



July 2025

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## Positive Solutions for Families

Love Kids? Become a Trusted Child Care Hero!

Do you already help care for a grandchild, niece, neighbor, or family friend? You might already be what we call an FFN provider – that's Family, Friend, and Neighbor care – and you're doing one of the most important jobs in our community!

We're now offering a **FREE class starting July 8** to help you become an official FFN provider — and spots are limited!

**REGISTER BY JULY 3RD** to take advantage of this opportunity before our grant ends in September.

- Care for up to 4 children in your home
- No license required
- Get support, training, and resources — **FREE**

Make a difference for families who already trust you. More than half of Colorado families rely on FFN care — join this powerful community of caregivers today!

Ready to sign up or want more info?

Message Veronica Cisneros at [sesbi@eccslv.org](mailto:sesbi@eccslv.org) or click the [here](#) to get started now!

Click [here](#) to view the full size flyer.



Help build a strong foundation for your child's social and emotional skills with this engaging and informative training. Positive Solutions for Families offers practical strategies to promote your child's emotional well-being and success at home and school.

***\*This training is provided at no cost to participants.***

**What You'll Gain:**

- Learn how to build children's social and emotional skills
- Understand challenging behaviors and their causes
- Use positive approaches to teach appropriate behavior

These sessions provide general information on key strategies that can be used with all children. Please note they are not designed to offer parents specific advice for their child's individual needs.

**Details:** This training is comprised of 7 engaging sessions designed to provide practical tools and strategies for parents and caregivers.

Session	Date	Time
Session 1- Making the Connection	July 8 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-8:00
Session 2- Keeping it Positive	July 15 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-8:00
Session 3- Behavior Has Meaning	July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6:00-8:00
Session 4- The Power of Routines	July 29 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-8:00
Session 5- Teach Me What to Do!	August 5 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-8:00
Session 6- Responding with Purpose	August 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-8:00
Session 7- Putting It All Together With A Plan	August 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:00-8:00

**RESERVE Your Spot Today!**

**Registration Link:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLStdP1z7eBadNQrMYD\\_bHoO3tFMXpqw7ALQZ8bqoeCqfWsQ/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=105397596876917318826](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLStdP1z7eBadNQrMYD_bHoO3tFMXpqw7ALQZ8bqoeCqfWsQ/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=105397596876917318826)

**Additional Information:** Veronica Cisneros [sesbi@eccslv.org](mailto:sesbi@eccslv.org) (719)588-0752

All FFN Providers who attend and fully engage in all 7 sessions will receive a [Tucker Turtle at Home Kit](#) at no cost! This kit includes a Tucker Turtle Scripted Story, puppet, and strategy cards that can help you implement your new learning right away.

HEALTHY child  
care COLORADO



*This no-cost training is made possible by time-limited federal stimulus funding awarded to Colorado. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official view of Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition or Colorado Department of Early Childhood.*

## Free Dental Clinic – October 17–18 in Loveland

COMOM (Colorado Mission of Mercy) is hosting free dental care at The Ranch in Loveland. This event is for anyone and there are no sign-up rules or costs—just show up. It's first come, first served. You can sign up early on Thursday, October 16 at 4pm. People who need dentures may also get help. See the flyer for more info. They are also looking for volunteers who speak English and Spanish!

# Free Dental Care!



**2025 Loveland COMOM**  
**Friday, October 17 – Saturday, October 18**  
**The Ranch**  
**5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO 80538**

## Who should come?

- Anyone in need of dental care

## What is provided?

Fillings  
Extractions  
Root canal treatments  
Cleanings  
Children's dentistry

On a limited basis  
Crowns  
Flippers  
Dentures (Friday only)

## When to come?

- Early! Can line up night before clinic
- Warm inside shelter
- Clinic doors open at 6:00 am
- Doors remain open until clinic is full
- Clinic becomes full early in day
- No appointments
- First come – first served

## What to bring?

- Medication list
- Books, magazines, puzzles to help pass the time
- Snacks and water



## More information?

[www.COMOM.org](http://www.COMOM.org)

720.648.0919

04-19-2025

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- **Optional** → Thursday, doors will open at 4:00 pm to enable you to be seen by a dentist – before the clinic – to identify your dental treatment plan. (You will then return on either Friday or Saturday for the planned treatment.)
- Friday and Saturday, doors open at 6 am and will remain open until the clinic is full.
- Clinic becomes full early in the day.
- A dentist will help you decide your most important dental needs.
- You will first receive treatment for your primary need.
- If dentists and dental hygienists are available, you may be able to receive treatment for another dental need.
- Dental treatment will be provided on a first-come, first served basis.
- You will be treated when it's your turn, and the **wait may be long**.
- As dentists and dental hygienists become available, you will be taken to clinic area for treatment.
- During the dental clinic, you will be shown how to care for your teeth.
- You will be asked to participate in an exit interview about your experience.

