



February 2025



Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a restful and joyful holiday season. As we kicked off January, we hit the ground running—coming back refreshed and ready, only to dive straight into moving into both sides of our building. That kept us plenty busy, but we're finally settled in and ready for all that's ahead.

With January behind us, we're looking forward to February and the updates, events, and opportunities it will bring. Be sure to check out the rest of the newsletter for all the latest happenings and important updates!

Stay tuned, and as always, thank you for being part of our community!

— The Early Childhood Council Team

---



## Shoutout to Haskin Preschool for a Perfect Score!

Congratulations to the amazing team at Haskin Preschool for achieving a perfect score on their annual inspection from the Regional Environmental Health Program, part of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment! This outstanding accomplishment is even more remarkable because it's the only perfect score awarded in the San Luis Valley in the past four years.

We are so proud of the Haskin Preschool team for their dedication to providing a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment for their students. Your hard work and commitment to excellence set an inspiring example for all early childhood educators.

Keep shining, Haskin Preschool! ☐

---

## Health and Wellness Fair – Love Your Sweet Heart

Join us for a FREE Health and Wellness Fair hosted by Sacred Heart Catholic Church and SLVAHEC. This event will offer health screenings, informational booths, and activities for children.

☐ Date: Saturday, February 15, 2025

☐ Time: 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

☐ Location: Faistl Hall, 715 4th Street, Alamosa, CO 81101

☐ Screenings: Blood Pressure, Cholesterol, and Glucose

☐ Information Booths: Diabetes, Nutrition, HEP-C Testing,  
Healthy Living, COVID-19, Free Diapers

**i** Fasting is suggested for accurate results but not required.

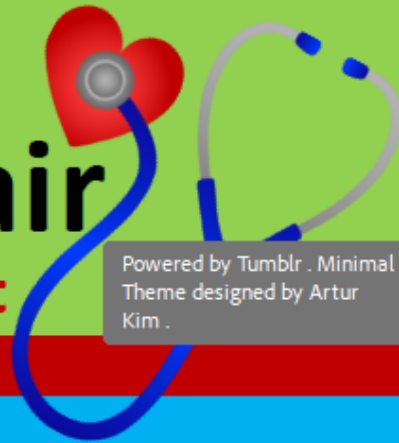
☐ For more information, contact Lisa Lucero at 719-588-5363.

Healthy Hearts Love Longer!

Keep Yourself Healthy Mind, Body and Soul

# Health and Wellness Fair

Love Your Sweet Heart



Powered by Tumblr . Minimal  
Theme designed by Artur  
Kim .

at

## SACRED HEART

Saturday, February 15, 2025

8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Faistl Hall

715 4th Street • Alamosa, CO 81101

Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the SLVAHEC are partnering with local health care organizations to provide a **FREE** Health and Wellness Fair for the community.

#### Screenings

Blood Pressure

Cholesterol and Glucose

#### Activities for Children

#### Information Booths

Diabetes

Nutrition

HEP-C Testing

Healthy Living

COVID 19

Free Diapers

To get the most accurate numbers, 12 hours of fasting is suggested but NOT required. Please continue to drink water during your fasting.

For Information contact Lisa Lucero at 719-588-5363.

**HEALTHY HEARTS LOVE LONGER!**

## Feria de Salud y Bienestar – Ama Tu Dulce Corazón

Únase a nosotros para una FERIA DE SALUD Y BIENESTAR GRATUITA organizada por la Iglesia Católica del Sagrado Corazón y SLVAHEC. Este evento ofrecerá exámenes de salud, puestos informativos y actividades para niños.

- ☐ Fecha: Sábado, 15 de febrero de 2025
- ☐ Hora: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- ☐ Ubicación: Faistl Hall, 715 4th Street, Alamosa, CO 81101

- ☐ Exámenes de salud: Presión arterial, colesterol y glucosa
- ☐ Puestos informativos: Diabetes, nutrición, prueba de HEP-C, vida saludable, COVID-19, pañales gratis

**i** Se sugiere ayuno para obtener resultados más precisos, pero no es obligatorio.

☐ Para más información, comuníquese con Lisa Lucero al 719-588-5363.

