WHO ARE WE?

Custer County Kids Council (CCKC) is a collaborative of many local organizations, agencies, and key individuals working together to facilitate and promote quality programs and services for all children and families prenatal through Age 8.

We are one of 34 early childhood councils in Colorado that are part of the Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance.

OUR BOARD

Our board consists of members and supporters representing a broad range of stakeholders and one part-time paid council coordinator.

MEMBERS
Janet Candelaria – Custer County Medical Clinic Board, EMS
Jessica Carter – Youth Services Librarian; West Custer County Library
Tiffany Cumming – Early Childhood Specialist; Solvista Mental Health
Terry Eiland – Custer County Preschool Director-Teacher
Robert Gemin – Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation
Beth Green – Immunization Nurse; Custer County Public Health
Laura Lockhart – Custer County Department of Human Services Director
Elizabeth Maestas McCabe – Chamber of Commerce
Doreen Newcomb – C-1 District School Board
Mark Payler – C-1 School Dist. Superintendent
Amanda Reiff – Lighthouse Pregnancy Center Board; RN; Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)
Angela Sheehorn – Director; Children First, Pueblo
Lori Short – Excellence in Education
Elanor Straight – Parent representative
Kathy Taylor – HMHF Children’s Health Fund Chairperson

SUPPORTERS
Lisa Kaufman – Altitude Fitness; Preschool Staff
Jay Printz – Board of County Commissioners

OTHER
Kathy Clark – CCKC coordinator

ALL OUR KIDS DESERVE A STRONG START IN LIFE

P.O. Box 297, Westcliffe, CO 81252
custercountyecc@gmail.com

PROMOTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN PRENATAL – AGE 8

WE ALL PLAY A ROLE IN THAT START!

https://ecclacolorado.org/
WHY EARLY CHILDHOOD MATTERS
DID YOU KNOW?

95% OF BRAIN DEVELOPMENT OCCURS BY AGE 5

A FEW MORE FACTS
• The fastest rate of brain development occurs from age 0-3
• If babies’ bodies grew as fast as their brains, they would weigh 170 pounds at one-month of age
• Social-emotional development begins at birth
• Social interaction increases the speed of learning
• ALL adults who are part of a child’s life impact his/her brain development

COMMUNITIES RICH IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES AND LEARNING EXPERIENCES SHOW GREATER PROSPERITY AND SOCIAL GAINS

CUSTER COUNTY RESOURCES

EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Preschool and Daycare
- Custer County Preschool, 719-783-4891
- Robin Gaide Daycare, 719-783-9632
- Willene Squire Daycare, 719-783-2508

Programs for children 0 – Age 8
- Altitude Fitness, 719-783-0750
- West Custer Library: Play and Learn; Camp Happiness, 719-783-9138

FAMILY SUPPORT AND EDUCATION

Socialization
- Mothers of Preschoolers, 913-710-6109

Services
- Custer County Sharing Center, 719-783-3303
- Department of Human Services, 719-783-2371
- Family Crisis Center, call 719-275-2429
- Lighthouse Pregnancy Center, 719-783-4357
- Valley Parks & Recreation Youth Center, 719-783-2289

HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Services
- Custer County Public Health, 719-783-3369
- Family-Nurse Partnership, 719-275-2301
- Solvista Mental Health, 719-783-0566
- Custer County Medical Clinic, 719-783-2380

STATE RESOURCES

Colorado Early Learning & Developmental Guidelines: https://earlylearningco.org/
Colorado Shines: http://www.coloradoshines.com/
Colorado Department of Education, Early Learning and School Readiness: https://www.cde.state.co.us/early
Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance (ECCLA): https://ecclacolorado.org/
Growing Strong Colorado - Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: http://grg.colostate.edu/

NATIONAL RESOURCES

CDC Milestone Tracker: https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones-app.html
Child Care Aware: http://www.childcareaware.org/
Healthy Children: https://www.healthychildren.org
Zero to Three: https://www.zerotothree.org/