## DENTAL TREATMENTS PROVIDED

Fillings	Due to preparation time, a limited number of:
Extractions	Crowns
Root canal treatment (nonmolars)	Flippers
Cleanings	Dentures (Friday only)
Children's dentistry	

## DENTAL TREATMENTS **NOT** PROVIDED

Extraction of wisdom teeth	Extractions for patients who are taking:
Root canal treatment of molars	Blood thinner medications
Dental implants	Osteoporosis medications

## PATIENTS WITH DIABETES OR HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

- Blood pressure testing will be performed on all patients, and blood glucose testing will be performed on patients who have a history of diabetes.
- Patients with blood pressure or glucose levels that are too high cannot be treated at COMOM.

## CHILDREN AND INFANTS

- Children and infants are welcomed at COMOM to receive dental care.
- If parent/guardian is to receive treatment, an adult must be present to be responsible for the children brought to the clinic.

04-19-2025

## Free Classes for Grandparents raising children!

If you are a grandparent raising children or know someone who is, this program can provide tools and support you need to succeed!





**SLV AREA EXTENSION & SLV BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
PRESENT  
GRANDPARENTS AS CAREGIVERS  
A FREE 6 WEEK COURSE**

If you are a grandparent raising your grandchild or know someone who is, this program can provide the tools and support you need to succeed.



↓ Health Education for  
You and Your  
Grandchildren

**Where:**

Alamosa Behavioral Health  
8745 County Rd 9 S Suite B,  
Alamosa, CO

↑ Helping Your  
Grandchildren Succeed

**Dates:**

July 17-August 21, 2025  
Once a week--EVERY  
Thursday for 6 weeks.

↑ Parenting Skills  
Refresh

**Time:**

4:30 - 7:00 pm

**Questions ?**

Carol Gurule  
970.491.5699 or  
carol.gurule@colostate.edu



DINNER AND CHILDCARE PROVIDED FREE AT  
ZERO COST TO PARTICIPANTS!



**SAN LUIS VALLEY AREA**  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

CSU SLV AREA EXTENSION IS  
An equal access and equal opportunity University:

<https://col.st/11Qs3>

## Coaching

Great educators do more than teach; another characteristic of early childhood educators is curiosity.

### Curiosity: Seeing Children with Wonder

Curiosity fuels connection and discovery. It's a willingness to approach children — not with assumption or certainty — but with a sense of wonder.

Curious educators listen deeply, ask questions, and explore alongside children.

They see each child as unique and capable, resisting the urge to impose preconceived ideas.

As poet Mary Oliver famously wrote, curiosity follows three simple steps:

1. Pay attention.
2. Be astonished.
3. Tell about it.

## Coaching

"My contention is, first, that we should want more from our educational efforts than adequate academic achievement and, second, that we will not achieve even that meager success unless our children believe that they themselves are cared for and learn to care for others."– *Nel Noddings*

"The first indication of a high-quality program is the relationship between child and adult."

Carol Garboden Murray's acclaimed book, [\*Illuminating Care: The Pedagogy of Care in Early Childhood Communities\*](#) "calls on us to have the courage to challenge the notion that care is subordinate to education."

Garboden Murray writes, *"Imagine the difference between the early childhood teacher who treats care as drudgery – and the one who treats care as education and honors care as an intellectual exchange."*

She explains that daily care rituals (eating together, resting, diapering, dressing...) are often mistakenly devalued instead of being honored.

*"Care is the making of humans.*

*Care is the first lesson of love, connection and dependency.*

*Care rituals demonstrate quintessential whole person learning –*

*the integration of mind, body, heart and soul."*

*"We are first teachers, and caring is central to our pedagogy and practice."*

Who do you care for? What is your care story?

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## Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler Care (EQIT)

Great News!

The Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley EQIT Team is pleased to announce the upcoming EQIT Fall 2025 Course.

The course will be held virtually and a sneak peek at the schedule is available here.

Registration will be available through the Professional Development Information System (PDIS) beginning **July 1, 2025**.

Click [here](#) for to view the fall schedule.

Click [here](#) for more information.

If you have questions or need more information please contact Tina Esquibel at [719-937-4010](tel:719-937-4010) or [itquality@eccslv.org](mailto:itquality@eccslv.org)

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The Upper Rio Grande School District's

# TIGER EARLY LEARNING CENTER

We are enrolling in our toddler room which will open September 2025!

- ✓ Child must be 12 months to 36 months
- ✓ Enrollment until spots are filled.
- ✓ Pick up an application in the Del Norte Elementary School.

**More information :**  
Amy Duda - 719-657-4050  
ext. 2001 or [aduda@urtigers.co](mailto:aduda@urtigers.co)

The flyer features a sun icon, a stack of colorful blocks, and two circular images: one showing hands playing with alphabet blocks and another showing two children playing with toys.

## 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](tel: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](tel: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



## Enrolling for UPK 2025-2026!

Starting to think about Preschool in the fall? Not sure how to go about registering for UPK ? follow the link below and check

this out!

