training 42 organizational partners and eight family partners to effectively communicate about and promote early literacy, social emotional development, high-quality preschool, transitioning to kindergarten, maternal mental health, home visitation programs, early learning and developmental guidelines, and the Strengthening Families approach. **Over 9,000 pieces of written content have been provided to families in both English and Spanish.**



Creating a Family Partner Action Team Onboarding Tool—used to **support conversations between organizational and family partners**—including more information about Action Teams, their purpose, what the family can expect when involved and the unique voice the family contributes.

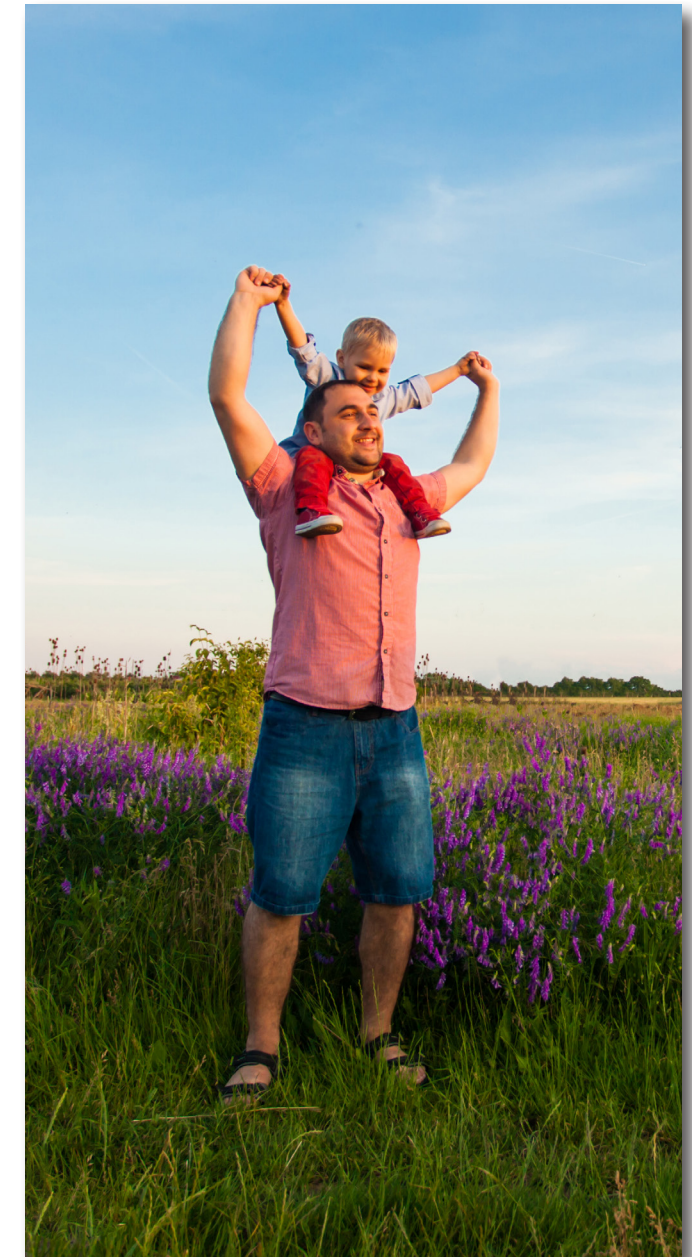
17-month

intensive equity training offered to community partners

Supporting a **17-month intensive equity training** for a cohort of 14 community partners, designed to help increase advocacy and community investment efforts.

Encouraging family leaders' involvement in community cafes, action team meetings, the ECPAC Board and 1:1 meetings.

Promoting **Colorado's Pregnancy-Related Depression (PRD) and Anxiety Campaign**, including the holding of a "celebration breakfast" event, which was attended by 31 cross-domain service providers.



