

**ECCLA is pleased to thank the
Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation
as our partner in
celebrating the 20th Anniversary
of the Early Childhood Councils.**

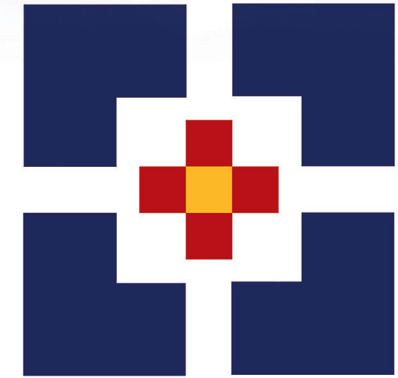


Temple Hoyne
Buell Foundation

**ECCLA is the voice for Early Childhood Councils
as they work to ensure that all Colorado
children are valued, healthy and thriving.
We invite you to join us on this journey.**

For more information

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**EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL
LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE**

The mission of the
Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance
is to improve access to
quality services and supports
for young children
through a statewide network of
Early Childhood Councils
and key stakeholders.



Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance

That is a mouthful! What is it?

ECCLA, for short, is a membership association for Colorado's statewide network of Early Childhood Councils. **These 31 Councils work with local and state partners to connect and support programs and services for young children and their families in communities across the state.**

Wow, that sounds like a big job, tell me more.

Early Childhood Councils help families, teachers, health care providers, mental health specialists and many others as they support children to be successful in school and in life.

Councils have a bird's eye view on the work that is taking place for young children across their communities.

A Council's role is to serve as an early childhood hub, making connections between each child, service and field.

Can you give a specific example?

Sure! The Early Childhood Council of Larimer County is a partner of **Be Ready**, a campaign working to make sure all children in the county will be ready to succeed when they enter school. This collaboration engages the *entire* community to fill children's lives with supportive experiences. For example, an interactive website has tips to help toddlers learn, grow and thrive through reading, exploring, asking questions, discovering and playing.

What else do Councils do?

Some Councils provide early screenings so that parents can get the extra support their young children may need. ECHO and Family Center Early Childhood Council in Fremont County offers activities that ensure children's vision, hearing, talking, problem solving, motor skills, and social/emotional skills are on track. If services are needed, the Council assists families to access them.

What about child care? There is so much about that in the news these days.

All Councils support local child care providers with professional development, continuing education, technical assistance, coaching, and resource grants—all designed to improve the availability, accessibility and quality of the settings where so many of Colorado's children spend their days. We are also working to ensure early childhood caregivers and teachers are properly compensated for the important work they do caring for and educating our children.

I'm so glad Colorado has Early Childhood Councils! What do they need from me?

We are happy you asked! You can visit www.ecclacolorado.org to learn about ECCLA and your local Council. Find out what we are doing together to meet the local early childhood needs in your community—and **become our champion!** Many Councils are looking for members, and all of them want local business leaders, policy makers and other community leaders to know about their important work. **Help spread the word!**

