



Evaluation Report

July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

Vision: Our communities thrive.

Mission Statement: We will improve the quality of life for young children, prenatal-age 8, and their families in the Triad counties by utilizing our communities' unique resources to shape policy, finance, and service delivery.

Executive Summary

After several years of collaborative work, and the fact that the three counties share many services, the counties of Clear Creek, Gilpin, and Jefferson formed the first multi-county Consolidated Child Care Pilot, known as Triad in 1997. This later became the Triad Early Childhood Council. These counties, located to the west of Denver, offer a unique mix of urban, rural, and mountain communities. The table below lists some basic information about the three counties. Sources of data include Child Care Innovations Child Care Resource and Referral and Colorado Children's Campaign 2020 Kids Count.

Descriptor	Clear Creek	Gilpin	Jefferson
2018 Total Population	9,663	6,098	579,489
2018 Population of Children Under 5	415	234	30,065
2018 Live Births	79	28	5,601
# Licensed Child Care Facilities	6	3	517

Lead by Executive Director, Patricia Bolton, Council members approved the development of the current three-year strategic plan. The chart below indicates Council members involved in this year's activities.

Name	Agency/Group Represented Committee
Bouchard, Brenda	Jeffco DHS (CCCAP & Family Support)
Christensen, Crystal	Jefferson Center (Mental Health)
Johnson, Chris	Mountain Resource Center (family education & support)
Johnson, Susan Chair	Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (Community Centered Board, Child & Family Services)
Kennedy, Caroline	Jefferson County Child Care Association (family child care)
Klawes, Michaelene	Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (Early Intervention)
Koskimaki, Suzanne	Jefferson County Human Services (Jeffco Head Start)
Lupa, Robyn Vice Chair	Jeffco Public Libraries

Martinez, Carmen	Child Care Innovations, Red Rocks Community College (CCR&R)
Nielsen, Marius	Jeffco Public Health (Health)
Peterson, Sherry	City of Lakewood (Head Start, Early Head Start)
Pfluger, Leandrea	Grandparent/IDD Advocate
Sabin, Roxanne	Jefferson County Human Services (Child Welfare)
Schroller, Angella Secretary	Jeffco Public Schools (public preschool)
Stowe, Amber	Parents
Terrazas, Sara	Colorado Shines at Mile High United Way (CCR&R call center)

The Triad Early Childhood Council strategic plan addressed in this report covers the period of July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020, and includes four goal areas and key strategies.



High quality child care improves:

- ✓ Early learning
- ✓ Cognitive and language development
- ✓ Social and emotional development
- ✓ School Achievement

Investments in quality child care secure the future for babies, families and our country.



ZERO TO THREE
Early connections last a lifetime

Source: Caring for Infants and Toddlers in Groups, 2008

Goal One: Families have access to high quality early learning programs

Strategy A: Encourage and support early learning programs in achieving higher levels in Colorado Shines

Strategy B: Increase the quality and availability of slots available to families receiving subsidy from the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP)

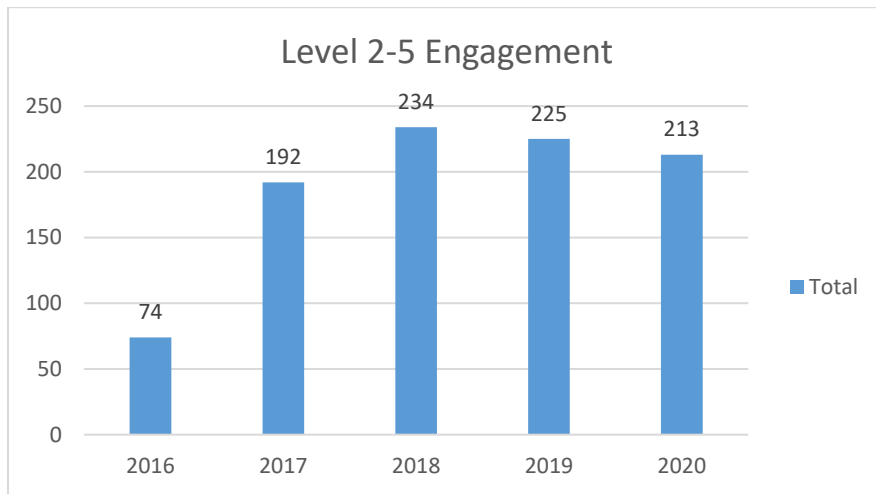
Strategy C: Promote the provision of high quality, responsive care for infants and toddlers

