

HEAD START PRESCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT

FY24/25



CHICANOS
POR LA CAUSA

Message from the ECD CO Vice President

Greetings to all parents, friends, and community allies:

On behalf of everyone at Chicanos Por La Causa, it is my pleasure to present this Early Childhood Development (ECD) Colorado Annual Report to you: our clients, staff, partners, and supporters, for the 2024-2025 program year. As we reflect on this past year, we celebrate the growth and resilience of our Head Start Preschool program and the families we serve. Since transitioning to CPLC ECD in February 2024, we have worked diligently to strengthen our program, expand services, and refine our strategies to ensure every child is prepared for lifelong success. The dedication and passion of our program staff for children and community have allowed us to continue providing a high level of service.

We are excited to share the successes achieved over the past year that are reflected in this annual report. The foundation of our strength is the people who make up CPLC ECD Colorado. We have a team of educated and trained professionals who perform their work from the heart. We started this year with the theme of “Dare to Dream” because we wanted to give children, families and communities the vision for bright and bountiful futures.

In closing, we would first and foremost like to thank our Head Start parents and guardians for allowing us the opportunity to partner with you in your family’s early childhood experience. Second, we could not do this work without the amazing community partners that provide essential services to our children and families. We are extremely thankful for our parent Policy Council representatives, CPLC Board of Directors, and CPLC Senior leadership for their support and guidance. We will continue to do our work with heart and commitment, knowing we are laying the foundation for future leaders and achievers striving to make a difference in our communities - one child at a time.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Duskey-Kochis

Rhonda Duskey-Kochis
CPLC Vice President of Early Childhood Colorado
Chicano Por La Causa



About Chicanos Por La Causa

Our History

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC) was incorporated in 1969 and is embarking on its 56th year of advocating and empowering disadvantaged communities. Our founders were Mexican American women and men who sought to improve living conditions for Latino families in Arizona by eliminating discrimination and advocating for systemic economic, educational and political change. Our roots are in the national farmworker rights movement made famous by historical icons like Dolores Huerta and César Chávez, and in the largely student-led struggle for educational equity in Phoenix's public schools, most active in the 1960's and '70s.

Mission Statement: We drive economic and political empowerment

Vision: Empowered lives

Today, CPLC is one of the largest Latino serving community development corporations impacting more than 2 million people annually throughout Arizona, Colorado, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Texas. CPLC offer a comprehensive array of educational, social and human service programs as well as opportunities for stable housing and economic development.

CPLC Early Childhood Development Program (ECD)

The Early Childhood Development program (ECD) has been a vital part of CPLC since 1996, when it became the sole grantee for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS) service in Arizona. ECD support children ages 0-5 from low-income families and migrant seasonal families. CPLC ECD Promotes school readiness by promoting children's physical, social-emotional, and cognitive development.

CPLC ECD has expanded its reach, offering MHS, Early Head Start and Head Start Preschool services across Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Most recently CPLC ECD has grown into Colorado, where they provide Head Start Preschool services.

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About Head Start

Head Start Preschool programs support children's social and emotional development from birth to age 5. They do so by providing families with health and nutrition resources alongside additional services. Federally funded, our Head Start Preschool programs prepare children to succeed in school and in life through learning experiences tailored to their changing needs and abilities.

CPLC ECD Colorado

CPLC operates seven Early Childhood Development Head Start Preschool centers in Southern Colorado. Centers can be found in Las Animas, Pueblo and Huerfano. CPLC ECD CO opened it's doors in February of 2024, and has become a lifeline for families living in poverty.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Grantee

CPLC ECD

Administrative Office Address:

515 N Chester Ave.
Pueblo, CO 81003

Telephone

719-420-0177

Head Start Preschool VP

Rhonda Duskey Kochis

Agency Website

cplc.org

Head Start Preschool Locations

Pueblo County:

