



**STRATEGIC PLAN
2009-2012**

VISION: We envision a bright future for every child.

MISSION: The Bright Futures Regional Early Childhood Council is a coalition dedicated to providing leadership, innovation, influence, and resources to ensure our Region has a high quality early childhood system.

GOAL ONE Early Care and Education: An effective, coordinated system supports high- quality, standards driven, and Developmentally appropriate programs for children and the people who care for them.

Strategy 1A- Provide and coordinate quality training

- 1A1 Quality workshops are available throughout the region
- 1A2 College level Early Childhood classes are available to all early childhood professionals to meet 2010 director and group leader state requirements
- 1A3 Bright futures website is continuously updated (brightfuturesforchildren.org)
- 1A4 Provide home visitors to child care home and centers to encourage providers to use internet

Activities	Outputs/ Outcomes	Target Date	Person Responsible
Quality workshops are available throughout the region.	Six workshops are offered in each county each year.	July 2009-June 2012	Chair, Regional Professional Development Committee
College level Early Childhood classes are available to all early childhood professionals.	College level Early Childhood courses are offered each semester at Delta/ Montrose	September 2009- May 2012	Chair, Regional Professional Development Committee

	Vocational College, The University Centers of the San Miguels, and Western State College.		
Early Childhood Council distributes plan for training.	Training calendar will be emailed- mailed twice a year. Reminders of individual trainings will be mailed 2 weeks prior to training.	July 2009- June 2012	Chair, Regional Professional Development Chair Jill Burchmore, Program Director
Annual training calendar is developed and implemented.	Each county reports training requests to Regional Early Childhood Council. Council will develop calendar twice per year. Calendar will be implemented by regional partners.	July 2009- June 2012	Chair, Regional Professional Development Committee Jill Burchmore, Program Director
Regional web site is functional	Bright Futures (the non-profit organization) will maintain web site for use by regional council	ongoing	Jill Burchmore, Bright Futures Program Director
Home visitor to encourage providers to use internet	20% more providers will use internet	July 2010-June 2011	Cathy James/Jill Burchmore

Strategy 1C- Create the capacity to provide accessible and affordable quality child car

- 1C1 Develop regional financial resources to support capacity building
- 1C2 Provide mentoring for new licensed providers
- 1C3 Train two regional providers in EQIT and have them teach other regional providers

Activities	Outputs/ Outcomes	Target Dates	Person Responsible
Develop regional financial resources to support capacity building	Additional financial resources are identified and acquired. San Miguel County will explore a tax initiative.	July 2009 to June 2012	Chair, Regional Early Education Committee, San Miguel County Commissioner, Elaine Fischer, Cathy James, Bright Futures Director
New licensed providers will receive mentoring from a qualified Qualistar coach	New providers will feel confident to open a home/center	On going	Mary Alice Wagner-Qualistar Coach
Two regional providers will be asked to attend 72 hours of training for train the trainers in EQIT	These providers will offer regional trainings	2011	Cathy James will select the providers

Strategy 1D- Expand the utilization of Quality Ratings in the Region

1D1 Conduct local information sharing meetings.

1D2 Acknowledge/ honor quality rated child care sites.

1D3 Increase the availability of trained coaches and mentors.

1D4 Promote the importance of quality child care and the achievement of quality rated child care sites.

Activities	Outputs/ Outcomes	Target Dates	Person Responsible
Conduct local information sharing meetings.	Annual Orientation to the Ratings meetings are held in each county of the region.	July 2009 to June 2012	Chair, Regional Quality Improvements Committee Deborah Dearmin, Qualistar Coach
Acknowledge/ honor quality rated sites.	Each rated site will be honored upon receiving a rating. All rated sites will receive public acknowledgement annually.	July 2009 to June 2012	Chair, Regional Quality Improvements Committee
Increase the availability of	At least 3 coaches/ mentors will	September 2009 to June 2012	Chair, Regional Quality

trained coaches and mentors.	be available to the region.		Improvements Committee
Promote the importance of quality child care and the achievement of quality rated child care sites.	Public awareness plan is implemented addressing the importance of quality child care and the achievement of quality rated child care sites.	July 2009 to June 2012	Chair, Regional Media Committee-Jill Burchmore, Program Director

Goal 2 Health: An effective, coordinated system supports high-quality health care for young children.

Strategy 2A- Support and collaborate with the goals of the Colorado Trust Regional Health Grant

- 2A1 Communication between planning committee and regional council
- 2A2 Implementation of plan to each region

Activities	Outputs/ Outcomes	Target Date	Person Responsible
A report will be given to the regional council quarterly on the progress of the planning committee	Regional Council will be able to provide feed back to the planning committee	July 2009 to January 2010	Cathy James. Executive Director, Bright Futures
Planning committee will identify two health goals to be implemented in each county	Regional Council will support and help implement the identified goals	January 2010 to June 2012	Chair, Regional Health Committee

Strategy 2B- Create health awareness and prevention through a regional child health fair

- 2B1 Create regional planning committee for the fair
- 2B2 Organize fair in each major city in the region

Activities	Outputs/ Outcomes	Target Date	Person Responsible
Create planning committee	Health needs in each county will be identified	July 2009 to July 2010	Chair, Regional Health Committee

Booths will be created in each identified area.	Education will be provided in drug and alcohol abuse, health insurance, immunizations, well child checks, universal access to families, fingerprinting	July 2010 to June 2012	County Representatives to Regional Early Childhood Council
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Goal 3 Mental Health: An effective coordinated system supports high-quality mental health services for young children

Strategy 3A- Create awareness that social/ emotional health is a crucial part of a child’s early development.