Strategy D: Promote and support coordinated, comprehensive approaches to increasing school readiness

Strategy E: Promote community-wide understanding of the importance of high quality child care

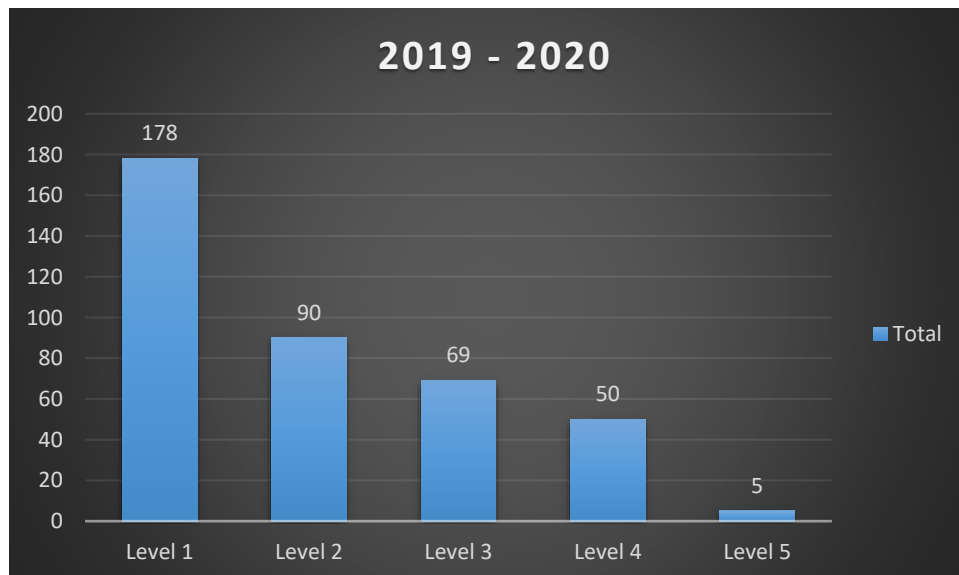
We began with an overall goal of achieving a Colorado Shines engagement rate of 60% by 2020. Engagement is defined as the number of eligible programs rated at a Colorado Shines Level 2 or higher. Levels 3 and above are considered to indicate high quality. Since 2016, we have seen incremental increases in engagement, with slight decreases in the most recent two years. At the end of this program year 56% of eligible facilities rated at levels 2 and higher. All of these programs are available to provide care for families enrolled in CCCAP, with approximately 900 children currently being served.

This chart shows overall engagement rates 2016-2020



In response to the state-wide goal of having 30% engagement specific to levels 3-5, our fiscal year ended with a 30.4% engagement rate, with there being a 10% increase in the last quarter as we worked with 50 Jeffco Public Schools preschool programs for the School District Alternate Pathway.

This chart indicates rating levels for this program year





QI team members left to right: Melinda Kurgan, Stacey Langer, Julia Brink, Sha'Sho'Nee Yazzie, and Melissa Brophy

Staff conducted outreach to enroll programs in the Colorado Shines Quality Improvement Program and maintained a QI line to respond to inquiries and provide technical assistance. Additional funding from the Buell Foundation supported a part time position to focus on assisting facilities in moving from Level 1 to Level 2, as well as funding for incentives. These outreach efforts resulted in 103 MOUs for the Colorado Shines Quality Improvement Program, and 8 MOUs for the Hardship Quality Improvement Program.

74 participants completed the 48-hour Expanding Quality in Infant and Toddler Care training (EQIT). Each participant received between three and eight hours of coaching. As part of EQIT, we launched our first pilot of LENA Grow with eight family child care providers participating. This is a language development opportunity where the children wear vests containing recording devices to capture the number of conversations between provider and child throughout the day. An algorithm is used to determine the number of “turns” that occur between the child and caregiver. A LENA certified coach worked with the providers for ten weeks, and all providers showed growth in turn-taking. A second cohort of four started in May. We also worked to enhance overall provider knowledge related to care of infants and toddlers, distributing the *Infant and Toddler Times* publication to over 500 facilities.

Coaches worked with participating programs to help staff and families understand components of school readiness. 90% of participating programs have developed formal transition and family engagement plans, and copies of *Journey to Kindergarten* and *The Journey Begins*, brochures

developed by the Douglas County Early Childhood Council, are regularly distributed. Through supporting and providing memberships to the Triad Early Childhood PTA, families can begin early involvement in their child's education. This organization was created specifically to serve families whose children are enrolled in child care programs, and provides access to information, connections to public schools, and advocacy and leadership skill development. Triad staff were actively engaged in the Jeffco Bright Futures road-mapping initiative and other community conversations related to the quality and availability of high-quality child care.



