JI PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

FOUNDATIONS • PATHWAYS

FOUNDATIONS | APRIL 2025





SPEAK UP FOR KIDS DAY AT THE CAPITOL

JI's Foundations staff Speak up for Kids at annual advocacy event!



Joint Initiatives successfully completed the Early Childhood Council re-application process which resulted in JI being awarded the role within El Paso County for an additional 5 years.



Fifty-three programs
receiving quality
improvement coaching
this fiscal year. Currently,
34 of those programs are
in the queue to go through
the quality ratings process.

E+E GRANT FUNDING

JI has supported three early childhood programs with Emerging + Expanding grants, totaling \$223,265.91 in grant funding to date. This investment has created 160 additional spots in our community.

ECEQI

- DHS notified JI that they will not be able to continue this contract with JI moving forward.

 DHS administrators had to make difficult decisions due to the current fiscal picture related to CCCAP.

 The leadership shared the difficulty of making this decision and reported it had nothing to do with the work performed under the contract. Plans for ongoing partnership remain as both organizations share a mission to ensure strong systems for children and families in El Paso County (EPC).
- The programming impact this will have is that CCCAP programs will no longer have access to unlimited coaching hours from JI which in the long run will likely result in fewer high-quality rated CCAP programs in EPC.
- JI is assessing the overall budget to determine what impact this will have on FTE.
- JI is hearing concerns from early childhood education programs regarding the CCCAP freeze and are already seeing families not able to enroll in programming due to lack of ability to pay without assistance. The length of the freeze will determine impact, of course, however these early indications of barriers to enrollment are worrisome.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

FOUNDATIONS | APRIL 2025

UNIVERSAL PRE-K | YEAR 3

Now Colorado Universal Preschool Program (CUPP)

- JI successfully completed the Local Coordinating Organization RFA process and was awarded this role.
- UPK Program registration for the 2024/25 School Year is inclusive of 215 UPK providers in El Paso County. A total of 47 are Family Child Care Home Educators and 91 are center-based programs.
- A total of 88% of UPK 4-year-olds are matched with a provider and 1885 seats are still available.
- In March, the team had 825 contacts. This work is now being managed by just two full-time staff members.
- A total of **3,571 applications** have already been submitted for year three of the program.
- II is participating in the newly formed LCO Advisory Group which interfaces with the CDEC Executive team. Current work is focusing on addressing implementation concerns as well as advocacy.











FAMILY, FRIEND + NEIGHBOR (FFN) SUPPORTS

- JI hosted 3 playgroups with 73 adults and 122 total attendees, averaging 8 FFN caregivers per session. One session featured special programming from Opera Colorado, introducing opera to children and adults with positive feedback.
- Playgroups will be held at the Ascend Center for the months of April and May as the Community Cultural Collective has formally closed operations.



Total adults and children attending JI Playgroups in March

PATHWAYS | APRIL 2025

Plays, the Com.

FAMILY FRIENDLA

Family Friendly
't Committees
'rioritizing
'related

and a draft community plan will be shared.

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The **annual MOU process is underway** with the IOG members and updates are being made to reflect changes in local priorities as well as legislative changes. HB25:1035: Collaborative Management Program Updates has officially passed, and the MOU is being aligned to the expanded scope of managed care entities which allows CMP programs to enter into agreements with any Medicaidmanaged care entities, and well as increased access to ISST records for courts with the jurisdiction over the relevant case.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PATHWAYS | APRIL 2025



THE ASCEND CENTER



In March, 60 professionals including JI staff and key community partners—including Mission
Possible and Probation—received train-the-trainer professional development focused on
Restorative Practices and also engaged in the development of a related community plan.
Future work will include 60 hours of individualized coaching to help transfer learning into practice with youth and families.



• In partnership with local public health agencies, we **hosted a vaccine clinic at the Ascend Center to support access to both COVID-19 and routine immunizations.** The turnout was strong, and the event served as another great example of how community-based efforts can meet families where they are.



 Programming has been developed to further support the needs of Galileo students in the Ascend Center. Priority programming incudes wraparound services, before school tutoring, community garden, decompression space, and career days. JI will look into after school programming, engagement circles and in-school visitation programming for Fall 2025.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PATHWAYS | APRIL 2025



COLORADO YOUTH DETENTION CONTINUUM

- JI completed the CYDC/MTR Plan for FY25-26 with the assistance of the JSPC.
 - The plan's major shifts include clearer restrictions on detention bed usage, expanded authority for screening overrides, streamlined warrant and bond procedures and related eligibility. This plan was presented in front of the CYDC Board in March and approved unanimously by the full committee.
- Bed management in February and March saw trends with the 4th JD being over our allocation every day except for two and were over cap an average of 6 days each month. Hearings for HB25-1146: Juvenile Detention Bed Cap have been delayed to April 8, 2025, however, the JBC set aside the funding necessary to increase the bed cap.

SERVICE PROVISION



CARE COORDINATION

A total of **26 families** are being supported with intensive care coordination through JI.



TRUANCY/COMMUNITY ISSTS

Limited ISST service provision resumed this month and **28 youth** and their families were supported through the ISST process.



HIGH FIDELITY WRAPAROUND

A total of **4 families** were supported with HFW.