



## CAPACITY BUILDING

With spring and summer quickly approaching, the **Voices** program is creating safe places to play with the purpose of engaging youth and families in soccer kickarounds; this is in partnership with the **Southeast Springs Soccer Initiative (SeSSI)**, **Pride Soccer Club**, **Colorado College** and **Concrete Couch**.

## EXPANSION

Beginning July 1, 2022, JI and the **Voices** program will welcome a new **Restorative Justice (RJ) Coordinator** position to introduce, engage, and facilitate RJ practices both internally and across the Pikes Peak Region. This is a dream come true for JI staff, leadership and our community partners. More to come on RJ development and implementation strategies!

## PARTNERSHIPS

JI recently partnered with two **University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS)** professors to facilitate an equity learning opportunity. The content was well-received by participants and led to increased learnings about implicit bias and stereotype threat.

## ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- JI's **Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP)** began the process of addressing internal equity/conflict resolution with the completion of **11 staff connection groups (5 CORE Panel and 6 all staff)**.
- A total of **50 families** have been supported through **Family Assistance** funding this fiscal year.
- Over this past fiscal year, youth and parent advocates participated in **113 ISST meetings** (28 ISST, 79 E-ISST, and 6 C-ISST) for the purpose of being a relatable support network for our youth and families in order to address their unique needs, establish linkages to appropriate services, and offer guidance navigating our complex systems.
- The AFK Council's **Family Support + Education Subcommittee** has created a **Community Family Calendar** on the Joint Initiatives website. Parent training calendars and resources can be easily accessed and shared, and organizations have the ability to submit events and classes to be posted on the calendar. Currently, **11 events** can be found on this calendar.





## EXPANSION

**Early Milestone's CIRCLE grant** first round of grant applications has been completed, with a second round deadline of May 23rd. These grants **offer nearly \$23 million in ARPA funding for child care providers** and other community, education, and governmental partners to develop innovative solutions to child care challenges that were worsened by the pandemic.

## PARTNERSHIPS

The Alliance for Kids Council's Learning + Development Committee partnered with **The Community Cultural Collaborative** to provide a Provider Appreciation event to 50 early childhood educators on April 30th. This inspiring event provided networking, food, and enrichment training which focused on the **Simple Gift Series**.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

Colorado's **NEW** cabinet-level **Department of Early Childhood** and universal preschool has been, and will continue to be, a huge change in the systems that surround our children and families. The next collective step in this journey is translating the \*unanimously approved\* **Transition** and **Universal Preschool (UPK)** recommendations into legislation. The Governor and Colorado's the Office of State Planning and Budget are well on their way on the administrative and budgetary side with several budget requests pending before the Joint Budget Committee that were built in response to these recommendations.

UPK implementation will take effect July 1st, 2023 with the Alliance for Kids (AFK) Council serving as to lead the local UPK conversation, strategy and planning. The **Legacy Institute** has agreed to serve as this region's neutral facilitator of this **critical dialogue which began on April 9th and will reconvene on Saturday, May 14th**.

## ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **EPC Early Childhood Education Program Data Trends Report | March 2021 - March 2022**
- **Emerging & Expanding (E&E) Grant Opportunity:** El Paso County has **\$1.2M** in applications under review with **13** sites already funded for a total amount of **\$512,060** and **8** additional sites in the application process.
- **Coaching** has been provided to **87** licensed early childhood programs, and a cohort of **35** Family, Friend + Neighbor (FFN) providers has been built (not coached).
- With the return of **Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH)** practitioners to early childhood classrooms, JI continues to engage with **5** early childhood sites (**11** classrooms), impacting an estimated **121** young children in our community.
- Funded by Office of Early Childhood dollars, Foundations is partnering with Early Connections Learning Centers, to provide **Family Child Care Navigation**, which is being made available to **199** family child care providers.
- To celebrate and honor the work of our early childhood workforce, we shared a **Celebration Video** on social media.





## CAPACITY BUILDING

Proposed legislation **HB 22-1056 “Emergency Temporary Care for Children”** has been signed into law by the governor with the goal of establishing local shelter beds options for pre- and post-adjudicated youth. This law includes a fiscal note and proposes the utilization of current CYDC funding for this purpose. REACH’s Executive Committee has been monitoring the legislation, has discussed local impact/challenges, and is tasked with drafting a district-wide implementation plan. The anticipated implementation deadline is slated for July 1, 2022.

## EXPANSION

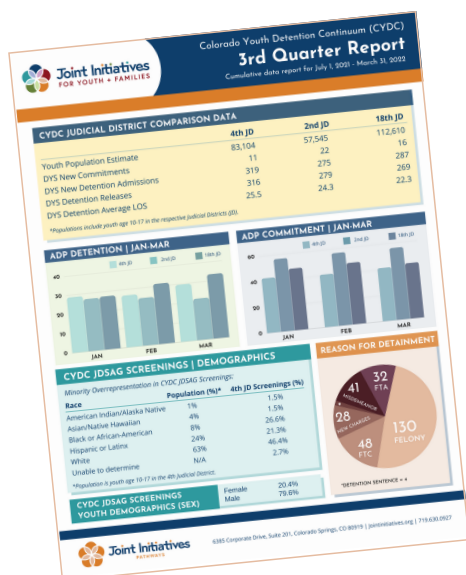
More FTE growth! JI has hired a new **Pathways Program Assistant** who is tasked with supporting the Pathways team in completing data collection/entry, REACH committee meetings coordination, and assisting with monthly and fiscal year-end State invoicing and submission.

## PARTNERSHIPS

It’s MOU season for HB1451 Collaborative Management Program (CMP)! The REACH Committee, it’s members, partners and Pathways Staff have been hard at work drafting the MOU language, goals and outcomes, and a final budget for the upcoming 2022-23 fiscal year. Critical to these efforts is **HB22-1329**, an amendment to the Colorado Legislature’s Long Bill, that includes **\$2 million additional** dollars for the CMP allocation fund. **A draft of El Paso County’s MOU was submitted to the State for review and feedback on Friday, April 29th.**

## ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

### • JI’s **FY21-22 CYDC/MTR Data Report – 3rd Quarter**



- To date, **MTR numbers have gradually increased** with **40** current open cases (**80** total cases for the fiscal year). This increase is a direct result of students returning to school and increased usage of illegal substances and mental health struggles in the youth population.
- This fiscal year, **113** youth and families have utilized Pathways’ **Individualized Service and Support Team (ISST)** process to address placement stability, need complexity, and the overcoming of barriers to services. This total represents 28 ISST, 79 Expedited-ISST, and 6 Child-ISST.
- JI’s **FY21-22 CYDC/MTR Data Report – REVISED 2nd Quarter Report**