**i** Los corazones saludables viven más tiempo!

Mantén tu Salud Mente, Cuerpo y Alma

**GRATIS**

**Feria de la Salud y el  
Bienestar**

**Ama a tu dulce corazon**

**en**

**SAGRADO CORAZON**



**Sábado, 15 de Febrero 2025**

**8:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Faistl Hall**

**709 4th Street • Alamosa, CO 81101**

La iglesia Católica de Sagrado Corazon y el SLVAHEC en conjunto con las organizaciones de salubridad locales ofrecerán una Feria de salud y bienestar GRATUITA para la comunidad.

**Revisiones**

Tensión Arterial  
Índice de masa corporal  
Colesterol  
Diabetes

**Cabina de información**

Diabetes  
Ejercicio  
COVID 19

Nutrición  
Prueba HEP-C  
Pañales gratis

**Actividades para los Niños**

Para obtener numeros mas preciso se recomienda ayunar por 12 horas pero no es requerido. Porfavor tome agua duante su ayudo.

Para más detalles, por favor llame a  
Lisa Lucero at 719-588-5363.

**CORAZONES SANOS VIVEN MAS!**

## Parents As Teachers (PAT) Group Connection

The next PAT Group Connection is set for Thursday, February 6th, from 5:00 – 7:00 PM at the Fort Garland Community Center located at 17591, Blanca, CO 81123. Group Connection is open to enrolled families.

For those who are interested in the program, or for more information, contact Esther Vasquez at [719-937-4010](tel:719-937-4010)



We hope to see you there!



# PAT Group Connection

THURSDAY FEB. 6TH 5PM-7PM

FORT GARLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

Families enrolled in Parents as Teachers will enjoy parent-child activities, connect with other families, and gain helpful parenting tips at our monthly Group Connection.

- ✓ Engaging Parent-Child Activities
- ✓ Parenting Tips & Support
- ✓ Meet Other Families
- ✓ Learn About Child Development & Resources

If you are not yet enrolled in the PAT program, please give Esther a call to find out more!



## UPK NEWS

### Colorado Universal Preschool Enrollment Now Open for 2025-26 School Year!

Enrollment is now open for Colorado's Universal Preschool (UPK) Program for the 2025-26 school year! Families can apply for up to 15 hours of free, high-quality preschool for children in the year before kindergarten, with additional hours available for qualifying families.

Since its launch in 2023, Universal Preschool has served more than 85,000 children, saving Colorado families an average of \$6,100 each year and providing a strong foundation for early childhood education. Families can explore participating providers and submit applications through [UPK.Colorado.Gov](https://UPK.Colorado.Gov).

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to prepare your child for success while saving on childcare costs. Learn more and apply today!

Learn more and [read the full announcement here](#).

### Important dates for family enrollment

#### Pre-Registration:

**Now-February 3:** Pre-registration application window for families requesting Continuity of Care placements.

**February 3-10:** Window for families to accept or decline their match.



## Family-to-Provider Matching Rounds:

**February 3:** Deadline to apply to be matched in the first family-to-provider matching round.

**February 24:** Families are notified of first round matches. Families are asked to accept or decline by March 3.

**March 3:** Deadline to apply to be matched in the final family-to-provider matching round.

**March 24:** Families are asked to accept or decline their matched provider by March 31.

## Direct Enrollment:

**April 1-** throughout school year

For full details, please direct families to [upk.colorado.gov](https://upk.colorado.gov).



## Help Us Support Universal Preschool: Share Your Input on Child Screenings!

Agencies in the community are partnering to help Universal Preschool (UPP/UPK) programs address the healthy development of children in their care.

We want to understand what activities community agencies are doing to support screening & referral for children under age 5.