Lakeshore Day: A personalized opportunity to shop for educational materials and supplies.

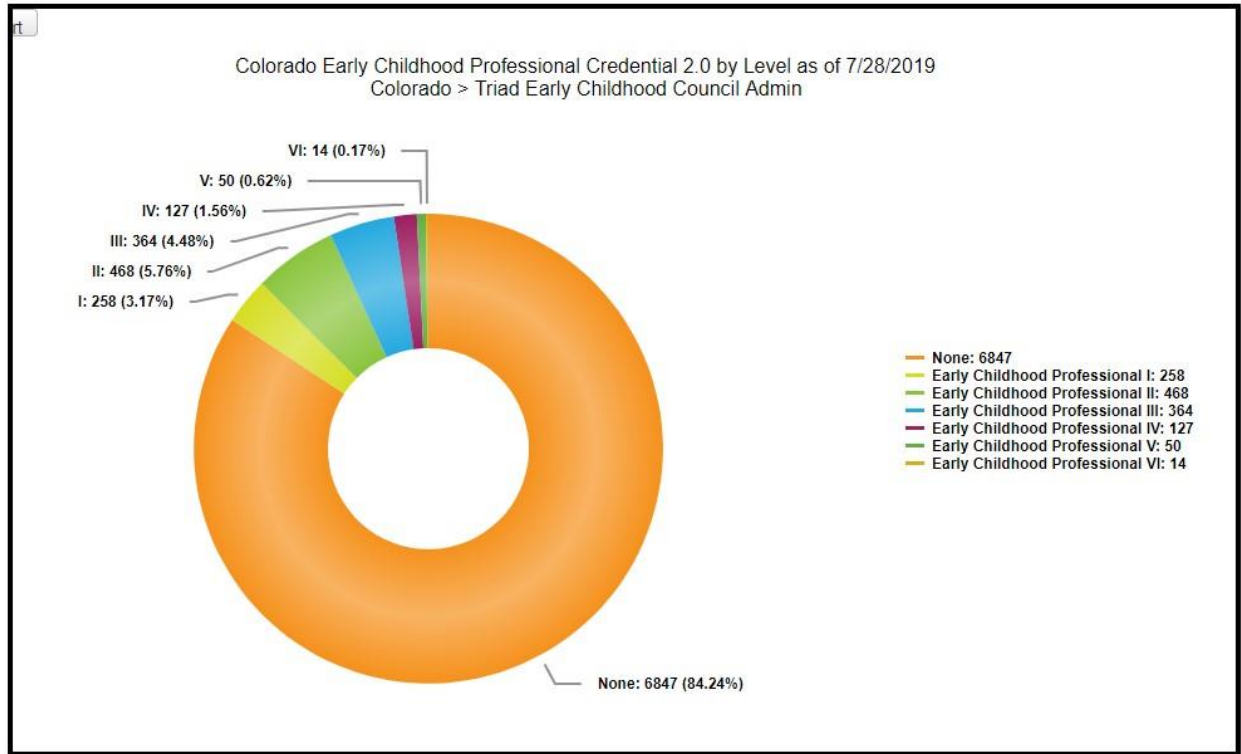
Goal Two: Community members working with or on behalf of young children have access to enhanced professional development opportunities

Strategy A: Offer group and site based professional development opportunities to early learning professionals

Strategy B: Coordinate and align professional development opportunities across domains

The majority of professional development offerings were provided by the Child Care Resource and Referral agency that is co-located with the Council. In addition to the Expanding Quality in Infant/Toddler Care, we offered sessions on the Early Learning and Development Guidelines (ELDG) and using the Professional Development Information System (PDIS). Monthly sessions, Provider Patchwork, provide opportunity to address topics ranging from preparing for ratings to disaster response. CSQI participants spent about \$1,800 of their grant funds on professional development. We have seen a significant increase in the number of professionals utilizing PDIS, as well as the number receiving a credential.

The chart below indicates credential levels.



We launched a new website that includes an event calendar where community partners can share information about professional development opportunities that they were willing to make available to child care providers and staff other organizations. At least four such opportunities were available each month.

This program year ended with nineteen professionals from the Triad community participating in the Federally Registered Apprenticeship Program. Apprentices completed 4,336.50 hours of on the job learning, 67 professional development activities, and 605.75 hours of professional development.



