**EL PASO COUNTY MONTHLY DATA TRENDS (July 2021 – June 2022)**

**ALL EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS**

Over the course of the fiscal year 2021-2022 (FY21-22), El Paso County has largely experienced a steady loss in our number of Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs. However, this has coincided with a steady increase in total licensed capacity of programs. At the start of FY21-22, we had 437 programs, and now we have 422 programs. These losses are primarily due to Family Child Care Homes (FCCHs). As I will show in later graphs, we have seen an increase in ECE centers. Due to this, the total licensed capacity of ECE programs has increased by 3.5%, despite the loss of programs. All numbers related to total licensed capacity should be considered with caution, as staffing will have a large impact on the true capacity of ECE programs, and some FCCHs may not want to be at full capacity. In terms of quality, the largest change percentage-wise has been in the number of Level 2 programs (22.6% increase from July 2021 to June 2022).

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTERS**

In July 2021, we started with 217 ECE centers, and we have largely seen a steady increase to 222 in June 2022. Centers can serve more children than FCCHs, so this has driven our overall increase in ECE program capacity. There has been a 4.7% increase in center capacity over FY21-22. The number of centers at each quality level has fluctuated some. There has been a 15.6%% increase in Level 2 centers and a 18.2% decrease in Level 3 centers. There are no Level 5 centers, which seems like an area of opportunity for our county. In terms of raw numbers, we have nine Level 3 centers and 60 Level 4 centers. This indicates that when centers go through the quality rating process, they are largely achieving a high-quality level.

**FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES**

Since July 2021, we have seen a 9.1% decrease in the number FCCHs in El Paso County. This has coincided with a 7.4% drop in FCCH capacity. Currently, FCCH capacity accounts for 9.0% of our total licensed capacity in El Paso County. Most of the losses are Level 1 (15.9% decrease) programs. Over the course of FY21-22, there was a 30.0% increase in the number of Level 2 programs. There are three FCCHs that consistently maintain a high- quality rating, and a fourth program attained this rating in April.

**COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CCCAP) PROGRAMS**

The number of CCCAP programs in our county has largely increased since July 2021. We currently have 116 CCCAP programs, an increase of 14.9%. We have maintained a consistent number of CCCAP programs over the last three months.

**INFANT AND TODDLER CAPACITY**

There has been some fluctuation in the estimated infant and toddler capacity of programs in El Paso County. We are maintaining an estimate of nearly 1200 infant slots across our county and roughly 2300 toddler slots. These estimates are based on ECCLA’s proposed method of capturing FCCH capacity for infants and toddlers and adding that number to the capacity centers report for the Colorado Information Marketplace Licensed Child Care Facilities dashboard. We have seen very minor losses in infant capacity and very minor gains in toddler capacity since this information became available. However, capacity for both is expected to decrease over the coming months.