



ECPAC

The Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County

FAMILY CHILDCARE HOME (FCCH) NAVIGATION

VISION ::

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



MISSION ::

Build a community where each child and their family can reach their full potential

THE PROBLEM ECPAC IS WORKING TO IMPROVE:

Access to affordable, quality child care for families is a rising problem across the state, including Adams County. Cost of care increased by 17% in Adams County from 2017 to 2021 (Market Rate Survey 2022). Despite the significant value of FCCHs to our communities and the economy, they have not always received the support needed to address their unique needs and business model compared to Center-based programs. These factors require the distinctive assistance that FCCH navigation can provide. Differences in licensing requirements and quality improvement rating requirements make for a different approach. FCCHs often lack the technology, financial resources, professional development, and business support needed to help them be successful in the long-term. Over the past 10 years Adams County has seen a decline of 35% of FCCH options available to families.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT:

Out of the 287 licensed ECE providers in Adams County, 132 of them are FCCHs. This number does not include FFN providers and/or those providers currently identified as “pre-licensing” thus actively working toward licensure which means the total number of childcare providers offering care from their homes is likely much higher.

FCCH rates for families are generally lower than that of centers. And with the cost of care increasing with inflation, more families are seeking more affordable childcare options. For many families there are benefits beyond the financial including smaller adult/child ratios, consistent adults (little to no turnover in staff since most FCCHs are staffed only or primarily by the owner of the business), more individualized care, etc. As well, “child-care deserts” are most often remedied by FFN providers who could become licensed FCCHs with the right support.

THE STRATEGIES ECPAC IS EMPLOYING:

- Offering Pre-licensing training and technical assistance to providers with scholarships available to cover the cost to help increase the availability of options for families and set FCCH programs up for success from the beginning.
- Supporting Licensed FCCH 1:1 on site in learning about managing state online systems, professional development opportunities, financial resources and grants, state rules and regulations, business classes, and a myriad of other resources.
- Helping FCCHs with the skills necessary to move to a Level 2 in Colorado Shines and signing an MOU to get Quality Improvement coaching and support.

THE IMPACT:

Over the past year:

- 47 FCCHs in connection with ECPAC have current MOUs and are working toward higher ratings in Colorado Shines.
- ECPAC has done outreach to 34 FCCHs in the pre-licensing stage. Of those, 14 accessed individualized support with things like rules/regulations, background checks, financial resources, etc. and four providers have achieved licensure so far this year.
- 132 FCCH providers without MOUs have received support in business practices, navigating systems, and access to resources and information.



COMMITTED PARTNERS: Colorado Department of Early Childhood, Child Care Licensing through Red Rocks Community College, Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance FCCH Navigator Community of Practice,

TO GET INVOLVED OR LEARN MORE:

FCCH Navigator: Toni Green (toni@ecpac.org) or call 303-428-2929 for general information.