



ECPAC

The Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County RESOURCE AND REFERRAL PLATFORM ~ INCREASING ACCESS

VISION ::

All children, their families, and early childhood professionals are valued, healthy, and thriving



MISSION ::

Build a community where all children, their families, and early childhood professionals can reach their full potential

THE PROBLEM ECPAC IS WORKING TO IMPROVE:

Starting in 2012, ECPAC began to tackle the concern that only 52% of families followed through with a referral for early intervention in Adams County, compared to the Colorado average of 69%. While the ECPAC partnership has worked to improve the overall referral process with great results - moving follow through rates closer to 80% - we continue to hear three ongoing concerns: 1) Providers say it is hard to keep up with all the available resources and often resource guides are quickly out-of-date; 2) Families say they aren't often aware of what resources are available; and 3) Providers are not aware of the status of the referrals they make and if families were able to get the services they needed - often leaving families to "fall through the cracks."

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT:

Whether referred by a provider or self-referred, when families are able to access the services and supports they need, there are long-lasting benefits. "Concrete Supports in Times of Need" is a protective factor against potential child abuse and neglect and social determinants of health (SDOH) significantly impact health and well-being. It has been shown that having access to basic needs or SDOH such as healthcare, economic supports, safe housing, and food decreases one's potential for life long chronic diseases. These are also part of the Two-Generation Model which has shown to support families in moving toward economic stability.

ECPAC worked with a diverse group of partners and gathered input from the community to inform the final decision of which platform best meets the needs of Adams County. You can read the full report [HERE](#).

THE STRATEGIES ECPAC IS EMPLOYING:

- Reaching out to and supporting community organizations to adopt and utilize <https://adamscountyresources.org/>. A resource and referral platform can only be as good as the number of services listed and how often it is being used.
- Engaging trusted partners like Adams County and the Health Department in supporting funding.
- Providing trainings to service providers on how to use the platform including many options to support referrals and care coordination.
- Marketing materials targeted towards families/residents.
- Reviewing data quarterly to assess for community needs and benefits of platform use.

THE IMPACT:

- For some service-providing organizations, including ECPAC's Family Resource and Support Center, the referral platform offers a streamlined method for receiving referrals with the ability to provide status updates at the literal "click of a button."
- In just under one year, ECPAC has supported 31 organizations to add/claim one of their programs on the site; Over 10,500 searches have been made for resources allowing families and residents to be aware of available resources; and over 1,700 connections to services have been made.
- Organizations that claim their program cards have the ability to easily make changes related to office hours, contact information, and even their current capacity to take referrals. This helps to eliminate the common issue of resource guides quickly becoming out-of-date.
- 108 service providers trained to use the platform to help families in finding services, track referrals, and ensure program information is up to date.



COMMITTED PARTNERS: See [this report](#) for partners who supported the planning process. Search for organizations using the platform [HERE](#). Thanks to Adams County and Adams County Health Department for funding, as well as the Family Support through Primary Prevention - "No Wrong Door" grant through the Colorado Department of Early Childhood/Illuminate Colorado

TO LEARN MORE: Contact ECPAC at megan@ecpac.org, lisa@ecpac.org, or stephanie@ecpac.org