- Christ the King Head Start: 1 Macnaughton Rd.
Pueblo, CO 81001-1762
- Kinderkirk Partnership Head Start: 434 S. Conquistador Ave.
Pueblo West, CO 81007
- Life Center Academy Partnership 1: 3939 Redwood Ln.
Pueblo, CO 81005
- Salvation Army Head Start: 401 S. Prairie Ave.
Pueblo, CO 81005
- Pueblo Community College: 900 W. Orman Ave.
Pueblo, CO 81004

Las Animas County:

- Trinidad Head Start Center: 1021 Pierce St.
Trinidad, CO 81082-3648

Huerfano County:

- Head Start Preschool Walsenburg: 108 Kansas
Ave. Walsenburg, CO 81089

CPLC Head Start Preschool serves 265 children ages 3-5 in center-based classroom. The program has maintained full enrollment and currently has a waiting list of 3 children in Huerfano County, 15 in Las Animas County and 59 in Pueblo County. The most significant increases have been at our Salvation Army and Christ the King locations.



245

Families Served



265

Children Served



240

Eligible Children



260

Appropriate Medical Home



78.30

Attendance per Site

Children and Families Served

CPLC Head Start Preschool continues to provide services to children and families in Pueblo, Huerfano, and Las Animas counties with a total estimated population of approximately 190,775. These communities face challenges, including high poverty, healthcare barriers, and unemployment. Pueblo County, the largest service area, has a growing population with a high percentage of low-income households, with over 20% of children under five living in poverty.

Children Served

- Income at/below federal poverty line -26
- Public Assistance -218
- TANF documentation -24
- SSI documentation - 6
- SNAP documentation - 188
- Foster care - 6
- Homeless - 11

Families Served

- Number of Families Receiving WIC - 130
- Number of Families Receiving TANF - 32
- Number of Families Receiving SNAP - 196



Curriculum and Program Model

Our Head Start Preschool program remains committed to providing a research-based, developmentally appropriate, and comprehensive approach to early childhood education. We utilize a combination of evidence-based curricula to support the diverse learning needs of children while fostering meaningful family engagement.

Creative Curriculum for Preschool – 6th Edition

Our program continues to implement MyTeachingStrategies (MTS) Creative Curriculum for Preschool – 6th Edition, a research-based, whole-child approach designed to support children's cognitive, social-emotional, and physical development. This curriculum emphasizes hands-on, project-based learning, allowing children to explore their environment, develop problem-solving skills, and engage in play-based educational experiences that align with school readiness goals. The curriculum includes built-in support for differentiated instruction, ensuring that children of all learning styles and abilities receive the guidance they need to thrive.

ReadyRosie

To strengthen the home-school connection, our program incorporates ReadyRosie, a family engagement tool grounded in research-based practices. ReadyRosie provides families with interactive, video-based learning experiences designed to support children's learning outside the classroom. By offering accessible, real-life learning opportunities, ReadyRosie empowers parents and caregivers to become active participants in their child's development. This model enhances school readiness by reinforcing classroom concepts at home in an engaging and practical manner.

Conscious Discipline

Social-emotional learning is a fundamental component of our program, and we have integrated Conscious Discipline to create a positive and supportive learning environment. Conscious Discipline is an evidence-based approach that equips teachers, staff, and families with strategies to foster self-regulation, emotional intelligence, and positive behavior management. By implementing this model, our educators are trained to respond to challenging behaviors in a constructive manner while fostering a culture of connection, safety, and problem-solving. This approach benefits not only children but also supports families by providing them with techniques to reinforce emotional well-being at home.



SmartTeach

Data Assessment and Progress Monitoring

245
Families served

152
Families received
at least one
service

66
Not in workforce
families

71
Father figures
engaged

124
Two-parent
families

189
Employed
families

141
Single-parent
families

To ensure that our curriculum remains responsive to children's developmental progress, we utilize SmartTeach, a data-driven assessment tool that helps track and evaluate student learning outcomes. Smart Teach allows educators to collect real-time data on children's progress, identify areas of need, and tailor instruction accordingly. By using this system, we maintain a continuous cycle of assessment, planning, and individualized instruction to optimize student success.

