



July 1st, 2024



2024 COAEYC Board of Directors Election Results

Congratulations to our very own board member Ms. Stacey Guymon for becoming a board member for the Colorado Association for the Education of Young Children

General Seat

Stacey Guymon

Monte Vista, CO

What is your occupation or job title? Who is your employer or institution?

Elementary Principal and ECE Director at Monte Vista School District

ECE Adjunct Professor at TSC/CU programs

What is an issue in early childhood education that is important to you?

There are so many issues that I am concerned about. A few are: teacher qualification and retention, quality care in Rural areas, social emotional increasing behaviors in our young children, and support families post Covid.

Tell us about a professional goal that you have for this year. I would like to share my professional experience and knowledge with others around the State. I have accomplished many things in my local community and region, and I would like to expand and be part of conversation in a wider capacity.

Why are you interested in serving on the COAEYC Board of Directors?

I have been actively working in Early Childhood for the past 27 years. I am passionate about the work and would like be involved more at the State level of decision and planning.

Stacy is currently filling a vacant seat on the COAEYC Board of Directors. She is eligible to serve two consecutive terms if elected.

General Seat

- Stacey Guymon - Monte Vista (28% of votes)
- Sonia Semana - Fort Collins (23% of votes)
- Sarah Goldman - Lone Tree (22% of votes)

Student Seat

- Karima Guittoune - Denver (100% of votes)

Teacher Seat

- Julie Spiegleman - Greenwood Village (100% of votes)

Click [here](#) for the full report.

View Stacey's video below!



Sargent Early Learning Center earns Colorado Shines 5 star rating!

How long have you been in the childcare business?

Sargent Preschool began in the late 1980's. Throughout the years, the preschool has expanded to include daycare for children ages one through five. In 2001, the board received 501(c)(3) designation. In 2002, the Sargent Child Care Association (dba Sargent Early Learning Center (SELC)) received a DOLA grant and subsequent additional grants to fund the construction of a new building. In December 2003, construction of the building was completed and enrollment soared to approximately 90 children. We have proudly served our community in this location for the past 21 years!

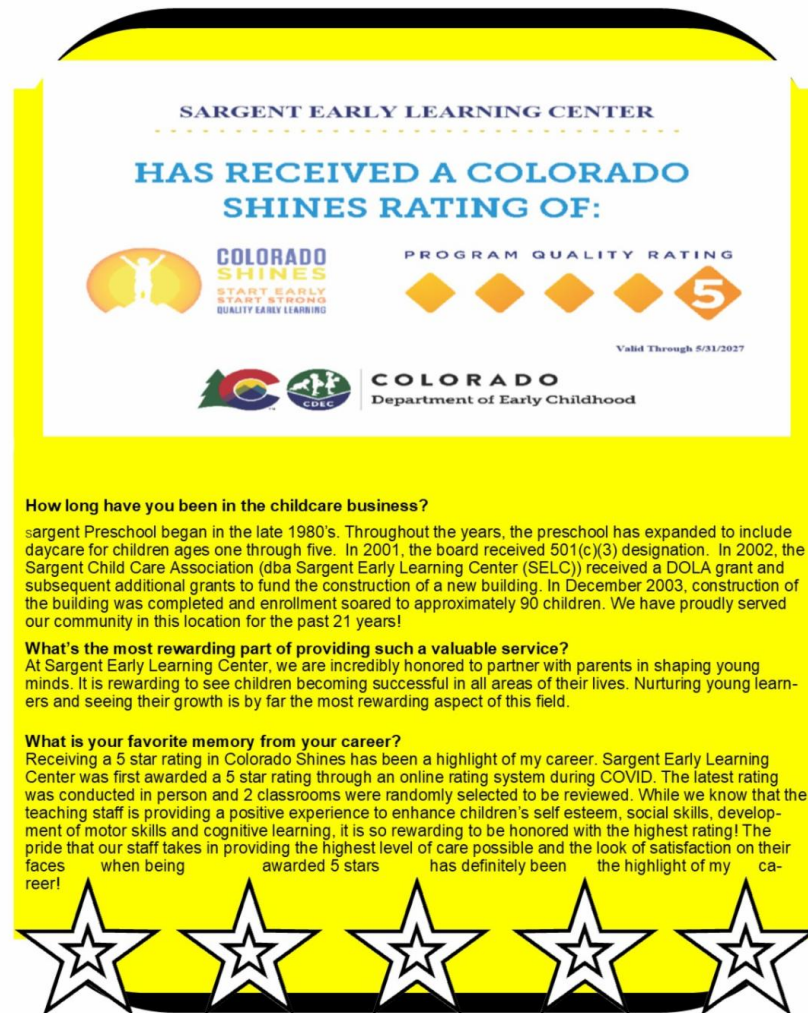
What's the most rewarding part of providing such a valuable service?

