



## **EVALUATION PLAN**

Approved 11/4/2014, Updated 11/10/16

## OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION PROCESS

On an annual basis, the Early Childhood Council of Larimer County tracks and reports data to the community to inform, plan and evaluate our collective work. ECCLC used many of the principles of Results-Based Accountability™<sup>1</sup> when developing this plan.

To the greatest degree possible, we choose data measures that are reliable<sup>2</sup>, valid<sup>3</sup>, and community-wide<sup>4</sup>. We consider this plan a living document, and are committed to revising it as we identify additional relevant data. The two levels of data that are reported annually are:

- **Larimer County Population Level Indicators:** These are community-wide measures of needs and trends that inform our planning efforts as a community. These are generally slow to change, and are not directly impacted by our collective work, although the expectation is that we can positively impact some of these measures over time.
- **Service System Performance Measures:** These are measures related to our strategic goals and the collective work of ECCLC and our community partners. The measures are organized by two target population groups: families and children; early care and education providers. Our strategic plan includes specific targets for many of these measures.

We recognize that much of the collective impact work being done cannot be measured quantitatively. We are committed to capturing and sharing qualitative data in addition to the data identified above.

ECCLC also tracks several Internal Early Childhood Council Performance Measures, organized by our two target “customer” populations: early care and education providers and community partners. These data are used internally, in combination with many of the service system performance measures, to track and evaluate the work of the ECCLC staff. The data include both output and outcome measures. The outcome measures are not included in the Service System Performance Measures because they do not meet the “community-wide” data criteria. Outcome examples include retention rates for ECE scholarship recipients and TPOT<sup>5</sup> and TPITOS<sup>6</sup> scores from early care and education programs that work with ECCLC staff to implement the Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children.

## Larimer County Population Level Indicators

### DEMOGRAPHIC DATA:

- Child population (under 5)<sup>7</sup>
- Child poverty rates<sup>8</sup>
- Children Qualifying for Free and Reduced Lunch<sup>9</sup>
- Children Receiving WIC Program Vouchers<sup>10</sup>
- % of children in Larimer County with both parents in the workforce<sup>11</sup>

### LEARNING:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading scores, broken down by ethnicity/race<sup>12</sup>
- NOT YET AVAILABLE: Kindergarten Readiness

### HEALTH DATA:

- % of Uninsured Children<sup>13</sup>
- # of children eligible but not enrolled in Medicaid or CHP+<sup>14</sup>
- Child Abuse and Neglect Rate<sup>15</sup>
- Obesity Rate of Children on the WIC Program<sup>16</sup> (note: this is a measure of an at risk population)
- NOT YET AVAILABLE: % of children in licensed child care centers who are immunized<sup>17</sup>

### CHILD CARE:

- # of children receiving CCAP subsidy<sup>18</sup>
- Estimated dollars invested in subsidized care across Larimer County<sup>19</sup>

## Service System Performance Measures

### Families and Children

- # of referrals to Early Intervention for a potential developmental delay<sup>20</sup>
- % of referrals to Early Intervention that result in evaluation<sup>21</sup>
- % of children evaluated by Early Intervention who are determined eligible for services<sup>22</sup>
- % of children in CCAP served in child care programs with a Colorado Shines Level 3 or higher<sup>23</sup>
- # of child care referrals provided by the state funded child care referral line<sup>24</sup>

### Licensed Child Care

- % of licensed child care providers engaged in quality improvement as measured by those with a Colorado Shines Level Rating of 2 or higher<sup>25</sup>
- # of licensed child care providers with each level of Colorado Shines Rating (1 – 5)<sup>26</sup>
- # of professionals working in licensed ECE program with an ECE credential<sup>27</sup>
- # of professionals working in licensed ECE program with an ECE credential of 3 or higher<sup>28</sup>
- Child care trends:<sup>29</sup>
  - # of ECE programs by license type
  - Licensed capacity vs vacancy
  - Licensed capacity vs population vs projected need by age group
  - # of child care programs accepting CCAP subsidies vs. total # of programs
  - # of newly licensed FCCHs (each year)

## Internal Early Childhood Council Performance Measures

### Licensed Child Care

- # of ECE programs/classrooms receiving coaching support from ECE<sup>30</sup>
- # of coaching hours provided<sup>31</sup>
- Pre and post TPOT<sup>32</sup> scores
- Pre and post TPITOS<sup>33</sup> scores
- Quality improvement funds distributed to providers<sup>34</sup>
- # of training hours provided<sup>35</sup>
- # of scholarships provided<sup>36</sup>
- # of unduplicated training participants<sup>37</sup>
- # of ECCLC scholarship recipients who received a degree or met licensing qualification criteria<sup>38</sup>
- % of ECCLC scholarship recipients who are still in the field after 2 years<sup>39</sup>

### Community Partners

- Number of engaged partners (both with and without MOUs)<sup>40</sup>
- % of ECC meetings with 20 or more non-staff members<sup>41</sup>
- # of community advisory groups at which ECCLC has staff representation<sup>42</sup>
- # of on-going community partner initiatives for which ECCLC has a leadership/co-leadership role<sup>43</sup>
- TO BE DEVELOPED: Collaboration Satisfaction survey

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- <sup>1</sup> Friedman, Mark, *Trying Hard is Not Good Enough* (FPSI Publishing, 2005)
- <sup>2</sup> Reliable – the measurement produces stable and consistent results when repeated over time
- <sup>3</sup> Valid – the data collection tool is measuring what it is supposed to measure
- <sup>4</sup> Community-wide – the data is applicable to a broad-based effort, rather than limited to the work of individual program(s). The goal is that these measurements will be representative of the community as a whole. In some instances this may be a “proxy” measure for the community, which means that community-wide conclusions can be drawn based on the data.
- <sup>5</sup> Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool™
- <sup>6</sup> Teaching Pyramid Infant Toddler Observation Scale™
- <sup>7</sup> KIDS COUNT
- <sup>8</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>11</sup> Annie E. Casey Foundation
- <sup>12</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>13</sup> KIDS COUNT
- <sup>14</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>15</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>16</sup> Larimer County Department of Health and Environment, WIC Program
- <sup>17</sup> Larimer County Department of Health and Environment
- <sup>18</sup> Larimer County Department of Human Services Child Care Assistance Program
- <sup>19</sup> ECCLC annual survey data. This data is an approximation of the major sources of subsidy in the community.
- <sup>20</sup> Early Intervention at Foothills Gateway
- <sup>21</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>22</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>23</sup> Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood
- <sup>24</sup> Mile High United Way Child Care Referral Service
- <sup>25</sup> ECCLC – CDHS Salesforce database
- <sup>26</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>27</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>28</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>29</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>30</sup> ECCLC/ECE Provider Memorandum of Understanding
- <sup>31</sup> ECCLC database
- <sup>32</sup> Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool™ scores collected by ECCLC
- <sup>33</sup> Teaching Pyramid Infant Toddler Observation Scale™ scores collected by ECCLC
- <sup>34</sup> ECCLC financial records
- <sup>35</sup> ECCLC database
- <sup>36</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>37</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>38</sup> ECCLC annual survey of scholarship recipients
- <sup>39</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>40</sup> ECCLC
- <sup>41</sup> Early Childhood Advisory Council sign in sheets
- <sup>42</sup> ECCLC
- <sup>43</sup> Ibid.