Domain	Children Ages 3-5
Social-Emotional	93.46%
Physical	94.70%
Language	86.40%
Cognitive	93.00%
Literacy	87.13%
Mathematics	85.53%



Our multifaceted curriculum approach ensures that all children receive a well-rounded early learning experience that supports their academic, social-emotional, and developmental needs. By integrating Creative Curriculum, ReadyRosie, Conscious Discipline, and SmartTeach, we provide a comprehensive, high-quality program designed to prepare children for long-term success in school and beyond.

Family Engagement

Our Head Start program is committed to fostering strong, collaborative relationships between families, staff, and community partners to enhance child development and family well-being. Through targeted engagement efforts, we support families in becoming active participants in their child's education while connecting them with essential community resources.

Family Engagement Activities

Throughout the program year, we have expanded our family engagement initiatives to create meaningful opportunities for parent involvement:

- **Parent Education & Leadership:** We hosted a series of parent education workshops focused on financial literacy, nutrition (Cooking Matters), and trauma-informed care to equip families with valuable knowledge and skills. Additionally, we encouraged family leadership by strengthening participation in Policy Council, Parent Committees, and classroom volunteer opportunities.
- **Health & Wellness Initiatives:** To promote family well-being, we organized Health & Wellness Fairs across program sites, offering free health screenings, vision and hearing screenings, and vendor resources. Additionally, during the program year our Nutrition and Health Coordinator present at least one time at each parent committee meeting
- **Community Partnerships & Resource Referrals:** Our Family Support and Engagement Workers (FSEWs) play a crucial role in connecting families with local resources for housing assistance, mental health services, employment opportunities, and food security.



Health Services

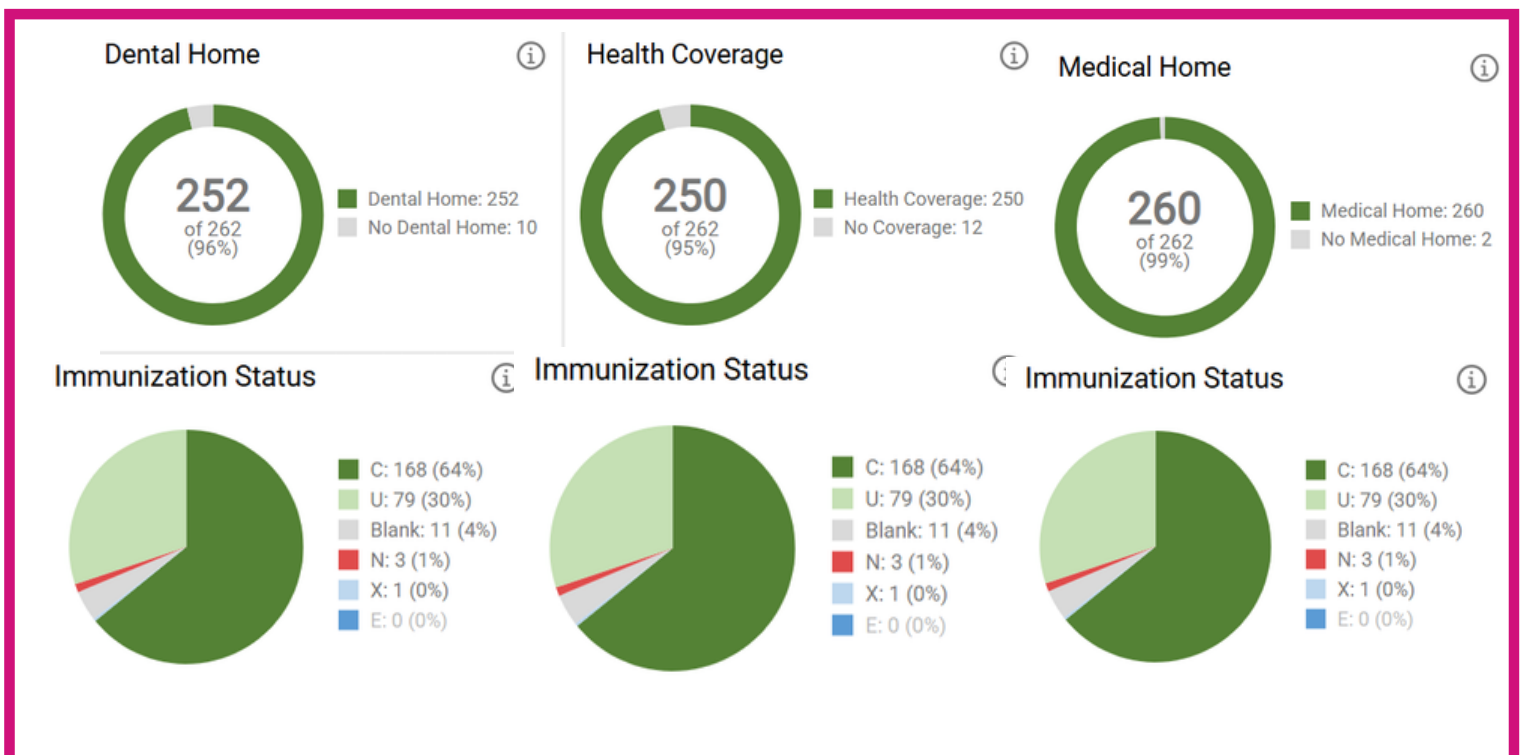
Our program remains committed to ensuring that all enrolled children receive comprehensive health services that support their overall well-being and school readiness. We prioritize early identification of health concerns through regular screenings conducted within 30, 45, and 90 days of enrollment. These screenings include vision, hearing, dental, developmental, and social-emotional assessments to detect any potential concerns and provide timely interventions.

