



September 16th, 2024

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## Boys & Girls Clubs breaks ground on early childhood center

Aaron Miltenberger called it a “momentous day” when Boys & Girls Clubs and its San Luis Valley partners held a groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday evening for a new early childhood learning center.

Click [here](#) to read the full article featured in Alamosa Citizen!

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## UPK Updates

Universal Preschool Providers, keep enrolling children throughout the year to continue supporting your program and Colorado kids by promoting and connecting families to Colorado Universal Preschool. Use the strategies in the [Marketing Guide](#) and ready-to-go materials from the [Provider Marketing Tool Kit](#) to promote the opportunity for families to directly enroll in your universal preschool program(s) to save up to \$6,100 on high-quality early education and care. [Visit this link to view the full 2024-25 Provider Handbook.](#)

Space is limited! Registering now is the best way to ensure your child has access to your families top preschool choice.

As always please contact [719-214-6202](tel:719-214-6202) for additional information and support with the application.

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**NOW AVAILABLE!**



**Pathways to Success:**  
Colorado's Comprehensive Early Childhood Workforce Plan



**Launch of New Statewide Comprehensive  
Workforce Plan**

## **Launch of New Statewide Comprehensive Workforce Plan**

The Colorado Department of Early Childhood and the Early Childhood Leadership Commission are thrilled to share the launch of "[Pathways to Success: Colorado's Comprehensive Early Childhood Workforce Plan.](#)"

The plan brings together the goals, strategies, and recommendations from over 24 existing plans, initiatives, and frameworks. It takes a broader view of the workforce and is inclusive of the broad range of roles that serve children and families. We encourage you to read [the plan](#) and explore the many ways you can support a stronger early childhood workforce in Colorado.

Visit the [ECLC website](#) to learn more! Here, you can access the plan in English, Spanish, and Arabic as well as a webinar recording and slides and a toolkit to help you share the plan. If you have any questions, please use this [inquiry form](#).

Access Colorado's Comprehensive Early Childhood Workforce Plan [here](#).



## Early Childhood Mental Health Book List

### Mental Health Starts Early Book List

Be sure to check out the [children's book list](#) curated by Colorado Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) consultants, clinically-trained mental health specialists with expertise in early childhood development. Book categories include:

- Social-emotional learnings and feelings
- Attachment relationships
- Body safety and consent
- Self-love and acceptance
- Trauma
- Diversity and inclusion
- Diverse families

You can find the book list under "More Resources for Supporting Young Children" at [MentalHealthStartsEarly.com](https://www.MentalHealthStartsEarly.com). Learn more about these and other resources and services available to anyone across the state who cares for children under age six to better understand and care for the wellbeing of young children online or by calling (833) ECMH-411 (833-326-4411).

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### Coaching

**\*\*CANCELLED\*\***

Due to certain circumstances, The ECCSLV Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler Care (EQIT) course has been cancelled for this Fall semester.

The EQIT Team will take this semester to refocus goals for training and plan to offer the course in the Spring of 2025.

Please watch for EQIT training information as Spring of 2025 approaches.

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## Are you looking for childcare?

We have Family Child Care Home providers who want to hear from you! There are multiple spots available in Alamosa County as well as Rio Grande County.

Please contact Amanda Atencio at [ecresource@ecclsv.org](mailto:ecresource@ecclsv.org) for more information.

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## Family Child Care

Invest in Your Business with up to \$5,000 from the Family Child Care Home Facilities Improvement Grant.

The application window opens on September 16, 2024, and closes on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Click on the link for more information.**

**<http://www.ecclacolorado.org/fcchgrant>.**

# Are you a Family Child Care Provider looking for insurance?

Here is some information you need to know!

**There's basically two types of insurance coverage for FCCHs and their business:**

1. Child Care Endorsement that is added to the homeowner's policy. You **MUST** disclose that you have a home child care business to your homeowner's policy.
2. General and/or Professional liability that is completely separate from the homeowner's policy.

## **Insurance info we have discovered in our research**

1. From our research, it appears that State Farm (depending if it's a new or existing policy), American Family Insurance, and Farmers Insurance will add a child care endorsement to the homeowners policy that will cover either 6 children or the state allowed capacity on the provider's license. Most other insurance companies will limit the number of children to 4 on the child care endorsement or not offer homeowners insurance at all due to the child care business. This can create a dangerous situation. This is the issue we are hearing a lot about and are currently focusing on.

2. CAFCC is aware of two or three different insurance companies who underwrite general/professional liability policies for FCCHs. Assure, Markel (several companies use Markel as the underwriter), and Michelle Yardney with Farmers Insurance has an underwriter who is not Assure, but CAFCC is not sure of who the underwriter is.

Assure will only cover FCCHs who are state licensed.

Markel will consider license-exempt programs, but it is subject to underwriting approval.

CAFCC has not heard of any FCCHs having issues receiving coverage for general/professional liability from Assure or Markel.