More of This Year's Highlights

(2) Increase the quality of comprehensive, cross-domain early childhood services that lead to positive outcomes for young children and families, through:

827
training attendees

Hosting 42 training and professional development opportunities, with 30 unique topics and 657 total attendees. Nine topics were focused on early learning; 14 on health/mental health; and seven on family support and education.



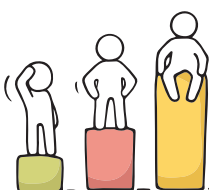
50% of the trainings had participants from the field of early childhood care and education; 26% from health/mental health; and 28% from family support and education. 17% of attendees were administrators, 58% were direct services providers, 2% were family partners and 22% stated "other" or did not respond.

4.2/5
rating of training for increasing skills and knowledge

In post-training evaluations, attendees reported that the training increased their skills and knowledge in the topic area, rating this at 4.2 out of 5 (5 being "a great deal"), and increased their ability to provide high-quality services, rating this at 4.3 out of 5.

For trainings focused on health/mental health topics, 60% reported that as a result of the training they planned to better address disparities in service access; 100% reported they would be applying new skills; 90% reported they would change some of their practices; 100% reported they would share information received with others; and 100% reported they better understood children and families.

100%
participants who will apply skills learned in training



Six organizations received technical assistance in screening and referral best practices, and 10 organizations received technical assistance in improved best practices to promote equity.

(3) Improve the flow of information to, and supportive resources for, Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) caregivers of young children, through:



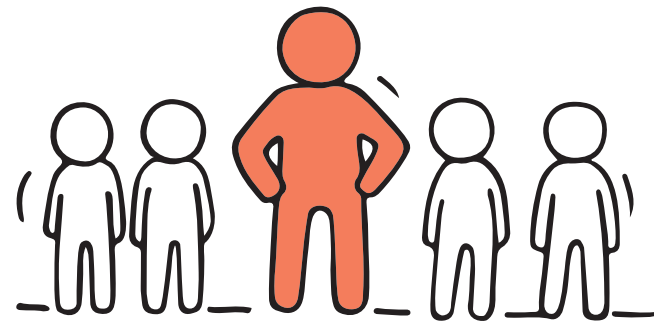
Focusing on quality improvement within the homes of the FFN providers, ECPAC provided trainings on child development, best business practices, licensing requirements and other FFN-specific requests.

Additionally, a "lending library" of early learning materials is currently being piloted with three FFN providers.

(4) Increase access to community-based services and supports for young children and families, through:

291
parents enrolled in continuing education program

Employing two Child Care Navigators for the Strengthening Working Families Initiatives. This project is a two-generation (2Gen) approach supporting parents of children ages 12 and under to attend either the Community College of Aurora or the Community College of Denver to receive a certificate in a high-demand career, while also ensuring their children have access to needed supportive services, including high-quality childcare. 291 parent students enrolled, impacting 544 children, 193 of whom are under the age of 5 (35% of all children).



ECPAC supports all partners in use of best practices in making referrals for children and their families for health, mental health, early learning, and family supports and services.



Looking forward...

For 2019, ECPAC will continue to work toward progress in all three goals of the current strategic plan. The following new or continuing areas will be ECPAC's primary focus, taking advantage of anticipated changes and opportunities within the early childhood landscape:

PARTNERSHIPS

- 1 Move forward in the development of multiple locations where shared services are provided, addressing community need through strong community partnerships.
- 2 Continue engaging with partners to sustain other pieces of work currently funded by Project LAUNCH—specifically care navigation, parenting classes, family leadership and professional development—strengthening their reach and effectiveness.
- 3 Strengthen partnerships with licensed family childcare homes to identify unique supports needed for this type of business.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

- 4 Identify and act upon appropriate recommendations from the Early Care and Education Accessibility and Affordability Study (to be completed by December 2018).
- 5 Identify and act upon appropriate recommendations from the Early Childhood Policy Agenda (to be completed by December 2018).
- 6 Support policies that address system barriers—including but not limited to affordable housing—identified through the new Collaboration for Healthy Adams County Families in partnership with Growing Home, Unison Housing Partners and Low Income Family Empowerment (LIFE), as well as the City of Westminster.