At Sargent Early Learning Center, we are incredibly honored to partner with parents in shaping young minds. It is rewarding to see children becoming successful in all areas of their lives. Nurturing young learners and seeing their growth is by far the most rewarding aspect of this field.

What is your favorite memory from your career?

Receiving a 5 star rating in Colorado Shines has been a highlight of my career. Sargent Early Learning Center was first awarded a 5 star rating through an online rating system during COVID. The latest rating was conducted in person and 2 classrooms were randomly selected to be reviewed. While we know that the teaching staff is providing a positive experience to enhance children's self esteem, social skills, development of motor skills and cognitive learning, it is so rewarding to be honored

with the highest rating! The pride that our staff takes in providing the highest level of care possible and the look of satisfaction on their faces when being awarded 5 stars has definitely been the highlight of my career



SARGENT EARLY LEARNING CENTER

HAS RECEIVED A COLORADO SHINES RATING OF:

COLORADO SHINES
START EARLY
START STRONG
QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

PROGRAM QUALITY RATING


Valid Through 5/31/2027

COLORADO
Department of Early Childhood

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Summer Brain-Building Tips for Parents and Caregivers

By Mark Swartz and Art Hondros (Illustrator)



Access full article [here](#).

 Administration for Children & Families

 Office of Head Start



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Head Start

U.S. Department of Education Issues Request for Information on Operational Approaches to Extend Public Service Loan Forgiveness to Early Childhood Educators

Help spread the word about this opportunity by sharing with your networks.

Provide comments by July 22, 2024!

The U.S. Department of Education (the Department) issued a Request for Information (RFI) to help the Department better understand operational aspects of potentially expanding Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) for workers in early childhood education (ECE) settings.

“Early childhood educators help young children learn, grow, and thrive. But they are often poorly compensated, and student debt is a problem. If these educators can access Public Service Loan

Forgiveness, we can help our youngest children, their families, and their communities,” said U.S. Under Secretary of Education James Kvaal.

Since its creation in 2007, PSLF has been available to federal student loan borrowers who are employed by a government or certain types of not-for-profit organizations. Participating borrowers see the remaining balance of their federal student loans forgiven after making 120 qualifying payments on their loans, which typically takes about 10 years. Through the Biden-Harris Administration’s efforts to overhaul this program and provide relief to as many borrowers as possible, more than 900,000 borrowers (compared to 7,000 prior to this Administration) have already been approved for \$68 billion in forgiveness through PSLF.

While many borrowers have received relief, under the current PSLF program rules, hundreds of thousands of ECE educators, many of whom operate small businesses, are excluded from the program because of their employer’s tax status. The ECE workforce, regardless of the tax status of the employer, is made up almost entirely of women, including a disproportionate number of women of color and immigrants. Additionally, the ECE workforce is among the lowest-paid categories of occupations in the country.

Based on data from the National Survey of Early Care and Education conducted by the Department of Health and Human Service’s Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation, extending PSLF eligibility to include employers of ECE workers, regardless of their employer’s tax status, could potentially allow more than 450,000 ECE workers—about 68,000 in home-based settings and 390,000 in center-based settings—to make progress toward PSLF if those workers have Federal student loans. This reflects roughly one-third of the overall ECE workforce.

Since day one, the Biden-Harris Administration has worked to improve the broken student loan system, including making lasting improvements to the PSLF program. This request will help the Department gather important information about how it could implement any potential expansion of PSLF for ECE

workers, yet another step toward these goals.

In July 2022, the Department published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register that proposed improvements to PSLF to reduce regulatory and administrative barriers that have historically made it more difficult for borrowers to make progress toward PSLF. Additionally, in the NPRM, the Department asked directed questions about the possibility of allowing employers that operate as private, for-profit businesses and employ ECE workers to be considered eligible employers for PSLF. In November 2022, the Secretary published these final regulations in the Federal Register. Although the Department received many detailed comments in response to the directed questions, those final regulations did not address whether, or under what circumstances, private, for-profit ECE providers employing borrowers working in ECE should be treated as qualifying employers for PSLF.