Screening is a brief, but formal check using a standardized tool or process to identify issues related to a child's health or

development, such as:

- Child development
- Vision
- Hearing
- Oral Health
- Social Emotional

**Action Requested:** Please complete a [brief survey](#), which will ask questions about your agency's current practices and the types of children your agency serves.

Please complete this form as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please reach out to [lcodirector@eccslv.org](mailto:lcodirector@eccslv.org) or [lcoquality@eccslv.org](mailto:lcoquality@eccslv.org)

---

## Coaching Framework for Effective Practice

### Article Heading

The National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL) uses a house to represent six elements of quality teaching and learning for children ages birth to 5 in all Head Start program options. Quality teaching and learning uses children's and their families' lived experiences, home languages, perspectives, and cultural ways of knowing and being to make learning more meaningful and engaging. It creates equitable environments where all children feel a sense of belonging, and that promotes their social and emotional development and school readiness.

The six elements of the Framework for Effective Practice, or House Framework are:

1. Interaction and Environments: Providing nurturing, responsive, and effective interactions, and engaging environments
2. Curriculum: Implementing research-based curriculum and teaching practices
3. Screening and Assessment: Using screening and ongoing assessment of children's skills
4. Individualized Support: Embedding highly individualized teaching and learning
5. Families: Engaging parents and families
6. Equity-focused Practices: Promoting high-quality equitable learning environments

When these elements are connected, they form a single structure that surrounds the family in the center. Family is at the heart of the house. Each element is implemented in partnership with parents and families as co-educators in their cultural and community context. Equity-focused practices and policies not only surround the house but are embedded throughout each element to ensure equitable access, belonging, high-quality nurturing and joyful experiences, and positive outcomes for all children and families.

## **We're Going on a Bug Hunt**

Try it out!

We're going on a bug hunt, and we're going to find an amazing one! Invite children to go on an adventure to find bugs in your outdoor area, backyard, or local playground. Ask children where they think they will find insects — always follow their lead in the shared exploration. You can extend the insect hunt by asking predictive questions before venturing out, bringing materials to safely examine bugs before returning them to their habitat, or adding related materials to indoor play.

Did you know that insects and spiders are both a type of animal known as arthropods? All arthropods are invertebrates, meaning they do not have backbones. Shared arthropod features also

include a hard, segmented outer covering called an exoskeleton and jointed legs. People often lump all “creepy crawlies” into one group, and they frequently call this group “bugs.” In fact, bugs are just one group of insects, but for this activity we will use bug and insect interchangeably.

What ways do you like to explore your local bug population?

-Credit goes to Head Start ECLKC

---

## Save the Date - April 2, 2025: Speak Up for Kids Day

Boost your advocacy skills so you can speak up for kids during the **2025 legislative session** and beyond at the Colorado Children's Campaign and Clayton Early Learning 14th annual **Speak Up for Kids Day** event!

[Find details and registration here](#)

---



**Early Head Startx**  
Free Quality Child Care Services!  
Birth to 3  
Expectant Families and Teen Parents

- Child Care 28+ hours per week
  - Year-Round Program
  - Family Services
  - Education Services
  - Health Services
  - Nutrition Services
  - Disabilities Services
  - Community Resources

Families with children with special needs are encouraged to apply  
Military families encouraged to apply  
We do not provide daily transportation to & from the center. However, we may be able to provide transportation in certain circumstances in conjunction with other community agencies.

[Begin Application Here](#)

Contact us Today!  
(719) 937-4010  
401 Santa Fe Ave  
Alamosa, CO 81101

Service Areas:  
Saguache  
Costilla  
Alamosa  
Rio Grande

## Early Head Start Free Quality Child Care Services

Now accepting applications for Early Head Start! Click the link below to complete the interest form.

Click [Here](#) for interest form.

