Children have high quality early learning supports and environments and comprehensive health care.

Families have meaningful community and parenting supports.

Early childhood professionals have the knowledge, skills, and supports to work effectively with and on behalf of families and children.

all children are valued, healthy, and thriving.

**GOALS**

**OUTCOMES**

**ACCESS OUTCOMES**
- Increased availability of formal education and professional development opportunities for early childhood professionals related to early learning standards.
- Increased access to high quality early learning, birth through third grade.

**QUALITY OUTCOMES**
- Increased number of children meeting developmental milestones to promote school readiness.
- Improved family and community knowledge and skills to support children’s health and development.
- Increased family ability to identify and select high quality early childhood services and supports.

**EQUITY OUTCOMES**
- Increased number of children with special needs who receive consistent early learning services and supports.
- Decreased gaps in school readiness and academic achievement between populations of children.

**STRATEGIES FOR ACTION**
- Develop and support use of early learning standards by families, programs, and professionals.
- Evaluate and redesign high quality programs with a comprehensive rating and reimbursement system.
- Develop, promote, and support high quality professional development and formal training for adults who work with young children.
- Monitor children’s learning and development through screening and on-going assessments.
- Improve financial sustainability and governing efficiency of early learning programs and infrastructure.

**FAMILY SUPPORT AND PARENT EDUCATION**
- Increased availability and family use of high quality parenting/child development information, services, and supports.
- Increased parent engagement and leadership at program, community, and policy levels.

**SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH**
- Increased availability and use of high quality social, emotional, and mental health training and support.
- Increased number of supportive and nurturing environments that promote children’s healthy social and emotional development.

**HEALTH**
- Increased access to preventive dental and medical health care.
- Increased number of children covered by consistent health insurance.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD COLORADO FRAMEWORK / JULY 2008**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD COLORADO PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK THAT:**
- Recognizes the needs of the whole child and family.
- Communicates the vision for comprehensive early childhood work.
- Focuses on specific measurable outcomes.
- Guides, organizes, and focuses the actions and accountability of public and private stakeholders.

**THIS WORK IS GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:**
- Be child-focused and family-centered.
- Recognize and respond to variations in cultures, languages, and abilities.
- Use data to inform decisions.
- Build on strengths of communities and families.
- Focus on children from birth to age 8.
- Promote partnerships.
- Act at state, local, and statewide levels.

For more information contact EarlyChildhoodTeam@capitol.state.co.us.
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**GOALS**

**EARLY LEARNING**

- Child care/early education programs from birth
- Early childhood education programs:
  - Preschool
  - Kindergarten
  - Grade 1-3
- School-age care
- Special education

**FAMILY SUPPORT & PARENT EDUCATION**

- Home visiting programs
- Parenting classes and educational resources
- Early intervention services to children and families for children with developmental delays
- Social services (i.e., foster care)
- Child abuse and neglect prevention services
- Family and early literacy services

**SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL & MENTAL HEALTH**

- Mental health assessment and treatment
- Mental health consultation to parents, children and providers
- Mental Health prevention (i.e., child abuse prevention)
- Intervention with children and families experiencing trauma

**HEALTH**

- Health care (oral and medical)
- School-based/school-linked health centers
- Medical homes (consistent care through which to receive preventive, chronic and acute services)
- Well-child services (nutrition, immunizations & developmental screenings)
- Health promotion and primary prevention strategies

**Major Funding Streams**

- Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
- Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP)
- Colorado Preschool Program (CPP)
- Early Head Start
- Head Start
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- K-12 School Finance (state funding)
- Tony Grampsas Youth Services Program

- Community Based Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention
- Early Head Start
- Head Start
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- State general funds
- Tobacco Master Settlement Funds
- Tony Grampsas Youth Services Program

- Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
- Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)
- Community-based Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Early Head Start
- Head Start
- Maternal and Child Health Block Grant
- Medicaid

- Child & Adult Care Food Program
- Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)
- Early Head Start
- Head Start
- Maternal and Child Health Block Grant
- Medicaid
- State Tobacco Tax
- Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- Tobacco Master Settlement Funds

**Adequate funding and reimbursement rates; Care coordination, case management; Communications and public awareness; Community support; Consumer information; Data collection and management; Policy; Practitioner standards; Recruitment and training; Referrals; Regulation; Technical assistance**