



**DENVER'S EARLY
CHILDHOOD COUNCIL**

Denver's Early Childhood Council
Early Childhood Council

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Building an Early Childhood System

Description:

Denver's Early Childhood Council strives to ensure all children and families in Denver have equitable access to quality early childhood services and supports, and works strategically with community partners to align efforts and create more efficient and culturally responsive services. For example, the Denver Council serves as lead recipient for LAUNCH Together in Denver, a collaborative funded by eight foundations. In close partnership with Denver Public Health, Denver Children's Advocacy Center, and the Mental Health Center of Denver, this four-year grant focuses on building a coordinated system for social-emotional development supports for young children birth-to-5 years old in targeted high-needs neighborhoods. The Council has assembled a design team of pediatricians, home visitors, early educators, community organizers, and residents to focus on developing a strategic plan based on local data, interviews, a community readiness assessment, and an environmental scan. The Denver Council also supports many other systems building activities including home visitation networks, partnership in the Denver Public Schools Birth to Eight Roadmap, and participation in state-wide and national early childhood leadership coalitions.

Primary Role of Program in Early Childhood Systems:

Advocacy

Service Area(s):

Denver

Population(s) Served:

Newborn, Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers, Families, Caregivers, Teachers, Other Professionals

Services This Program Provides that Advance the *Early Childhood Colorado Framework*:



Family Support & Education

Family knowledge and capacity support children's healthy development and learning



Family Support & Education

Families, including those with high needs, experience timely and coordinated services and supports



Health & Well-Being

All health care providers, including mental health, deliver coordinated, family focused care



Learning & Development

Learning experiences and environments are high quality, developmentally appropriate and affordable



Learning & Development

Formal and informal care environments and education practices reach the highest levels of quality