Shayla Arnone receives Apprenticeship certificate of completion from Executive Director, Patricia Bolton

Goal Three: Caregivers of young children have practical knowledge about available resources and programs that support early learning and promote optimal health and well-being.

Strategy A: Support caregivers in providing environments that promote positive social-emotional development

Strategy B: Promote healthy eating and active living for young children and their families

Strategy C: Educate families, community partners, and early learning professionals about supportive community resources.

Our annual resource fair was held virtually, with over ten community partners providing resources and information.

Currently Jefferson Center provides telehealth on-line or by phone services due to COVID-19, but previously offered in office and in-home services to children ages 0-8 years of age and their families, caregiver(s), early learning provider consultation, and parent education services. In Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Jefferson Center's Early Childhood team served 389 children in outpatient care, 61 caregivers in our parent education services, and served 38 early learning centers which has approximately reached 570 children and their families. Jefferson Center's outpatient clinical team offers children ages 0-5 an evidence based dyadic trauma treatment that is

proven to assist small children and their primary caregiver with a way to process traumatic events in an effective, and child centered way. LAUNCH in Jefferson County, with Jefferson Center as the organizing financial agent, has coordinated many trainings both available to the community, early learning centers, and to Jefferson Center staff (Examples include CPP, COAIMH's Foundations Training, and requested specific trainings on various topics from LAUNCH Consultants that provides CE Credits to early learning center staff). New evidenced based parenting programs have also been offered in 2020 like the Incredible Years, and Nurturing Parent Program through various different funding sources.

Triad serves as the Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) for Early Intervention Services provided by Developmental Disabilities Resource Center. A standing agenda item at each meeting is a report from Early Intervention. Not only does this give those present the opportunity to provide input to shape services, it provides a mechanism for providers to enhance their knowledge of services, learn about person centered thinking, and connect with professionals to support them in the care of infants and toddlers with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Our Health and Wellness Outreach Specialist is responsible for continuing and expanding the work of the Triad Health in Early Childhood Collaborative. The collaborative developed a work plan focused on four key outcome statements:

1. Existing Childhood Maltreatment Prevention efforts will be complimented and built upon across mountain area Jefferson, Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties.
2. Across mountain area Jeffco, Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties, educational outreach promoting 2020 Census participation among families with children will increase.
3. Early Childhood Obesity Prevention (ECOP) efforts will increase across mountain area Jeffco, Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties.
4. Access to employment and quality child care will increase across our mountain communities

Activities of Triad Health in Early Childhood Collaborative include:

- Expanding Jefferson Center's call-in guided meditation program to include Gilpin and Clear Creek Counties
- Helping create a Mountain Area Resource Page on the Triad EC Council Website
- Championing the Healthy Smiles Initiative in three mountain-area ECE programs across our mountain communities
- Expanding Farm to ECE Programs across our mountain communities Increasing participation WIC Program in mountain-areas of Jeffco

The Culture of Wellness in Preschools worked with partners to support three early learning programs. Through this initiative programs receive nutrition education, physical activity, workplace wellness, parent wellness, and related policy information.

Goal Four: Strengthen and sustain the work of the Council through resource development opportunities, collaborative partnerships, and community engagement

Strategy A: Increase funding and in-kind services to support the work of the Council

Strategy B: Enhance the effectiveness and engagement of current and potential Council members

We received continued funding from the Buell Foundation to support outreach in our mountain communities, systems building, quality improvement, professional development, and access to child care. Jefferson Center for Mental Health provides funding to support a part time coach to support early learning programs participating in the LAUNCH initiative. Each Council member pledges cash or in-kind support of the work. For example, the members of the Health in Early Childhood Collaborative reported cash and in-kind support in excess of \$43,000.

Much of our work is imbedded in strategic plans and goals of partner agencies, with Jeffco Bright Futures, being just one example of community-wide data sharing and planning.

Council meetings are held quarterly and are open to all interested stakeholders. Meetings are well attended and Council members are actively engaged in planning, presenting, and making decisions. When asked to rank their level of engagement and effectiveness, Council members consistently rank an average score of 4 on a 0-5 scale.

We continue to have Council representation on partner boards, committees and task forces. Examples include Jeffco Child and Youth Leadership Commission, Developmental Disabilities Resource Center, Early Childhood Advisory Committee for Red Rocks Community College, Jeffco Child Maltreatment Prevention planning, Gilpin County Health Advisory Committee, and Complete Count committees in each of the three counties.

