



**June 2025**

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## **San Luis Valley Educators Complete Pyramid Model Training!**

Fourteen dedicated early childhood professionals from the San Luis Valley have completed a 50 hour Colorado Pyramid Model Training, led by facilitator Veronica Cisneros.

The training focused on strategies to support young children's social, emotional, and behavioral development, ending with a joyful potluck celebration.



## Colorado Pyramid Model Training

Facilitator: Veronica Cisneros

Congratulations to the 1<sup>st</sup> San Luis Valley cohort who took the 50-hour Colorado Pyramid Model Training. This training equips early childhood professionals with evidence-based strategies to support young children's social, emotional, and behavior development. Through interactive, engaging activities, participants build on their knowledge and learning practical techniques to create nurturing, inclusive environments.

It has been such an honor training these 14 incredible educators as they sat through 50 hours of training to increase their knowledge around social emotional development and challenging behaviors. We ended our training with a potluck to celebrate our successes!

I'm so proud of you all!!

### Centennial

Felizia Rael

Dominique Rodriquez

Tammy Rodriguez

Teresa Valdez

Ashley Vice

### Center Head Start

Ashley Casados

Bertha Gutierrez

Jolene Lopez

Valerie Martinez

### Creede

Shelby Haugh

Meghan Kern

### Tiny Hand

Linda Altamirano

Ana Gonzalez

Darlene Jimenez

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## Cozy Corners Are Coming to Classrooms and Homes!

Thanks to a generous grant from the El Pomar Foundation, the Early Childhood Council is rolling out "Cozy Corners" for 15 classrooms and their families across the San Luis Valley.

These calming spaces help young children learn to manage big emotions and build lifelong coping skills through self regulation and adult guided support. Materials, training, and ongoing assistance are being delivered to targeted sites including South Conejos, Centennial, Sierra Grande, Children's Garden and Creede Early Learning Center!



☐ Summer in the SLV: Events and resources you won't want to miss!



## Alamosa Public Library Animals in the Park

Come see and visit with a variety of furry and feathered friends in Cole Park!

Date: June 18

Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Alamosa Public Library's golden doodle friend Lucy, of Lucy's Listening, will be in attendance. She is excited to meet potential new readers! Part of our Family Fun on Wednesdays event series in June and July.

Register your reader for summer reading online [here](#) or in person at the Library.

Alamosa Public Library is here to keep you reading all summer with our annual **Summer Reading Program**! It's fun, it's free and it's super easy to participate. More details [here](#).

Questions? Call the Library at [719-589-6592](tel:719-589-6592)

## Alamosa Public Library Storytime!

APL welcomes you to in-person Storytime sessions in our Story



Room!

☐ Storytime & Kids Club at Alamosa Public Library!

Join Youth Services Librarian Holly Van Hoy every Friday for fun-filled sessions designed to support early literacy and creativity!

☐ Fridays @ 10:00 AM – Storytime

Perfect for children of all ages and their caregivers, this 30–40 minute session includes stories, songs, and silliness that promote early learning.

☐ Fridays @ 1:30 PM – Kids Club

Tailored for ages 5–10, this 45-minute session features engaging stories, music, activities, games, and crafts—no registration required!

Prefer to join from home?

Check out Storytime Online, a virtual Storytime experience created by the library staff—fun and educational for the whole family!

Click [here](#) to be directed to Alamosa Public Library's website to access the online Storytime Playlist.

Click [here](#) for a full list of events you can add to your calendar!

## **FREE Summer Kids Movies at Ski-Hi 6!**

Beat the heat with a cool movie adventure! Every Wednesday, enjoy a family friendly film free for all ages at Ski-Hi 6 in Alamosa!

☐ Upcoming Showtimes (All at 9:00am, 11:20am, & 1:40pm):

- June 5 – Storks
- June 11 – The Bad Guys
- June 18 – The Wild Robot
- June 25 – Migration

**\*\*Seating is limited to theater capacity and tickets are first come, first served. Come early and enjoy a summer of stories, laughs, and big-screen fun!\*\***

## SLV Summer Circus Camp

### Date & Location

Tue, 24 Jun, 2025 at 09:00 am - Thu, 26 Jun, 2025 at 12:00 pm (MDT)

### SLV Gymnastics

6512 Cramer Rd, CO 81101-9731, Colorado, Alamosa, United States

### About the event

SLV Summer Camp \$ 150

Summer Circus Camp in Alamosa will be all the rage as we introduce our first of many SLV circus camps! Join in the fun for ages 4-13 years old. This three day camp will introduce your kids to stilts, unicycle, plate spinning, juggling, aerial, rolling globe, tight wire, and more!