To promote preventive care, we have expanded health education initiatives for families by hosting annual Health & Recruitment Fairs, offering free health screenings, vision and hearing screenings, and connections to local healthcare providers.

Additionally, our Health and Nutrition Coordinators actively engage with parents through presentations at parent committee meetings, reinforcing the importance of nutrition, hygiene, and preventive healthcare.

We continue to work closely with community partners to address barriers such as limited healthcare access in rural areas and vaccine hesitancy among some families. Through a combination of education, outreach, and direct service referrals, we strive to support the health and well-being of every child and family in our program.

Health Data



Kindergarten Readiness



Preparing children for a successful transition to kindergarten is a fundamental goal of our Head Start Preschool program. We utilize a comprehensive, research-based approach to ensure that children develop the academic, social-emotional, and self-regulation skills needed for school success. Through our curriculum, including MyTeachingStrategies (MTS) Creative Curriculum for Preschool 6th Edition and ReadyRosie, we provide age-appropriate learning experiences that foster language, literacy, math, and problem-solving skills.

In addition to academic preparation, we emphasize social-emotional development through Conscious Discipline strategies, helping children build resilience, emotional regulation, and positive peer interactions. Our Family Support and Engagement Workers (FSEWs) play a crucial role in the transition process by working closely with families to ensure they have the information and resources needed for a smooth entry into kindergarten. They assist with school registration, provide families with kindergarten readiness at parent committee meetings, and help access additional resources.

Financial Position Statement

Public Funder:

Administration for Families & Children

Budget Period Start Date 06/01/2024 - End Date 05/31/2025

Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated by this Action - \$206,823.00

Direct Cost Amount - \$179,223.00

Indirect Cost Amount - \$27,600.00

Total Amount of Federal Funds Obligated this budget period - \$8,918.369.00

Total Approved Cost Sharing or Matching, where applicable - \$1,013.91.00

Total Federal and Non-Federal Approved this Budget Period - \$10,139,102.00

Total Amount of the Federal Award including Approved Cost Sharing or Matching this Period of Performance - \$13,855,090.00





Head Start Preschool - Colorado
cplc.org



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