We also contracted for the development of a community needs assessment, the *Decades Report*, to allow opportunity to explore data and predictive analytics to assist in planning and sustainability efforts. Council members participated in two meetings specific to this topic.

Scott Groginsky attended a Council meeting to accept a 2019 Children's Champion on behalf of Governor Polis. Shaking hands with him, is Executive Director Patricia Bolton. Council Chair Susan Johnson is seated in the forefront, and seated to her right are Council members Michalene Klawes and Angella Schroller.



Our annual Children's Champion event was held virtually. The featured speaker was Scott Groginsky, Governor Polis' Special Advisor for Early Childhood. Awards were presented to Troy Erickson, Jamie Fanselow, Shelley Harmon, Jefferson County Head Start, and Brett Peterson.

Featured below, is Brett Peterson of the Westminster store of American Furniture Warehouse.



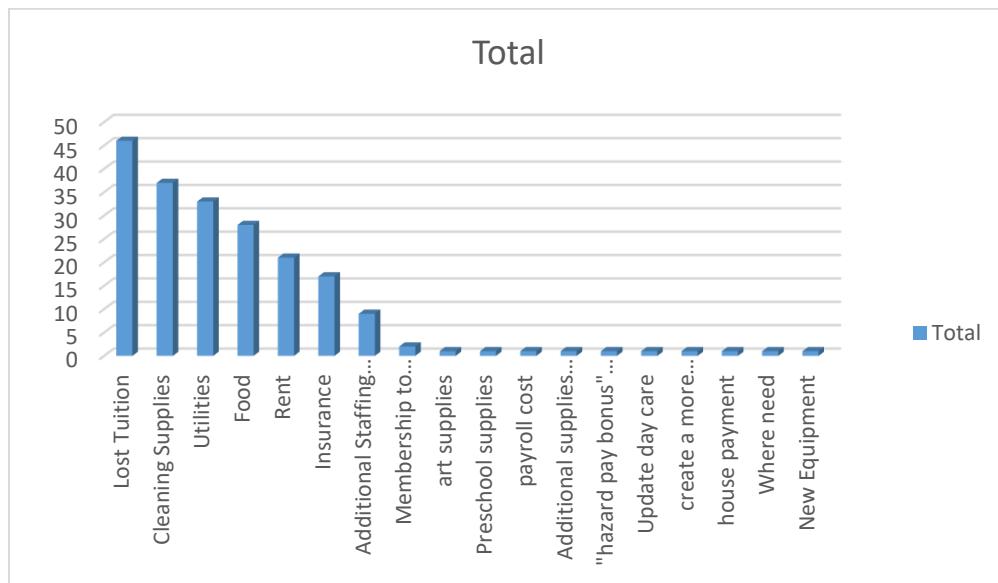
Emergency Response

The COVID-19 pandemic presented perhaps the greatest opportunity to show the Council's ability to work collaboratively on behalf of young children and their caregivers. This situation required partners to work even more closely together and to share both information and resources. Through the Stay at Home Orders, staff began working remotely, fielding calls from providers, directing families and providers to the Emergency Child Care Collaborative, and distributing needed supplies. Executive Director, Patricia Bolton, was asked to represent child care on the Community Needs Task Force of Jeffco's Office of Emergency Management. Our Health and Wellness Outreach Specialist, Jamie Fanselow, was trained to assist in contact tracing, if needed, for Gilpin County.

With funding support from Jefferson County Human Services, we launched the Jeffco Early Learning Support Initiative. We provided funding to 74 providers totaling \$41,750. The following are some of the services that qualified for funding:

- Activities designed to address the availability of childcare, particularly those serving essential and emergency personnel
- Providing grants to childcare providers to assist such providers in meeting additional challenges related to COVID-19
- Covering salaries and other compensation for full-and part-time staff who provide childcare
- Providing supplies for childcare facilities to assure that providers meet State and local standards related to COVID-19

This graph indicates ways in which the funding was used.



The Colorado Office of Early Childhood (OEC) worked closely with the Early Childhood Councils Leadership Alliance (ECCLA) to receive FEMA supplies of infant supplies for distribution to child care facilities and families. Because our offices had been closed, as were many child care facilities and partner agencies, we faced the dilemma of finding a place for the supplies to be delivered and stored. Thankfully, a staff member reached out to a local business, American Furniture Warehouse. Not only did they agree to accept delivery, but have continued to serve as a storage and distribution site for other supplies, often providing staffing assistance. FEMA supplies of diapers, wipes, and formula were distributed to thirteen community organizations, thirty-nine child care facilities, and forty-nine families. We also partnered with Wee Cycle for pick up and distribution of baby supplies in the mountain communities.

