Early Childhood Colorado Framework

A SHARED VISION

For more information visit earlychildhoodframework.org ADOPTED JULY 2008 | UPDATED JULY 2015

Core **Principles**

The Early Childhood Colorado Framework is based on and guided by these principles:

- Whole child and family centered
- Prenatal through age eight
- Strengths based
- Culturally relevant and responsive
- Outcomes focused
- •Informed by evidence based and promising practices
- Cross-sector collaboration

Strategies for Action

- **Connect and Empower Families**
- **Build Community Capacity**
- Implement Quality Standards
- Make Data Informed Decisions
- Develop and Retain the Workforce
- **Support Consumer Affordability**
- **Advance Sustainable Business Practices**
- **Encourage Public Private Approaches**
- Pursue Continuous Quality Improvement
- **Ensure Coordinated Services**
- Promote and Share Knowledge



Fundamentals

Strong Partnerships

Sufficient Investments

Sound Policy

Robust Public Engagement

Shared Accountability

Effective Leadership

Relevant Education Opportunities

Outcomes > access, quality and equity







ACCESS

- Family engagement and leadership opportunities exist within programs, schools and communities
- Services and supports promote the well-being and resiliency of parents and caregivers
- Family friendly policies and practices exist in the workplace
- Comprehensive health coverage and services are consistently utilized by pregnant women and children
- Integrated and preventive maternal and child physical, behavioral and oral health services are available
- All settings promote mental health and well-being through early identification, consultation and
- Education, coaching and ongoing training exist for caregivers, teachers and other professionals
- Learning experiences and environments are high quality, developmentally appropriate and affordable

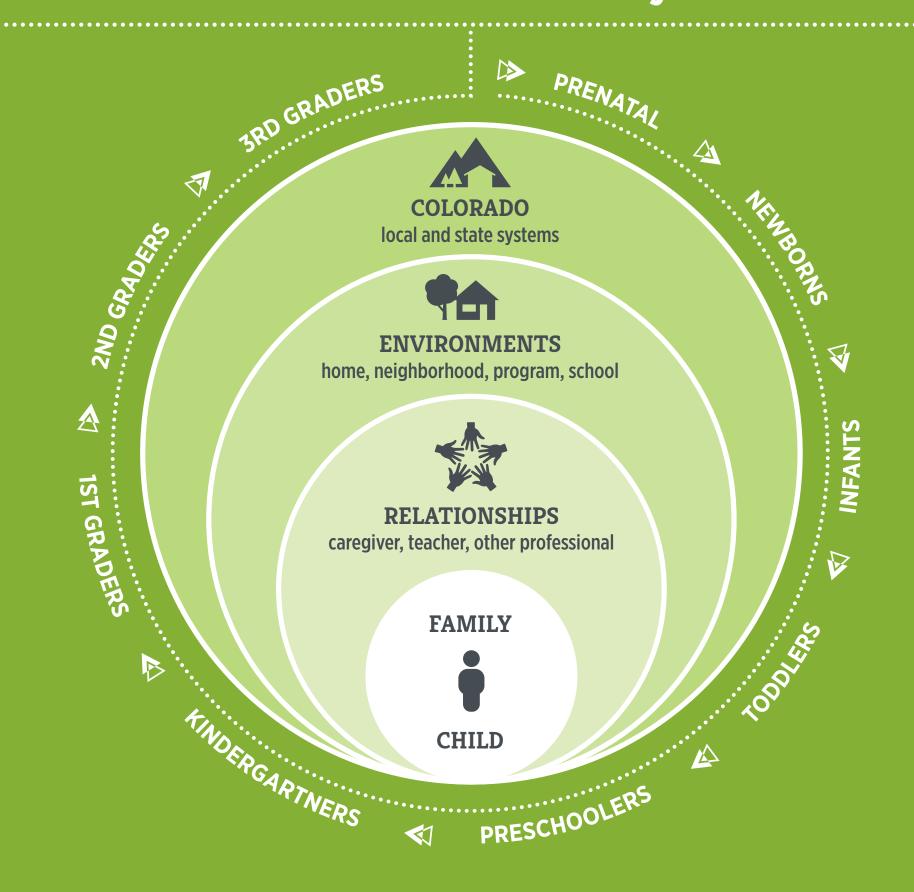
QUALITY

- Family knowledge and capacity support children's healthy development and learning
- Families advocate for high quality comprehensive services and supports that lead to future success
- All health care providers, including mental health, deliver coordinated, family focused care
- Settings and practices promote strong relationships, social and emotional development, appropriate nutrition and physical activity
- Formal and informal care environments and education practices reach the highest levels of quality
- Adults understand and support children's learning and development, including social and emotional
- All settings provide effective transitions across and within programs, schools and systems

EQUITY

- Education, employment, housing, financial and legal supports contribute to family economic security
- Families, including those with high needs, experience timely and coordinated services and supports
- Families have the ability to plan the number and timing of their children
- All environments are safe, free of toxins, have affordable foods and offer physical activity
- Children with special health, behavioral or developmental needs receive individualized services and supports
- All children are ready for school and achieving by 3rd grade regardless of ability, race, place, income, language and culture
- Children, including those with high needs, receive timely, comprehensive and affordable academic services and transition supports

all children are valued, healthy and thriving



Results



CHILD

Young children reach their developmental potential and are ready to succeed in school and in life



ENVIRONMENTS

Environments that impact children are safe, stable and supportive



RELATIONSHIPS

Adults are knowledgeable, responsive and interact effectively with and on behalf of children



COLORADO

Localities and the state attain economic and social benefits by prioritizing children and families