

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 2022



EXPANSION

JI has started work on the two newly awarded CIRCLE grants. We hired a Foundations Partner Recruiter as part of this work, who will be focused on building early childhood education pathways within school districts and will attend career days and hiring fairs to increase recruitment into the field. Additionally, the CIRCLE grant will allow for pilot work that will support retention efforts at selected early childhood programs and will build a base of local data to inform future retention strategy work.

PARTNERSHIPS

JI has engaged a local stakeholder group of 40+ individuals to inform the development of the El Paso County Local Coordinating Organization (LCO) Community Plan. Stakeholders are inclusive of for-profit programs, not-for-profit programs, Family Child Care providers, Head Start, school districts, the local Family Resource Center, funders and families. Feedback has been summarized HERE and will be utilized to inform the final plan due to the Colorado Department of Early Childhood at the end of October.

CAPACITY BUILDING

The LCO Community Plan will highlight local capacity building needs necessary to implement LCO duties, including the implementation of Universal Pre-K (UPK) successfully. Needs that have been discussed in stakeholder sessions thus far include Family Resource Navigators, Coaches to provide UPK specific program guidance and support, as well as increased infrastructure for data and evaluation, as well as administrative support. JI plans to request funding from the State and additional funders to build the staffing needed for this large undertaking.

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of **24 programs have signed an MOU** with JI to engage in quality improvement efforts and **22** are in the queue for a Colorado Shines rating to increase and/or maintain their high-quality ratings.
- An additional 14 licensed programs gained CCCAP fiscal agreements in our community, increasing
 access to early childhood programming to the needlest of the needlest children and families.
- JI continues to provide embedded **early childhood mental health support at six programs** in our community. Practitioners are starting to see a shift in program culture and practices, reflecting movement toward field best practices.
- Thirty-seven FFNs were engaged this year and 8 of these informal providers went on to become licensed Family Child Care Homes (FCCHs).



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EXPANSION

More FTE growth! The REACH Committee recently approved the funding of an **additional Care Coordinator position** to support the district's Truancy Court program and their desire for more intensive case follow up in order to ensure that the family needs identified in the T-ISST process are met and that follow through has occurred.

CAPACITY BUILDING

We are excited to have received a small delay in submitting the Shelter Care programming budget for the 4th Judicial District. The state offered additional planning funds making the new allocation \$20,406. Our district will use this budget to plan, administer, and purchase shelter care. Initial estimates project a three-month planning process with capacity to serve five to ten qualifying youth. With successful implementation, additional budget for FY22-23 can be requested.

PARTNERSHIPS

Pathways staff made three site visits this month, to include **Teller County DHS**, **Children's Hospital** (**virtual**), **and Community Prep School**. All three programs serve youth that through ongoing communication we find crossover into our programming. These visits provided new innovative ideas for enhanced communication and collaboration when youth and families are involved with our collective systems.

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Pathways has a **Planning Team** and a **Care Team** that serve youth ages 0-21.
- Pathways Planning Team served the following for July 1 – September 13, 2022:
 - 9 E-ISST (Expedited)
 - 3 T-ISST (Truant)
 - 3 C-ISST (Children 0-10)
- The Pathways Care Team served the following for July 1 – September 13, 2022:
 19 youth (10-17) with Care Coordination
- FY2021-2022 CYDC Annual Report