Thanks to partners like OEC, ECCLA, Jeffco Public Health, Wee Cycle, Jeffco Sheriff's Office, Sew it for COVID, and countless volunteers, we have distributed:

- Over 4,200 adult masks and over 600 children's masks
- 408 gallons of liquid soap
- 272 gallons of leach
- 544 boxes of gloves
- 6,528 rolls of toilet paper
- 4,080 rolls of paper towels

We have also provided child care programs with no-touch thermometers, bib aprons, floor decals for social distancing, and window decals to promote mask use. Programs also received printed educational materials.

Staff work to sort diapers, wipes, and formula.



Distribution Day



Masks made by Sew it for COVID



Cleaning Supplies



Sarah Brink, daughter of QI Program Coordinator, Julia Brink takes a break while helping with supply distribution. Many staff of Triad Early Childhood Council and Child Care Innovations, Red Rocks Community College, as well as their family members supported our efforts. Thanks to all!

Triad Early Childhood Council Remains “All in” and Ready to Help!

Methodology

Goal: Families have access to high quality early learning programs

Metric	Data Source (s)
Percentage of programs at Levels 2 and above	Salesforce
Number of programs progressing from Level 2 to Levels 3-5	Salesforce
Number of outreach efforts	Sugar/ECConnect
Number of programs rated Levels 3-5, accepting CCCAP	CCR&R Salesforce
Number of children enrolled in CCCAP being served by programs rated Levels 3-5	County CCCAP fiscal agreements and count of children served
Number of participants completing 48 hr EQIT course	Registrations & certificates issued
Number of programs receiving specific QI supports and related funding amounts	Sugar/ECConnect
Number of coaching hours provided	Sugar/ECConnect
Number of programs rated Levels 3-5, serving infants and toddlers, and accepting CCCAP	CCR&R Salesforce
Number of participating programs with formal transition plans	Coach verification
Number of programs receiving Journey to Kindergarten & The Journey Begins brochures for distribution to staff and families	QI staff tally of materials distributed
Number of parents from participating programs that join PTA	Number of memberships funded via CSQI
Number of participating programs with formal family engagement plans	Coach verification
Number of outreach/distribution points for information regarding Colorado Shines Quality Rating and Improvement System	Talley of frequency of electronic communications, articles submitted, and number of materials distributed
Number of outreach/distribution points for information regarding Early Learning and Development Guidelines	Talley of frequency of electronic communications, articles submitted, and number of materials distributed
Number and types of community events attended, estimated attendance	Flyers, community outreach logs

Goal: Community members working with or on behalf of young children have access to enhanced professional development opportunities

Metric	Data Source (s)
PDIS usage rates	PDIS data on numbers enrolled and courses completed
Number and types of training sessions offered in response to identified training needs	Early learning professional development surveys & CCR&R registration data base
Number of participants reporting gain in knowledge/skills	Pre/post training evaluations
Types of early learning programs represented in training sessions	CCR&R registration data
Number of targeted QI participants using QI supports for professional development	Sugar/ECCconnect
Number of cross domain sessions offered in response to identified needs	Partner professional development surveys and list of topics made available
Number of professional development opportunities partners made available to those outside of their organization	Partner survey and documentation

Goal: Caregivers of young children have practical knowledge about available resources and programs that support early learning and promote optimal health and well-being.

Metric	Data Source (s)
Number of facilities accessing Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation and number of children impacted	JCMH Data Liaison (utilization rates)
Number of participants in training sessions specific to social-emotional health	Sign in sheets
Number of Number of targeted QI participants having a formal family engagement/support plan linked to the Strengthening Families Framework	Coach verification
Number of Health in Early Childhood Collaborative meetings with a Triad staff representative in attendance	Meeting minutes, staff calendars
Number of Wellness Champions trained	Jeffco Public Health sign in sheets and COWP Wellness Champion sign in sheets
Number of early learning programs participating in Culture of Wellness activities	COWP/SNAP Ed funded sites, pre and post staff surveys, training sign in sheets
Partnerships between Environmental Health and Child Care Licensing	Meeting notes and number of collaborations
Number and types of involvement in mountain community health initiatives	Meeting minutes, flyers, partner surveys
Number of participants at community resource fair	Sign in sheets