FUNDING STABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 7 Increase ECPAC's private and corporate donor base toward achieving greater diversification of funding.
- 8 Secure more stable funding for the delivery of parenting classes, for when current funding through Project LAUNCH completes in September 2019.
- 9 Secure funding to begin implementation of the community Child Maltreatment Prevention Plan.

A Special Project: Stories of Impact

Although ECPAC sees firsthand the difference it makes through its day-to-day programming, the partnership wanted to perform a deeper dive into the impact being made.

Conducting a series of focus groups and individual interviews, as well as scouring evaluation data, ECPAC unearthed powerful results and experiences. These were compiled in a series of stories to be shared with the community. *Stories of Impact* was developed to discover and share the effects of early childhood efforts in Adams County.

ECPAC appreciates all who participated and shared their experiences and perspectives across the five focus areas: connection to services, family strengthening, quality improvement, professional development and systems work.



CONNECTION TO SERVICES

"It's all about trust and relationship building. Patients before were not calling or were not connected. Now they are calling because they know exactly who to talk to."

—JACKY QUIROZ
CARE NAVIGATOR AND PEDIATRIC CASE MANAGER,
CLINICA FAMILY HEALTH



FAMILY STRENGTHENING

"I love how they explain risk factors but they say that you don't have to fall under those statistics ... You can be a better parent than your parents were."

—MELISSA SANTIZO,
MOTHER OF THREE

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT



"We all have idealistic expectations for how to care for children ... ECPAC provides the hands-on piece for childcare centers with resources and information to get you the quality that is needed."

—TRACI CHAMBERLAIN
DIRECTOR, SWEET PEA CENTER
FOR EARLY LEARNING



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

"[Trainings help] to increase capacity to analyze data, increase organizational attention to equity through discussion at team meetings, consider new partnerships to address equity."

—SHARON PENNA
NURSE SUPPORT PROGRAM MEMBER, TRI-COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT



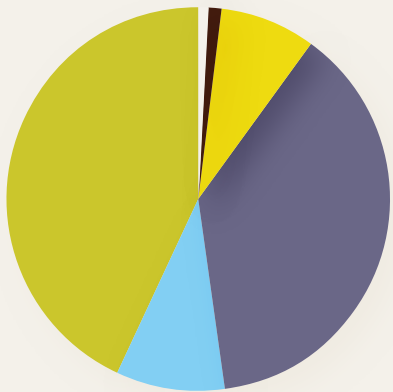
SYSTEMS WORK

"When you have a system of care that works together, then fewer kids slip through the cracks and the potential risk for generation-after-generation impact goes down."

—JILL ATKINSON
CLINICAL DIRECTOR
COMMUNITY REACH CENTER

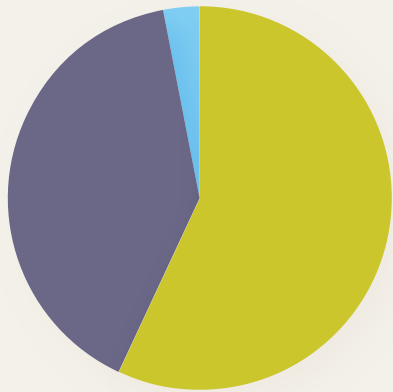
Financials

2017-2018 EXPENSES
(percent spent per funding category)



- Personnel (43%)
- Program Contractors (38%)
- Program Expenses (9%)
- Administrative Costs to Fiscal Sponsor (8%)
- Travel (1%)
- Operations (1%)

2017-2018 REVENUE
(percent received per funding category)



- Government (57%)
- Foundations (40%)
- Additional Funding—fees, donations, etc. (3%)