Don't forgot to pack a snack, bring a water bottle, and wear gym shoes!

### Ticket Info:

Tickets for SLV Summer Circus Camp can be booked [here](#).

- For more information or questions, please contact Laura Hart at [laurasalidacircus@gmail.com](mailto:laurasalidacircus@gmail.com) or [719-398-3060](tel:719-398-3060)

This is not an all inclusive list, you can access more details at the Visit Alamosa Events site [here](#).

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## Give Students a Head Start This Summer!

Specialized Therapy Camp Helps Preschoolers Build Skills for School Readiness

Do you know a preschooler who could benefit from extra support before starting kindergarten? The Independent Explorers Summer Camp, led by Dr. Pence at Pence Pediatrics and supported by SLV BOCES therapists, is offering a unique opportunity this summer designed specifically for children ages 3–5 with behavioral challenges or developmental delays.

This intensive, transdisciplinary therapy program combines expertise in Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis), and Early Childhood Special Education to help young learners strengthen their functional skills and confidence before entering a traditional classroom environment.

**Who It's For:**

Preschoolers aged 3–5 showing signs of developmental delays or behavioral challenges.

**Camp Details:**

- Runs for 4 weeks in June or July
- 4 days per week, 4 hours per day
- Incentives for families who complete the program
- Follow-up evaluations in December 2025 and June 2026

**Location:**

Children's Specialty Clinic SLV  
10 Rupert Street, Monte Vista, CO 81144  
Phone: 303-276-3995

#### How to Refer a Child:

Educators and staff are encouraged to refer children who could benefit. Please complete the attached referral form and, where possible, include supporting documentation (such as MCHAT, school-based, or developmental evaluations).

Send referrals to: [info@spiritaba.com](mailto:info@spiritaba.com)

This is a fantastic opportunity to support our youngest learners on their developmental journey and set them up for long-term success

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## Coaching

"Here's food for thought from the insightful article by Tamar Jacobson's, [Self Compassion](#)

"Self-compassion helps me become more aware of why I do what I do authentically and intentionally. If I find myself cautioning children who try to do something challenging, it probably has something to do with how I was not trusted to do things when I was a child. Therefore, I become more aware of how or why I blurt out things to children, and I am able to choose responses that are more helpful or appropriate for children's development."

#### **Time to Reflect!**

How do you respond with compassion when you notice a child doing something challenging?

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## Exciting News: Tiger Early Learning Center Now Enrolling for Fall 2025!

The Upper Rio Grande School District is thrilled to announce the upcoming opening of the Tiger Early Learning Center, scheduled for September 2025. This new facility will serve toddlers between the ages of 12 to 36 months, providing a nurturing, play-based environment that supports early childhood development.

Enrollment is now open and will continue until all spots are filled. Families are encouraged to act quickly to secure a place for their little one. Applications can be picked up directly at Del Norte Elementary School.

For more information, please contact Amy Duda at 719-657-4050 ext. 2001 or via email at [aduda@urtigers.co](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co).

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## FREE CHILD CARE SERVICES IMMEDIATE OPENINGS!!

Early Head Start has free childcare spots open now in several locations for qualifying families.  
Contact Ramona or Erica at 719-937-4010 for more information.

Spots are limited—apply today:

Click the link below to complete the interest form.

Click [Here](#) for interest form.

# 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



## Still Enrolling for UPK 2025-2026!

Calling all preschool families! The Universal Preschool (UPK) Program has *many openings* available across the San Luis Valley for the 2025-2026 school year and we want YOU to be part of the fun!

Whether you're looking for part day, half day, or full day options, and locations in every community, UPK helps your little learner grow, explore, and thrive in a safe and nurturing environment, all while saving qualifying families!

Open to all children who will be 4 years old prior to their school districts cut off date

Multiple providers, flexible schedules, and caring educators

Quick and easy enrollment at <https://upk.colorado.gov/>  
Spots are filling up fast, but there's still time to secure your child's place. Let's get your preschooler ready for success! Big dreams start with small steps!

Questions? Reach out to us today, we're here to help!