Goal: Strengthen and sustain the work of the Council through resource development opportunities, collaborative partnerships, and community engagement

Metric	Data Source (s)
Value of cash and in-kind contributions from Council members	Member pledge forms and donation tracking
Value of funds received by partner agencies that directly link to one or more Council goals	Partner survey of funding linked to Council goals
Number of resource development efforts and resulting funds	Record of grant activity and deposits to unrestricted org code (Banner)
Percentage of Council members regularly attending meetings and providing response as requested	Roll call from meetings, minutes, member update reports

Progress Toward Goals

Overall, we experienced significant progress toward meeting goals. The majority of partners report investment of financial and human resources related to the goals. Provider engagement rates have been basically maintained, even in the face of a decline in the number of facilities and programs that declined re-rating. Additional resources have supported achievement of goals, and work of individual partners includes work towards Council goals.

Goal One: Families have access to high quality early learning programs

Metric	Status
Percentage of programs at Levels 2 and above	56%
Number of programs progressing from Level 2 to Levels 3-5	62 programs progressed from a level 2 to a level 3-5.
Number of outreach efforts	851 outreach efforts via email, 1,080 via phone, and 11 on-site visits
Number of programs rated Levels 3-5, accepting CCCAP	124 programs accepting CCCAP.
Number of children enrolled in CCCAP being served by programs rated Levels 3-5	900 children served
Number of participants completing 48 hr EQIT course	74 participants completed
Number of programs receiving specific QI supports and related funding amounts	103 signed MOUs, \$170,851 in supplies, materials, professional development, and capital improvements
Number of coaching hours provided	1,716 coaching hours provided
Number of programs rated Levels 3-5, serving infants and toddlers, and accepting CCCAP	97 programs that are Levels 3-5 accepting CCAP, serve infants and toddlers.
Number of participating programs with formal transition plans	103 participating programs have formal transition plans
Number of programs receiving Journey to Kindergarten & The Journey Begins brochures for distribution to staff and families	126 copies of <i>The Journey Begins</i> and 275 of <i>The Journey to Kindergarten</i> were distributed.
Number of parents from participating programs that join PTA	56 memberships were supported
Number of participating programs with formal family engagement plans	103 programs have formal family engagement plans
Number of outreach/distribution points for information regarding Colorado Shines Quality Rating and Improvement System	3,115 reached through points of distribution including electronic communications, the Infant and Toddler Times, phone calls, pamphlets, and meetings with parents and community partners.

Number of outreach/distribution points for information regarding Early Learning and Development Guidelines	Five types of distribution: Monthly Provider Patchwork meetings, during grant outreach, posted on website, EQIT sessions, and parent groups 2 partner organizations received information for distribution 2 parent groups received information
Number and types of community events attended, estimated attendance	In addition to attending regularly scheduled task force, board, and committee meetings of various community organizations, staff members have participated in over 22 community events representing over 900 attendees. Events included domains of physical, oral, and behavioral health, early learning, family support, and both programmatic and policy related.

Goal Two: Community members working with or on behalf of young children have access to enhanced professional development opportunities

Metric	Status
PDIS usage rates	7,813 PDIS users, 9,778 courses completed through March
Number and types of training sessions offered in response to identified training needs	The following classes were offered by the Council in response to identified needs EQIT course Understanding Nonverbal Communication Creating Personal Resilience Promoting Social Emotional Health A Primer on Mindfulness Disaster Preparedness Science Extensions Creating Schedules and Routines Strengthening Business Practices Monthly sessions, known as Provider Patchwork, provide opportunities for informal discussion and training in response to needs.
Number of participants reporting gain in knowledge/skills	85% of survey respondents indicated gain in knowledge and skills
Types of early learning programs represented in training sessions	All trainings were attended by combinations of family child care home provider, child care center providers and school age child care providers. 647 of the participants were from Jefferson County, 2 from Clear Creek County, and none were from Gilpin County
Number of targeted QI participants using QI supports for professional development	Participants spent \$1,800 on professional development
Number of professional development opportunities partners made available to those outside of their organization	Since the addition of an event calendar, approximately 20 events/professional development opportunities have been posted. We also regularly forward information to providers as we receive it from community partners

Goal Three: Caregivers of young children have practical knowledge about available resources and programs that support early learning and promote optimal health and well-being.