---

## CDEC Policy & Legislation RECENTLY ADOPTED RULES

### Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP):

The Executive Director adopted emergency rules to implement Colorado House Bill 24-1223, and the new requirements for the

Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), which became effective on January 1, 2025. (Colorado Secretary of State (SOS) Tracking No. 2024-00635)

**Child Care Centers, Family Child Care Homes (FCCH), Children's Resident Camps, School-Aged Child Care (SACC); and Neighborhood Youth Organizations (NYO):** The Executive Director adopted amendments to the transportation rules on an emergency basis to implement Colorado House Bill 24-1055, which became effective on January 1, 2025, consistent with the effective date of the legislation (CO SOS Tracking No. 2024-00580). The permanent version of these rules were also adopted, and will presumably become effective on February 14, 2025 (CO SOS Tracking No. 2024-00575).

**Children's Resident Camps:**

The Executive Director permanently adopted amendments to the Children's Resident Camp rules to implement Colorado Senate Bill 24-071; and revisions resulting from a comprehensive rule review conducted pursuant to section 24-4-103.3, C.R.S. These rules will presumably become effective on February 14, 2025 (CO SOS Tracking No. 2024-00575).

**Special Activities:**

The Executive Director permanently adopted amendments to the Special Activities rules in result of a comprehensive rule review conducted pursuant to section 24-4-103.3, C.R.S. These rules will presumably become effective on February 14, 2025 (CO SOS Tracking No. 2024-00575).

**Colorado Universal Preschool Program (UPK):**

The Executive Director permanently adopted amendments to the Colorado Universal Preschool rules to establish the 2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) as the standard for determining poverty and low-income status of families applying for the program during the 2025-26 school year. Additional revisions introduced separate income eligibility charts for the current (2024-25) and upcoming (2025-26) school years, to clearly distinguish the applicable FPG used to assess eligibility for additional preschool hours. These rules will presumably become effective on February 14, 2025 (CO SOS Tracking No. 2024-00574).

## JANUARY RULE-RELATED MEETINGS/HEARINGS

1. Rules Advisory Council (RAC) Meeting ([ZOOM Link](#))
  - Date: Thursday, January 9, 2025
  - Time: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
  - Topic(s): Proposed permanent rules for the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) to implement Colorado House Bill 24-1223 and new requirements for the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF).
2. Public Rulemaking Hearing ([ZOOM Link](#))
  - Date: Thursday, January 23, 2025
  - Time: 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
  - Permanent Rulemaking:
    - Permanent adoption of the proposed Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) rules, to implement Colorado House Bill 24-1223 and new requirements for the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF).

## HOW TO ENGAGE IN THE RULEMAKING PROCESS

Attend a Meeting/Hearing: We encourage you to carefully review the proposed rules, and [Register to Testify!](#)


Submit Written Feedback: Please submit written comments regarding the proposed rules or rulemaking process to [CDEC\\_Rulemaking@state.co.us](mailto:CDEC_Rulemaking@state.co.us).

## HOW TO STAY INFORMED

Sign up to receive [Rulemaking Notifications](#) and review the [CDEC Rule Tracker](#) to monitor and track the progress of the Department's rulemaking proceedings.

---

 Administration for Children & Families

 Office of Head Start



**Office of Head Start**

---

**Building a Program-wide Culture of Wellness**



# Fostering the Mental Health of Head Start Staff

The [Head Start Program Performance Standards](#) require recipients to develop a program-wide culture of wellness — and mental health is a key component! Promoting the mental health of the adults who care for children and families helps them deliver high-quality services effectively. These materials support programs to empower staff as professionals and create a program-wide culture of wellness.

## Featured Resources

### [Promoting Organizational and Staff Wellness](#)

Watch this video to learn how to build a program-wide culture of wellness. It is part of the Office of Head Start's Safe Foundations, Healthy Futures Campaign.

### [Creating a Staff Wellness Action Plan](#)

A Staff Wellness Action Plan (SWAP) allows your program to be intentional about creating a workplace that values staff wellness, mental health, and physical health. This resource will help you develop your own SWAP.