Quick and easy enrollment at <https://upk.colorado.gov/>

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)

## HOW DO I ENROLL FOR UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL?

**UPDATE**

**Families looking to continue care with a known provider** can pre-register during the pre-registration window a child who is currently enrolled, who has a sibling currently enrolled, or who has a parent or guardian currently employed with a Universal Preschool Provider. Families can register at [upk.colorado.gov](https://upk.colorado.gov), select their current provider as their first choice, or work with their provider for a direct link. The pre-registration window will match families to their current provider as the **first choice in their application** if they meet the pre-registration eligibility criteria AND they must answer **at least one of the continuity of care questions** in their family application.

**Families looking for a new preschool provider** can visit [upk.colorado.gov](https://upk.colorado.gov) to browse high-quality, licensed providers, see if they qualify for additional hours, and register to be matched with one of their top 10 providers of choice during the matching rounds of enrollment.

**Families who have yet to register to Colorado Universal Preschool** will be able to work directly with a Universal Preschool Provider to enroll during the direct enrollment period, through the end of the school year, as space allows.

**Families with a child eligible for special education with an Individualized Education Program (IEP)** can register for IEP Direct Placement to align Universal Preschool with their child's IEP through [upk.colorado.gov](https://upk.colorado.gov).

**Families who need to fill out a paper application** can contact their LCO for support. Visit the [bit.ly/FindMyLCO](https://bit.ly/FindMyLCO) of our website to contact your LCO.

 [upk.colorado.gov](https://upk.colorado.gov)



## Early Intervention Colorado

Is a program that provides supports and services to families with children birth through three years old who have developmental needs. Anyone can refer a family, no need for a doctor's referral. Early Intervention gives parents the tools and support they need to help their child thrive. Early Intervention services are free to families as there are no income requirements that need to be met.

Getting an evaluation through Early Intervention Colorado is easy. Early Intervention Colorado evaluation gives families great information on where their child's strengths are and where they may need support in their development.

For more information, please click [here](#) or call [1-800-777-4041](tel:1-800-777-4041).

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## Rural COMTSS Summit – July 31 & August 1 at Adams State University

Educators and community partners are invited to the Rural Colorado Multi-Tiered System of Supports (COMTSS) Summit—a free 2-day event focused on supporting rural schools and communities. The summit includes engaging sessions, keynote speakers, and hands-on strategies around reading, behavior, mental health, absenteeism, and more. Lunch and CEUs are provided, and graduate credit is available.

Two breakout sessions are planned by our own staff:

- From Chaos to Calm: Building Social-Emotional Foundations in Rural Early Childhood Settings
- Light Up Your Classroom with an SEL Spark: Embedding Mental Health into MTSS from the Start

Register by July 15 using the link in the flyer!



# RURAL COLORADO MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORTS SUMMIT

Seize this opportunity to build on the work you're already doing—shape what's next, create lasting change, and help drive meaningful progress that uplifts our rural communities. Dive into engaging workshops and interactive skill-building sessions led by district, regional, community, and state partners.

Explore key topics including:

- Leadership Strategies for Rural Success
- Fostering Positive School Culture and Climate
- Building Strong Family, School, and Community Partnerships Across the Tiers of Support
- Delivering High-Quality Instruction Across a Layered Continuum of Support

## When:

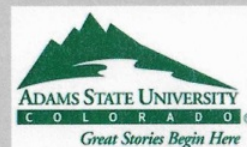
- July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
- August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

## Where:

Adams State University, McDaniel Hall  
Alamosa, Colorado

*Continuing Education Credit and  
Graduate Credit Offered  
Lunch Provided!*

Register here  
with SCHED



Check out these educational opportunities!



## Grow Your Early Childhood Career with Two Courses at CU Denver

### Fall 2025 Semester Place-Based Courses that Apply:

**ECED 2000:** Introduction to Early  
Childhood (also known as ECE 101)

**ECED 4202:** Child Guidance  
(also known as ECE 103)

6 credit  
hours  
combined

Limited class spaces—enrolling until full.

Tuition rate: \$403 per credit hour plus  
\$14 per credit hour in fees.

Completion of the CDA (ECED 2000)  
and Pyramid Plus (ECED 4202) PD  
can be converted to credits at a rate  
of \$375/course.

### Details:

Courses take place virtually on Zoom on Tuesdays from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

16-week format from August 18 - December 9, 2025

Designed for ECE professionals wishing to become EC Teacher qualified

### Learn more by attending a required online information session on one of these dates:

Tuesday, June 10, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 8th, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

### RSVP for an information session:

[https://application.admissions.ucdenver.edu/  
portal/SEHDECECPE](https://application.admissions.ucdenver.edu/portal/SEHDECECPE)

Watch your email for a Zoom meeting link after you submit your RSVP.

### Questions?

Email Sara Van Dyke, program manager, at [sara.vandyke@ucdenver.edu](mailto:sara.vandyke@ucdenver.edu)

## 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

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