[Lcoresource@eccslv.org](mailto:Lcoresource@eccslv.org)  
[719-214-6202](tel:719-214-6202)

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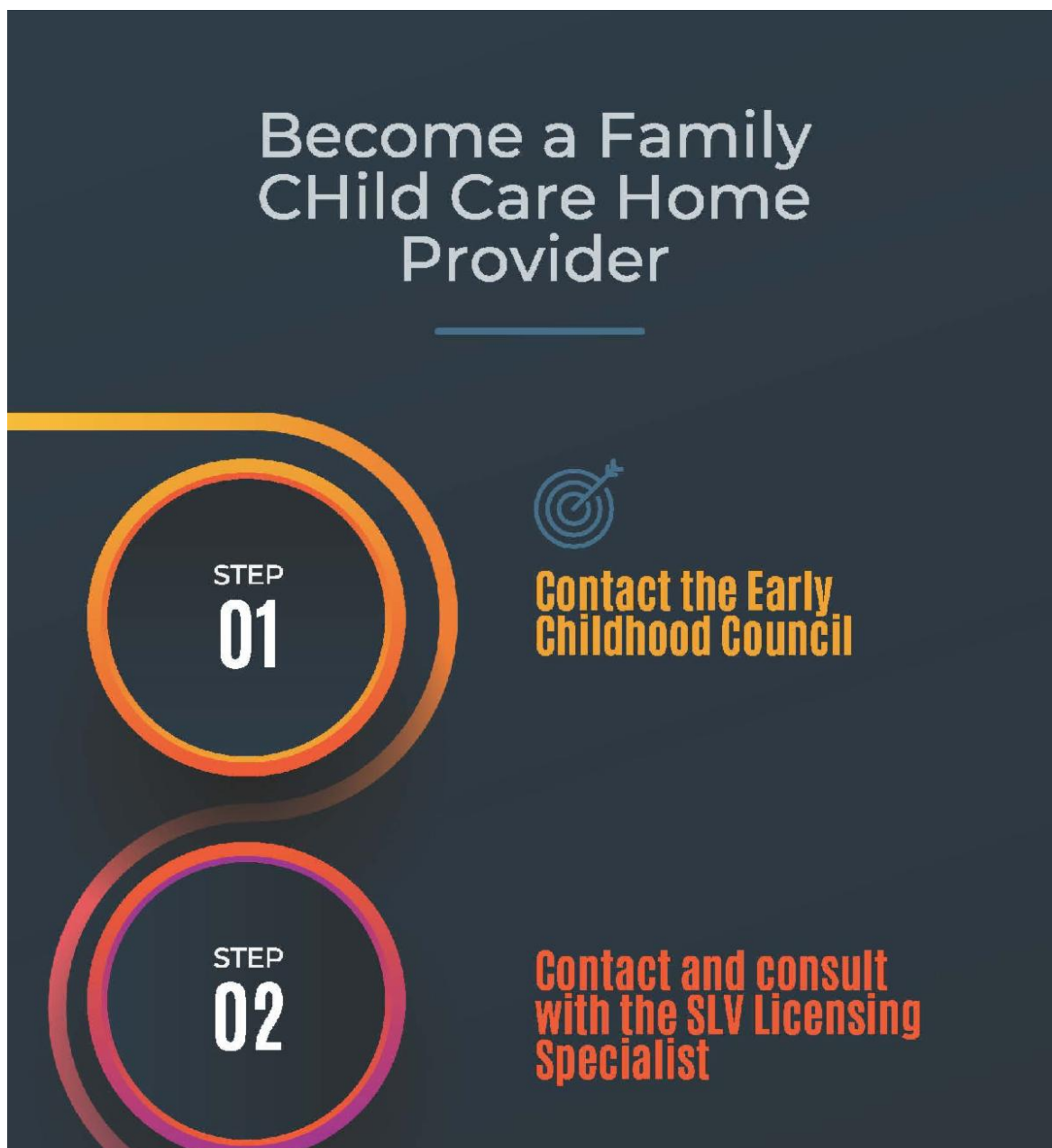
## Interested in Becoming a Family Child Care Home

## Provider?

This easy-to-follow infographic outlines the five essential steps to becoming a licensed Family Child Care Home Provider in the San Luis Valley:

1. Contact the Early Childhood Council to begin your journey.
2. Consult with the SLV Licensing Specialist for guidance and next steps.
3. Obtain and submit your licensing application after completion.
4. Complete all required training to meet licensing standards.
5. Connect with the County Department of Human Services to learn about the Child Care Assistance Program and available support.

For more information, email Amanda at [ecresource@eccslv.org](mailto:ecresource@eccslv.org).



STEP  
**03**

**Obtain a licensing  
application,  
complete, and submit  
application**

STEP  
**04**

**Complete training  
requirements**



STEP  
**05**

**Contact the County  
Department of Human  
Services- Child Care  
Assistance Program**

For more information  
email

**ECRESOURCE@ECCSLV.ORG**

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**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.



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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.

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

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