Accordingly, the Department is soliciting comments from researchers, academics, policy experts, administrators, and other individuals familiar with ECE employer data and the administration of ECE programs about how the Department would determine employer eligibility and related considerations if for-profit ECE employers who provide services listed in the statute were to be considered eligible employers. Members of the public will have 30 days to submit comments for the Department to then review. The comments received in response to this RFI will not be used as part of the rulemaking related to the treatment of for-profit employers, including ECE providers, and eligibility for PSLF. Instead, the feedback from this RFI will help inform the Department's understanding of different operational approaches.

The RFI and additional information on submitting comments can be found [here](#).

Childcare Resource and Referral (CCRR)

About Colorado Association of Family Child Care Foundation.

The Colorado Association of Family Child Care Foundation has

received money from the CIRCLE Grant and the Buell Foundation Grant. The money is designed to mentor and provide training to potential new providers at zero cost to them starting in February. Current licensed providers will also be able to participate in trainings at zero cost. Training classes include: Pre-Licensing, First Aid/CPR, Business class for family child care homes.

For more information, please click on the link.

<https://www.cafccfoundation.org/>

If you need further assistance, please contact Amanda Atencio at ecresource@eccslv.org

Open Your Own Child Care Program



- Do you have a passion for teaching and supporting the healthy development of infants, toddlers, and young children?
- Are you interested in working from the convenience of your home?
- Do you want to start your own business?
- Would you like to teach preschool at YOUR site for the new Universal Preschool (UPK) program

We have a rewarding career opportunity for you!

The Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley can share how to become a licensed family child care home provider.

We will cover the steps in the process, cash incentives, grants, UPK and other key points for licensing. Contact us if you are interested using the information below!



**Ready to get started?
Scan the QR code or email Amanda
at ecresource@eccslv.org**



 **Wonderschool**

**Early Head Start Free
Quality Child Care
Services**

**NOW ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS
for Rio Grande County and
Center, CO!**

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

Click [Here](#) for interest form.



Early Head Start
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



Coaching

Attention: Calling all Early Childhood Infant and Toddler Care Professionals!

The Early Childhood Council SLV EQIT Team is excited to announce registration for the Fall 2024 Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler Care Course will open July 1st, 2024.

You can complete registration by accessing your PDIS account and searching for EQIT SLV.

The Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler Care (EQIT) 48-hour course of training is designed for individuals, specifically, early childhood teachers, center directors, and the specialized family childcare licenses, who currently work with or plan to work with infants and toddlers and are interested in improving knowledge and skills.

See the attached [flyer](#) and [course schedule](#) by clicking on each in orange for more details.

Attention Directors and Administrators!

The Colorado Department of Early Childhood needs your voice in determining which of [Colorado's Competencies for Early Childhood Directors and Related Administrators](#) are essential for directors of small and large child care centers when they first enter into their role. Please reach out to Mary Heffernan (mary.heffernan@state.co.us) if you are interested in participating in a work group this fall to support this project. It is about a 10-hour time commitment with meetings beginning after the start of the traditional school year.

Professional Development

PDIS

Did you know you can find professional development programs & scholarships when you login to your PDIS account? All you have to do is click on the RESOURCES tab at the top of the page, then under the drop-down menu you will click on programs & scholarships. This is available to **ALL PDIS** users. If you need any PD support please reach out to Denise Benavides at pd@eccslv.org.

*ECCSLV SCHOLARSHIP

*We still have funds to support you with your education. Please click on the following link to access an application, or email Denise Benavides at pd@eccslv.org .

<https://eccslv.org/scholarship-application/>

ECCLA

Join ECCLA for the Director's Toolbox Workshop focused on recruitment and retention strategies in early childhood programs July 16th & 17th! Click on the following link for more information:

<https://mailchi.mp/6b407aa0a414/fcchispring2024-13692492?e=b7512943aa>

What You'll Gain:

- Practical tools and strategies to enhance your leadership skills
- Insights into creating a positive and productive work environment
- Techniques for effective staff recruitment, training, and retention
- Networking opportunities with other professionals in the field

Colorado Shines PDIS Trainings

Upcoming Live Virtual and In-Person Training Events

Following are upcoming virtual and in-person instructor-led training events recognized

through the [Colorado Shines Training Alignment Process \(TAP\)](#). Certificates will be available through your Colorado Shines PDIS account after the training events except where noted.