Metric	Status
Number of facilities accessing Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation and number of children impacted	75 facilities accessed services, impacting approximately 1,335 children
Number of participants in training sessions specific to social-emotional health	Approximately 36 participants attended sessions directly sponsored by the Council. In addition, through our LAUNCH initiative, centers in the target community received staff and parent training and support that included Trauma-Sensitive Classroom, Early Childhood Social Emotional Health, Skills-Based Classroom Strategies, and Parenting Skills.
Number of Number of targeted QI participants having a formal family engagement/support plan linked to the Strengthening Families Framework	103 family engagement plans were able to be linked to the Strengthening Families Framework.
Number of Health in Early Childhood Collaborative meetings with a Triad staff representative in attendance	We obtained funding to support a Triad Health and Wellness Outreach Specialist to provide staffing for the collaborative. Meetings were held quarterly. Each meeting had over 20 participants, with the Triad Executive Director and QI staff attending most.
Number of Wellness Champions trained	3 sites have Wellness Champions and Wellness committees that participate in policy, system, and environmental changes that build sustainability around healthy eating and physical activities for children, staff, and families.
Number of early learning programs participating in Culture of Wellness activities	3 programs participating
Partnerships between Environmental Health and Child Care Licensing	Meetings/scheduled touchpoints occurred monthly. Co-branded materials were developed for child care facilities. After COVID-19 began, regular email communications continued.
Number and types of involvement in mountain community health initiatives	A Clear Creek County Public Health Nurse works closely with the CCR&R to offer Medication Administration and Standard Precautions training to early learning providers. We participated in 20 different initiatives related to health. This includes, but is not limited to, participation in Mountain Backpack programs, census outreach, Conifer Area Reducing Poverty, Sweet Dream in a Bag gifting events, Gilpin County Public Health Advisory Board, and Go Farm to ECE
Number of participants at community resource fair	As a result of the pandemic, the resource fair was not held. Instead, ten partners contributed to a resource section on the website, and three partners presented at subsequent Provider Patchwork sessions.

Goal Four: Strengthen and sustain the work of the Council through resource development opportunities, collaborative partnerships, and community engagement

Metric	Status
Value of cash and in-kind contributions from Council members	\$43,125 in-kind services. \$3,051.60 in-kind volunteer hours (15 members contributing a minimum of eight hours at \$25.43 per hour)
Value of funds received by partner agencies that directly link to one or more Council goals	Council members reported that their organizations spent in excess of \$16,000,000 on activities that have a direct link to defined Council goals.
Number of resource development efforts and resulting funds	Buell: \$118,052 Fee for service training: \$3,700 Contract with JCMH: \$39,320
Percentage of Council members regularly attending meetings and providing response as requested	94% regularly attended meetings and provided response to inquiries and requested updates

Next Steps

As we enter the new fiscal year, the pandemic continues, presenting many uncertainties. We anticipate the need to work remotely, develop innovative approaches to conducting business, and work with providers and children experiencing trauma and change.

Goal One: Families have access to high quality early learning programs

We will need to monitor the supply of care, as programs close or decide not to reopen. This will require enhanced recruitment efforts and helping early learning providers access available supports. We may have to work harder to help balance basic survival needs with the need to seek and maintain higher levels of quality.

Goal Two: Community members working with or on behalf of young children have access to enhanced professional development opportunities

We will continue to promote and recruit for the Child Care Development Specialist Apprenticeship Program sponsored by Child Care Innovations, Red Rocks Community College, and anticipate working to promote the Child Care Development Associate Credential. We will engage in resource development efforts specific to supporting participation of Triad professionals. We will need to offer more virtual professional development opportunities and encourage partners to post more such events on our website. We are looking forward to the expansion of the LENA Grow initiative, and championing cornerstones detailed in the Jeffco Bright Futures Roadmap.

Goal Three: Caregivers of young children have practical knowledge about available resources and programs that support early learning and promote optimal health and well-being.

We work to sustain the Health in Early Childhood Collaborative, creating a new work plan and engaging new partners. We will seek and promote resources to address the behavioral health needs of caregivers as well as the children in their care. We will need to periodically “check-in” to determine types and levels of supports needed. We have planned a multi-domain conference this year, and will need to determine how best to bring it to fruition.

Goal Four: Strengthen and sustain the work of the Council through resource development opportunities, collaborative partnerships, and community engagement

We will look at ways to continue partnerships that developed as a result of the pandemic, and to strengthen or revitalize those that may have lost traction as a result of the pandemic. We will continue to seek resources to support the systems building aspect of our work.

We will closely monitor emerging initiatives to determine overlaps and alignment with Council work, and where possible, advocate for resources to support the Council in having a role in implementation of agreed upon work.