### [Improving Staff Wellness and Job Satisfaction](#)

Caring for young children, especially those facing adversity, can be physically and emotionally demanding, leading to compassion fatigue. However, fostering compassion satisfaction — the joy and fulfillment from helping others — can protect against burnout. In this video, learn to recognize the signs of compassion fatigue and discover practical self-care strategies to boost resilience, wellness, and job satisfaction.

### [Supporting Professionals Who Support Families: The Parallel Process](#)

Did you know programs can support professionals in ways that mirror the supports professionals provide to parents? Explore this resource to learn more about the parallel process.

## Related Resources

Explore related HeadStart.gov resources to learn more.

- [Adult Recess: Self-regulation Through Play](#)

- [Cultivating Wellness: 8 Dimensions of Staff Well-being](#)

All HeadStart.gov pages are translated into Spanish. Select the Español button on the top right corner to see the Spanish translation.

Send your questions and comments to the Office of Head Start's Policy and Planning Division at [OHS\\_policy@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:OHS_policy@acf.hhs.gov).



**COLORADO**

**Department of Early Childhood**

## **We are accepting interest forms for the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) Family Voice Council.**

The CDEC Family Voice Council launched in 2021 and is a group of parents and guardians of young children birth through age eight from across Colorado that come together to provide input in the design and delivery of early childhood programs and services that meet the needs of children and families in Colorado.

If you know someone who would be interested in serving on the Family Voice Council please have them complete our online form (available in [English](#) or [Spanish](#)) or download and share our flyer (in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)).

Please use the [outreach materials](#) to help share the information with your network.

Please reach out to [amanda.culbertson@state.co.us](mailto:amanda.culbertson@state.co.us) with any questions. Thank you!

**CELEBRATING!**

**1 in 7 Children**

under the age of five in the USA  
receives Imagination Library books



Sign up  
here!

## Free Monthly Book Membership for Children Birth to Age 5

Reading starts at birth, and having a home library offers benefits that extend well beyond just reading. Research demonstrates that reading at home cultivates a love of books, prepares children for kindergarten, and enhances social and emotional intelligence.

The Imagination Library Colorado supports families by providing them with books at no cost every month. This initiative boosts childhood literacy rates, encourages a passion for reading, and promotes a culture of reading among families throughout Colorado.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: loved by families, validated by research.

Check out more Imagination Library Colorado Reading Tips below.



# PARENT READING TIPS

- Point at objects and name them (dog, cat, house)
- Talk back and forth with your baby
- Play games with them while you are reading

**AGE  
0-1**

- Smile and answer your child's questions
- Encourage them to point at objects and name them
- Have them help turn the pages

**AGE  
1-2**

- Ask them questions about the book
- Talk about the pictures and what the words mean
- Let them pick out the book they want to read
- Reward them and set goals for reading

**AGE  
2-3**

- Point out letters and numbers
- Look at pictures and make up stories about them
- Talk about the different characters
- Ask them their take on the story

**AGE  
3-4**

- Have your child tell the story
- Encourage writing and drawing
- Ask them the meaning of the story
- Have a conversation about what the words mean

**AGE  
4-5**

## Cold Weather Safety:

Keeping Children Safe, Healthy, and Warm

Winter brings plenty of opportunities for fun, but it also presents unique challenges in keeping children safe and healthy. Our latest article provides essential tips to ensure your little ones stay warm and protected during the colder months.

Learn about practical ways to dress for the weather, protect sensitive skin, and recognize warning signs of cold-related issues. For these tips and more, click on the button below. Let's make this winter a safe and enjoyable season for all!

**Cold Weather Safety  
Tips**

### Bundle up!

- Children are at greater risk for frostbite than adults. The best way to prevent frostbite is to make sure children dress warmly and don't spend too much time outside in extreme weather.
- Dress children in layers of warm clothing. If the top layer gets wet, they will still have a dry layer underneath.
- Tuck scarves inside coats and jackets to prevent them from becoming strangulation hazards.
- Car seats and winter coats don't mix. Bulky coats can compress in a crash and create a loose car seat harness. Instead, lay the jacket or a blanket over children once you've safely strapped them into their car seat.