**General and/or Professional Insurance Options CAFCC is aware of**

Assure 1-855-818-5437 [www.assurechildcare.com](http://www.assurechildcare.com)

Markel 1-888-515-8537 [www.markelchildcare.com](http://www.markelchildcare.com)

New England Insurance Services, Inc (Markel underwriter) 1-888-845-8288 [www.neisinc.com](http://www.neisinc.com)

Child Care Insurance Professionals (Markel underwriter) 1-888-812-9992

Farmers Insurance (has a carrier that can write the Commercial GL for in Home Daycare operations - and it is not Assure)

Michelle Yardeny 720-499-0021 [myardeny@farmersagent.com](mailto:myardeny@farmersagent.com)

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## Childcare Resource and Referral (CCRR)

Do you or anyone you know need help paying for childcare?

The Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) helps families that are working, searching for work, in school or homeless find low-income childcare assistance. Contact your local Department of Human Services for more information. Details are below!

- Alamosa County contact Linda Bruder at [\(719\) 589-2581](tel:7195892581).
  - Conejos County contact Margaret Jiron or Christine Garcia at [\(719\) 376-5455](tel:7193765455).
  - Costilla County contact Marissa Vigil at [\(719\) 672-4131](tel:7196724131).
  - Rio Grande County contact Wendy Barela Sierra [\(719\) 657-3381](tel:7196573381).
  - Saguache County contact Christina Wilson [\(719\) 655-2537](tel:7196552537).
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# 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](mailto:ecresource@eccslv.org)**



 **Wonderschool**

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

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



## 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

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

Click [Here](#) for interest form.

## PDIS News

### PDIS Help Session Calendar

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1N\\_ByxT6qJNISVRv1adteHpW5kSVaPKJG/edit#slide=id.p2](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1N_ByxT6qJNISVRv1adteHpW5kSVaPKJG/edit#slide=id.p2)

### PDIS Help Session Sign-Up

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/aa70a22a5cd9421a9a32a88d626bf75f>

### Expedited Co Pyramid Model Training

Oct 11th to Oct 28, 2024

Hi,

We are thrilled to announce the launch of the **NEW Colorado Pyramid Model Training!** Be among the first to learn how to support social-emotional development and manage challenging behaviors using the evidence-based Pyramid Model framework. This updated training replaces the Pyramid Plus Approach Training in Colorado. Here are the key differences:

- The training now consists of 21 sessions (up from 18), **spanning 50 hours.**
- **Content is tailored by age group**, with separate modules for infants/toddlers and preschoolers.
- **The attendance policy has changed. Module 1: "Getting Started" is mandatory and cannot be missed.** If missed,

you must re-enroll in a new training. Participants are allowed to miss up to 3 sessions in total.

- **The process for making up missed sessions** has also changed. Any missed modules must be made up within 14 days by watching the recorded session and submitting the required homework. To receive a certificate of attendance, all 21 sessions must be completed. If a participant misses Session 1 or more than 3 sessions, they will need to re-enroll in a future training.
- **Certificates will be issued in PDIS**, and participants must have a PDIS account to attend.

We look forward to having you join us in this exciting new training opportunity!

This training starts Oct Friday Oct 11th and will be conducted via Zoom and has a bit different schedule to accommodate additional sessions. We have added some week nights along with the weekends.

Click here for [Registration Link](#) and [Flyer with details](#)

Colorado Pyramid Model Training still provides a comprehensive framework for teachers dealing with problem behavior. It focuses on positive behavior support, inclusive practices, and fostering strong family partnerships. Teachers learn effective strategies to manage challenging behaviors and support children's social-emotional development.

This training still meets state requirements for Child Guidance Strategies (ECE 103) and is delivered by a certified trainer, teachers earn points and a badge in their PDIS account.

Don't miss this opportunity to expand your knowledge, network with fellow educators, and earn a certificate upon completion. Register now to secure your spot!

**Directors and Admin:** Please contact us for group registrations, or to schedule a training specifically for your staff. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

We can also help with other professional development trainings and observations for various tools, from baseline CLASS or ERS-

3 observations (to see where the classroom is currently at) to ERS-3, Trauma-Informed Practices, or Social and Emotional Trainings.

Visit our website for details:

[www.coloradochildcareconsulting.com](http://www.coloradochildcareconsulting.com)

We can help wherever you need us. We customize our services to meet your needs. We work with a variety of large and small centers. Our goal is for your staff to know where they are at, build their knowledge base, and support them with their professional needs.

Please use this [Link](#) to schedule a no-obligation 30-minute consultation. We look forward to learning about your program.

Read more about our services in this [Flyer](#).

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# COMMUNITY JOB BOARD!

APPLY NOW! **Open Positions:**

- Children's Garden Early Learning Center

**Position:** Executive Director

**Location:** Alamosa CO.

**(Full details below.)**



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

- Children's Garden Early Learning Center, full details [here](#).

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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.

Stay connected with us!

Subscribe to our  
newsletter!

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**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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