IN-KIND DONATIONS

- Adams 14 School District
- Adams County Human Services Department
- Adams School District 12
- Anythink Libraries
- Centura Health, St. Anthony North Hospital
- City of Thornton
- City of Westminster
- Community Reach Center
- Every Child Pediatrics
- Front Range Community College
- Growing Home
- Little Giants Learning Center
- North Metro Community Services
- Oliver Behavioral Consultants
- Sweet Pea Center for Early Learning
- Tri-County Health Department
- Unison Housing Partners
- Westminster Public Schools

FUNDERS

- Colorado Department of Human Services**
 - » Project LAUNCH (33%)
 - » Colorado Shines—GAE (12%)
 - » Systems Building Grant (6%)
 - » School Readiness Quality Improvement Program (3%)
 - » Colorado Childcare Assistance Program (CCAP) Quality Improvement Grant (1%)
 - » Colorado Shines—Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler (EQIT) Care (1%)
 - » Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) (1%)
- Piton Foundation – Gary Community Investments**
 - » Early Literacy Project (12%)
- Children’s Outreach Project**
 - » General operating (9%)
- Strengthening Working Families Initiative—CCA**
 - » Childcare navigation (7%)
- Mile High United Way**
 - » Collective impact (5%)
- Temple Hoyne Buell**
 - » Professional development and general (3%)
- Colorado Trust**
 - » Community Leaders in Health Equity (3%)
- Rose Community Foundation**
 - » Early Literacy Project (1%)
- Additional Funds**
 - » Unrestricted funds from fees, donations and other (2%)

REDUCED COSTS*

- Discount School Supply
- Kaplan Early Learning
- Kodo Kids
- Lakeshore Learning
- School Specialty

*Provided supplies for lower cost than market.
**Percentages listed represent each source’s percentage of total ECPAC funding for 2017-2018.

Without the generous and ongoing support of our local community members and businesses, as well as our statewide partners and funders, we wouldn’t be able to support children and families in Adams County. **You are critical to our success.**

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Herb Achinson | Lori Cohn | Joan Kniss | Melissa Sighting |
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| Shannon Bird | Anita Deshommes | Montoya | Kelly and Jayne Tien |
| Cynthia Bjork | Susan Flood | Kristen Morel | Karen Weaver |
| Erica Branscum | Rachel Fox | Dominick Moreno | Josh Zygielbaum |
| Katherine Brenton | Bridgette Grimm | Carrie Morris | Locked In Logistics |
| Julia Brink | Kiel Henderson | Jo Murphy | Step by Step Child |
| Randall Brodersen | Becky Hoffman | Phuonglan Nguyen | Development Center |
| Shilo Carson | Alix Hopkins | Deanna Parker | Children’s Outreach |
| Claudia Casillas | Duane and Linda Jansen | David Riggs | Project |
| Charlotte Ciano | Tom and Lorissa Jansen | Mernie Rosenberg | |
| Kari Cocozzella | Nicole Kinney | Nancy Shakowski | |

IN-KIND ANNUAL TEACHER RECOGNITION EVENT

- 4 Seasons Early Learning Center
- A New Generation
- AMC Theatres
- Ann’s Nails
- Bundles of Babies
- City of Northglenn
- City of Thornton Preschools
- Epicurean Butter
- Hair Artistry
- High Point Academy
- Jagger Roofing
- Karen Gallegos
- Lakeshore
- Line Upon Line Vinyl Lettering & Signs
- Little Giants Learning Center
- Little Village Christian Day Care
- Resource Area for Teachers (RAFT)
- Sabrina Marben
- Step by Step Child Development Center
- Sweet Pea Center for Early Learning
- Teachers Treasure Trunk
- Thirty One-Angela Kerbel
- Yoga Stars (Stretch and Grow)





EARLY LITERACY

**SOCIAL EMOTIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**

COORDINATED SYSTEMS

**CONNECTION TO
SERVICES
AND SUPPORTS**

**QUALITY EARLY CARE
AND EDUCATION
ENVIRONMENTS**



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