---

## Professional Development

### PDIS A Fond Farewell: Denise Benavides Says Goodbye to the Council

Note From Denise Benavides- PD Manager

"I wanted to let everyone know that my last day with the council will be January 30th, 2025, as I have accepted a new position outside of the council. I feel incredibly blessed to have worked here and to have met and collaborated with so many outstanding individuals across our valley. While I will miss helping and supporting our great educators, rest assured that the council will continue to support you. Please call our main office at 719-937-4010, and you will be directed to someone who can assist."

## PDIS Community & Family Support

To promote ongoing learning and development, we highly recommend the course CCCAP Provider Basics, which is available on the Colorado Shines Professional Development Information System ([PDIS](#)) in Spanish and English!

What's in it for you?

- This course is intended for child care providers, teachers and professionals who work with or who would like to work



with CCCAP. This course is also helpful for professionals who support CCCAP and partner with families.

- This one-hour, self-paced course will answer your questions about being a CCCAP provider and your responsibilities, and help you get started.
- The CCCAP Provider Basics course counts towards Colorado Shines Level 2 and ongoing professional development hours for Licensing, Universal Preschool, and the Early Childhood Professional Credential (ECPC).

The statewide CCCAP program provides low-income child care assistance to qualified families and child care programs. Since this course is on the PDIS, early childhood professionals can take it to support their professional development at any time!

Programa de asistencia para el cuidado infantil de Colorado (CCCAP) Curso en línea sobre el Sistema de Información de Desarrollo Profesional Colorado Shines (PDIS)

Para promover el aprendizaje y el desarrollo continuo, recomendamos encarecidamente el curso Conceptos básicos para proveedores del Programa de asistencia de cuidado infantil de Colorado (CCCAP), que está disponible en el [PDIS](#) en español e inglés.

¿Qué gana usted con esto?

- Este curso está destinado a proveedores de cuidado infantil, maestros y profesionales que trabajan o desean trabajar con CCCAP. Este curso también es útil para profesionales que apoyan el CCCAP y colaboran con familias.
- Este curso de una hora a su propio ritmo, responderá sus preguntas sobre cómo ser un proveedor de CCCAP y sus responsabilidades, y lo ayudará a comenzar.
- El curso Conceptos básicos para proveedores del Programa de asistencia de cuidado infantil de Colorado (CCCAP) cuenta para el Nivel 2 de Colorado Shines y para las horas de desarrollo profesional continuo para Licencias, el Programa Universal de Educación Preescolar y el Credencial profesional de educación infantil temprana (ECPC).
- El programa estatal del CCCAP ofrece asistencia para el cuidado infantil a familias y programas de cuidado infantil



de bajos ingresos que cumplan con los requisitos.

Dado que este curso está en el PDIS, los profesionales de la primera infancia pueden tomarlo en cualquier momento para apoyar su desarrollo profesional.

---

## Don't Miss Out!

You haven't missed your chance to take [NAEYC's ECE Workforce Survey!](#) We understand the critical role you play in shaping the future of our nation's children, and we want to hear from you because it's YOUR expertise and lived experience that drives our work. That's why we've decided to extend the survey window to give you another opportunity to share your story.

By completing and sharing this new survey, you can help ensure that we get updated, state-based, and localized data and stories about the realities of what is happening across our sector. We can then collectively share those findings with advocates like you, policymakers, the press, and the public.

If you haven't already done so, please consider taking 15 minutes to complete NAEYC's newest survey of the ECE field before it closes on **January 26**.

[To say thank you for your participation in the survey, you'll have the chance to be entered into a raffle for a \\$100 gift card.](#)

Thank you for contributing to this important effort,

NAEYC

## ¡No te lo pierdas!

¡No has perdido la oportunidad de realizar la [encuesta de campo](#)! Entendemos el papel fundamental que usted desempeña en la configuración del futuro de los niños de nuestra nación y queremos saber de usted porque es SU experiencia y experiencia vivida lo que impulsa nuestro trabajo.