Important registration information, please read:

- Notifications for PDIS registered training sessions will be sent to the email address you have on file in the My Account>Profile Settings area of your PDIS account. Check your email address **before** requesting registration. Contact PDIS Help Desk (cdec_pdishelp@state.co.us or 1.844.447.4441) **before** requesting registration if you need to change your email address.

Make sure your mail settings allow for emails from cdec_pdishelp@state.co.us. You should receive an email from PDIS within 30 minutes or less after requesting registration. If you do not receive an email, check your email spam/junk folder then change your settings to allow emails from PDIS. You may search the internet to learn how to change your email settings.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xCm6cstUQC3IXqkXYco24ThtEL3_IQwTIPTi5mMPTPc/edit?usp=sharing

[Calming Terrific Toddlers: Evidence-Based Strategies That Reduce Aggression and Promote Self-Regulation](#)

October 24, 2024 | 2 PM Eastern Time

FREE

Despite the best efforts of early childhood educators, some older infants and toddlers naturally hit, bite, and otherwise display aggressive behaviors. These common tiny-tot behaviors challenge caregivers and parents and are among the biggest stressors they encounter. Because it is so complicated to understand what drives toddler behavior and redirect it, it's hard to know what to do to support them in learning self-regulation.

Join toddler expert [Raelene Ostberg, M.Ed.](#) Director of Thriving Together and author of the Taming Those Terrific Toddler Webinar Series, to learn and apply a four-step "HELP" model to transform unwanted behaviors and support toddlers' prosocial development.

[Learn more>>](#)

[Raelene Ostberg, M.Ed.](#)

National Keynote Speaker

Curriculum Specialist

Published Writer

Trainer, Coach and Mentor

Thriving Together, LLC

2024 webinars at a glance!

[Using Everyday Conversations to Nurturing Play and Creativity in Young Children, by Rebecca Rolland, Ed.D.](#)

August 7, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[A Calm Brain is a Thinking Brain: Designing calm, engaging early learning environments, by Dr. Kathryn Murray](#)

August 8, 2024

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[The Power of Leadership: Transform Yourself to Transform Your Team, by Ben Poswalk](#)

August 14, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Getting and Keeping Insurance for Your Early Childhood Program, by Samantha Phillips](#)

August 15, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Nurturing Transitions: Supporting Children and Families in the new school year, by Amanda Higgins and Sharon Carlson](#)

September 11, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Large Physical Art Activities for Energy Release to Calm Squirming Bodies and Minds, by Anna Reyner, MA, ATR, LMFT](#)

September 18, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

>>>NEW<<<

[Entrepreneurial Processes That Optimize Your Program's Operations, Lauren M. Small](#)

September 26, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Rethinking Relationships and Bias in Early Childhood, by Olga Lacayo and Eliana Elias](#)

October 17, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

>>>NEW<<<

[Calming Terrific Toddlers: Evidence-Based Strategies That Reduce Aggression and Promote Self-Regulation, by Raelene Ostberg, M.Ed.](#)

October 24, 2024

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Beyond the Shelves and Manipulatives: Learning Environments That Nurture Young Children, by Berna Artis, MA. Ed.](#)

October 30, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[Building a Financial Framework for Your ECE Program's Future, by Kathy Ligon](#)

November 6, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[The Happiest Preschool: The Transformation and Future of Early Childhood Education, by Martha Heineman Pieper and Kelly Perez](#)

November 7, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

>>>NEW<<<

[Evidence-Based Protocols for Effective Staff Supervision in Early Childhood, by Ashley Varouhas, M.A.](#)

November 14, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

>>>NEW<<<

[Teaching Critical Thinking About TV, Videos, Online Games, and Apps in Early Childhood, by Faith Rogow, Ph.D.](#)

December 4, 2024

2PM Eastern Time | Recorded

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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IF YOU ARRIVE LATE TO THE LIVE WEBINAR OR WATCH THE RECORDING you will download the blank certificate by following the link announced at the end of every webinar.

Devereux Center for Resilient Children

Devereux promotes social and emotional development and fostering resilience. Please click on the following link to learn more about the trainings they offer. They have trainings such as:

Promoting Social-Emotional Development with the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) Program

<https://centerforresilientchildren.org/>

Center for Resilient Children | Promoting Resilience

The Center for Resilient Children's mission is to promote resilience in children. Learn more about preventing challenging behaviors in children today!

centerforresilientchildren.org

Upcoming Professional Development

For more, visit our [Virtual Trainings Schedule](#) and our [Free Webinars Schedule](#).