Es por eso que decidimos ampliar la ventana de la encuesta para brindarle otra oportunidad de compartir su historia.

Al completar y divulgar esta nueva encuesta, puede ayudar a garantizar que podamos obtener historias y datos actualizados, localizados y por estado sobre las realidades de lo que está sucediendo en todo nuestro sector. Luego podemos compartir colectivamente esos hallazgos con defensores como usted, los legisladores, la prensa y el público.

Si aún no lo ha hecho, considere la posibilidad de dedicar 15 minutos a completar la encuesta más reciente de NAEYC sobre el campo de la educación de la primera infancia antes de que cierre el 26 de enero.

Para agradecerle su participación en la encuesta, tendrá la posibilidad de participar en un sorteo de una tarjeta regalo de \$100i

Gracias por contribuir con este importante esfuerzo,

NAEYC

Take the Survey in English

Tome la encuesta en  
español

---

## Free Webinars

WEDNESDAY AT 2PM ET

[From Burnout to Well-Being for ECE Leaders and Their Programs, by Beth Cannon](#)

January 22, 2025

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Leading Nature-based Teaching: How you can prepare for the transition, by Dr. Rachel A. Larimore](#)

January 29, 2025

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Leading with Trust: How to Let Go of Micromanaging and Foster Growth in Your Team, by Christina Fecio](#)

February 5, 2025

**REGISTER NOW**

[Strategies that Build Connection and Empathy with Children Using The Power of Perspective-Taking, by Jacky Howell, MA](#)

February 6, 2025

**REGISTER NOW**

[Thriving Temporal Environments for Young Children and Educators: Unlocking the Right P.I.T.C.H., by Dr. Tamar Andrews](#)

February 12, 2025

**REGISTER NOW**

[High-Quality ECE Practices in Low-Resource Settings: Lessons for all, by Junlei Li, Ph.D.](#)

February 19, 2025

**REGISTER NOW**

[Onboarding Newly Enrolled Families: A Key to Family Engagement, Satisfaction, and Retention, by Evelyn Knight](#)

February 26, 2025

**REGISTER NOW**

[Expanding Your Preschool Program: New Locations, New Opportunities](#)

March 5, 2025

**REGISTER NOW**

[Beyond Behavior Management: Coaching for Lasting Change and Emotional Growth in ECE, by Prerna Richards](#)

March 6, 2025

**REGISTER NOW**

[Listening In: Lessons from Infants and Caregivers in Early Relational Health, by Dr. Claudia M. Gold](#)

March 12, 2025

**REGISTER NOW**

[Your Role in Cultivating Psychological Safety in Early Care and Education Programs, by Jill M. Bella, Ed.D.](#)

March 13, 2025

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Frustrating Temperament Traits: Strengths-Based Approaches To Ensure Young Children Thrive](#), by Raelene Ostberg, M.Ed.

March 19, 2025

[REGISTER NOW](#)

>>>NEW<<<

[Child-Led Play Leads to Early Literacy](#), by Stacy Benge, M.S.

March 26, 2025

[REGISTER NOW](#)

>>>NEW<<<

[Let's Play! Making and Tinkering with Loose Parts](#), by Beth VanMeeteren, ED.D. and Dr. Allison Barness

April 2, 2025

[REGISTER NOW](#)

>>>NEW<<<

[A Strengths-Based Approach to Transforming Your Program Classroom by Classroom](#), by Ellen Drolette

April 9, 2025

[REGISTER NOW](#)

---

## Breathe Easy: Free Trainings to Create Smoke-Free Environments for Kids!

Here is a link to the [February 2025 TAP Upcoming Live Virtual and In-Person Training Events](#) announcement.

**ONE Step Colorado:** The American Lung Association of Colorado invites early childhood programs to arrange for a two-hour ONE Step Colorado health-focused in-person or virtual training session. The session centers on the health, behavioral, and cognitive effects of secondhand/thirdhand/marijuana smoke exposure on young children, how to limit that exposure, and basic information about asthma and its management. **Breakfast, lunch, or dinner may be provided along with free resources.** Participants need to complete the ONE Step Activity Tracker to earn three ongoing professional development hours.

To schedule a free training or for more information, contact Tracey Maruyama [tracey.maruyama@lung.org](mailto:tracey.maruyama@lung.org) or (303)847-0279.

## **An Introduction to Child Development -**

### **Assuring Better Child Health and Development (ABCD)**

2-night training 6:00pm - 7:30pm (3 hours social-emotional)

Must attend both nights to earn clock hours and a certificate.

*Training meets licensing requirements for a one hour training on child development.*

Presented in English with Zoom interpretation setting enabled.

To register for this **virtual session**, login to [Colorado Shines PDIS](#), hover over the Learning tab then select Course Calendar from the drop-down menu. Navigate to the date then click on the training title and select Request in the session details panel. Or search by the training title on your PDIS Learner Home page.

Contact Nikki Fitch ([nikki@coloradoabcd.org](mailto:nikki@coloradoabcd.org)) with any questions.

**(FREE) February 26 and 27 or March 19 and 20**

**Introducción al desarrollo infantil - Assuring Better Child Health and Development (ABCD)** Capacitación de 2 noches de 18.00 - 19.30 h. (3 horas socioemocional) Debe asistir ambas noches para obtener horas de reloj y un certificado. La capacitación cumple con los requisitos de licencia para una capacitación de una hora sobre desarrollo infantil. Presentado en inglés con la configuración de interpretación de Zoom habilitada. Para registrarse para esta **sesión virtual**, inicie sesión en Colorado Shines PDIS, coloque el cursor sobre la pestaña Aprendizaje (Learning) y luego seleccione Calendario del curso (Course Calendar) en el menú desplegable. Navegue hasta la fecha, luego haga clic en el título de la capacitación y seleccione Solicitar (Request) en el panel de detalles de la sesión. O busque por el título de la capacitación en la página de inicio de PDIS Learner. Comuníquese con Nikki Fitch ([nikki@coloradoabcd.org](mailto:nikki@coloradoabcd.org)) si tiene alguna pregunta.

## Project Include: Empowering Inclusive Learning for Every Child

### What is Project Include?

Project Include is a program that helps licensed Colorado family child care homes, child care centers, and preschools create more inclusive learning environments. It offers training, support, and equipment to make sure all children, including those with delays and disabilities, feel welcome and supported.

Licensed child care programs can borrow Inclusion Kits from the Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley for up to six weeks. These kits are designed to help educators include children with different needs in their classrooms.

There are five types of kits available:

- Communication & Literacy
- Vision & Hearing
- Fine & Gross Motor Skills
- Behavior & Cognition
- Infant Development

Project Include makes it easier to support every child's growth and learning by providing the tools and resources needed for success.

---

## Future Child Care Worker Tax Credit

Do you care for children age 5 and under who are not your own? Coming in spring 2026 (2025 tax year), Colorado child care workers, including Family, Friend, and Neighbor care (FFN) providers may be eligible for the **\$1200 refundable Care Worker Tax Credit**.

[Learn more here](#) about the simple steps you will need to take in 2025 to qualify for the credit.

---



## Do you have something you would like to share in our newsletter?

If individuals and organizations in the community want to share relevant information through this email list, ECCSLV will do their best to include the information in the next available e-newsletter.

ECCSLV considers requests based on relevance, capacity, and timeliness. We do not guarantee that all information will be shared.

### Stay connected with us!

**Subscribe to our  
newsletter!**

---

**Click on the social media links below to follow us on all platforms!**

We post regularly to our social media accounts regarding events and important last minute information that is usually not included in our bi-weekly newsletters.

**Be sure you are subscribed so you don't miss out!**



Early Childhood Council | 401 Santa Fe Avenue | Alamosa, CO 81101 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!