August 5, 7, and 9, 2024

1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. ET each day

Promote Social-Emotional Development with the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) Program

Learn how the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) Program can support you in promoting the social and emotional development of young children (infants, toddlers, preschoolers), and enhance the overall quality of your early childhood program.

Individual: \$229/person
Group of 2-3: \$209/person
Group of 4 or more: \$189/person

August 20, 2024

1 p.m.-2 p.m. ET

Take Care of You, Take On Challenging Behaviors

In this webinar, you will learn how the four steps of the successful child strategy called FLIP IT (Feelings, Limits, Inquiries, Prompts) can work for YOU! By exploring your own Feelings, Limits, Inquiries, and Prompts, you can build your own resilience and be better prepared to FLIP the script on challenging behavior with children.

FREE

September 3, 10, 17, 24, October 1 and 8, 2024

12 p.m.-2 p.m. ET each day

Transforming Challenging Behavior: FLIP IT Train-the-Trainer Course

Learn how to train and support others on the FLIP IT strategy, a simple four-step process for transforming challenging behavior in young children, ages 3-8.

Early Bird: \$599/person (if registered by 8/4/2024)

Standard: \$659/person

September 4, 11, 18, 25, October 2 and 9, 2024

12 p.m.-2 p.m. ET

Promoting Adult Resilience: Building Your Bounce Train-the-Trainer Course

Learn how to train others on the important topic of adult resilience and its impact on the young children in our lives.


Early Bird: \$599/person (if registered by 8/5/2024)

Standard: \$659/person

COMMUNITY JOB BOARD!

APPLY NOW! **Open Positions:**

- Center Head Start - **Director, Education Manager and Family Services Manager**
- Reach out and Read Colorado - **Regional Coordinator**
- Sargent Early Learning Center - **Lead teacher (Fall of 2024)**



For more information:
**SEE DETAILS BELOW WITH
LINKS FOR EACH JOB VACANCY**

Center Head Start

Director:

The Director works to support the mission and values of the Head Start while providing a high quality educational experience for all of our families and students.

Qualifications include ability to work collaboratively with families and staff, planning and organizing, strong problem solving skills, time management, patience, and strong leadership and interpersonal skills. Any applicant must have, at a minimum, a baccalaureate degree and experience in supervision of staff, fiscal management, and administration. Responsibilities include,

but are not limited to, review and assess curricular needs, collaborate with parents, maintain effective record keeping of laws, policies, regulations, fiscal needs, and child and employee files.

In order to submit an application, please visit our website, email your application to amasterson@centurytel.net or apply in person at our office: 301 E Third Street in Center.

Education Manager:

Center Head Start is searching for an Education Manager. Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or equivalent, experience working with diverse children and families, knowledge of Early Childhood development and ECE reports. Highly advised that applicants have good communication skills, leadership skills and ability to plan and problem solve. Applications can be picked up the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions please call the office at [719-759-9259](tel:719-759-9259).

Family Services Manager:

Center Head Start is looking for a highly motivated Family Services Manager. Applicants must have strong interpersonal and communication skills. Required to have a degree, certificate or credential in social work, human services, family services, or counseling related field at hire or within 18 months of hire. This position works closely with our families to help them reach their goals and create community partnerships. Highly preferable if bilingual (English/Spanish). Applications can be picked up the Center Head Start Office or on the website. Questions please call the office at [719-759-9259](tel:719-759-9259).

Reach Out and Read Colorado

Regional Coordinator:

Reach Out and Read Colorado is in the process of hiring a part-time, remote Regional Coordinator in Southern Colorado. This position is just 5-8 hours per week for someone living in Southern Colorado. Please click on the link below for more details.

Job details: <https://reachoutandreadco.org/hiring/>

Sargent Early Learning Center

Lead Teacher:

Is hiring for a Lead Teacher beginning in the fall of 2024. Lead Teacher salary begins at \$22,000 per year depending on experience and PDIS level.

The lead teacher must hold a minimum of a level 2 in PDIS and must have the ability to be flexible, open to learning, and to take on new tasks/problems as they occur. He/she must also be able to pass the CBI/FBI/TRAILS background checks.

Benefits include paid holidays, sick pay, vacation time, and a simple IRA.

Learn more about the SELC at

<https://sargentearlylearning.wixsite.com/selc/programs>.

To apply, please send a letter of interest and resume to sargentearlylearningcenter@gmail.com.

Position open until filled.

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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bi-weekly newsletters.
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Early Childhood Council | 401 Santa Fe Avenue | Alamosa, CO 81101 US

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