- 3A1 Implement the Colorado Social/Emotional Pyramid in all four counties
- 3A2 Train providers in all four counties on the Pyramid
- 3A3 Provide parent education classes in each county on the Colorado Pyramid.

Activities	Outputs/ Outcomes	Target Date	Person Responsible
Engage experts from UNBOCS who are trained in the Colorado Pyramid to talk to the Regional council	Regional Council will appoint two providers from each county to take the Pyramid Training	July 2009-Oct. 2009	Chair, Regional Mental Health Committee
Pyramid training will be conducted in Ridgway for all 8 providers	Providers will be trained to teach other providers and parents.	November 2009	UNBOCS trainers
Adult education classes will be set up in all four counties to train parents in the Colorado Pyramid	Parents will receive the training to deal with social/emotional issues with children 0-5	January 2010-June 2012	Trained providers in each county, Bright Futures Director, Cathy James

Strategy 3B- Support and collaborate with the mental health goal identified by the planning committee of the Colorado Trust Health Grant

- 3B1 Planning committee will work towards goal of implementing ASQ-SE in medical providers offices in all four counties

Activities	Outputs/ Outcomes	Target Date	Person Responsible
Goal 10 new physicians will be educated in using the ASQ-SE for a screening tool during well child check-ups	Physicians will be trained in ASQ-SE with a one to one TA Day-a referral system will be set up-Bright Futures will provide a road map on who's screening	July 2010-July 2011	Jill Burchmore and Health Navigators in each region

Goal 4 Parent Engagement: A continuum of support and education opportunities exists to support parental involvement in children's social, emotional, physical and academic development

Strategy 4A: Provide parents with educational information and resources regarding child growth and development.

4A.1: Build partnerships with existing parent education programs, San Miguel Library, Parents as Teachers, Latino Initiative

4A.2: Host 1 "Family Fun" night in each county

5A.3: Provide childcare referrals to parents including information on how to select quality care, options that meet family needs and available parent resources.

Activities	Outputs/Outcomes	Target Date	Person Responsible
Build partnerships with existing parent education programs, including San Miguel Library, Parents as Teachers and Bright Beginnings	Community wide participation in planning and coordinating parent education services; High quality services available to families.	On going	Cathy James, Bright Futures Director
Host 1 "Family Fun" per year, offering early literacy and other child growth and development information.	300 parents have access to resource and educational information	July 2010-11	Chair, Regional Parent Education Committee
Provide childcare referrals to parents including information	500 parents have access to resource and educational	On-going	Chair, Regional Parent Education Committee

on how to select quality care, options that meet family needs and available parent resources	information.		
Provide coaching support to programs participating in Quainter Rating System.	Parent engagement component of QRS increases among 75% of participating programs	July 2009 to June 2012	Regional Early Childhood Council members

Strategy 4B Increase opportunities for all parents to receive resource and education materials.

4B1 Distribute and update the Regional Resource Directory (Early Childhood Names and Numbers)

4B2 Distribute Consumer Education Materials about Quality Child Care

4B3 Utilize Parents as Teachers written and video materials.

4B4 Utilize the Bright Futures web site to increase parent access to resources and education materials by creating a virtual calendar

Activities	Outputs/ Outcomes	Target Date	Person Responsible
Distribute and update the Regional Resource Directory	A Regional Resource Directory has been developed and is being utilized by parents.	On-going	Chair, Regional Parent Education Committee
Distribute Consumer Education Materials about Quality Child Care	Consumer education materials are distributed to parents by mail, electronic mail, web site, and in person at community events.	July 2009 to June 2012	Chair, Regional Parent Education Committee/ Bright Futures Child Care Resource and Referral Specialist
Utilize Parents as Teachers written and video materials.	Parents as Teachers written and video materials will be utilized as a valuable education resource for parents.	July 2009 to June 2012	Chair, Regional Parent Education Committee Deb Read, PAT supervisor
Utilize the Bright Futures web site to increase parent access to resource and education materials	Create a virtual calendar with tips and ideas for parents with links from preschools, child care sites, Bright Futures	July 2010-11	Chair, Regional Media Committee/ Chair, Regional Parent Education Committee

Goal 5 Early Childhood System Development: An effective, coordinated system supports the expansion of a state Early Childhood System in Colorado.

Strategy 5A Support statewide legislation to establish Early Childhood System

- 5A1 Meet with local, state, and national leaders to advocate for policies that support young children and the people that care for them
- 5A2 Educate local communities regarding upcoming issues and legislation that affect young children and the people that care for them

Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Target Date	Person Responsible
Meet with local, state, and national leaders to advocate for policies that support young children	Representatives of the Regional Early Childhood Council have met with local, state, and national leaders to advocate for policies that support young children.	On-going	Cathy James,, Bright Futures Director
Educate local communities regarding upcoming issues and legislation that affect young children and the people that care for them. Through weekly emails with state updates	Local communities are educated regarding upcoming issues and legislation that affect young children and the people that care for them.	On-going	Cathy James,, Bright Futures Director

Strategy 5B Support State Early Childhood System Building Activities

- 5B1 Attend Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance meetings and participate on committees that will support the expansion of a state Early Childhood System in Colorado.
- 5B2 Partner with state organizations and committees including Smart Start Colorado.

Activities	Outcomes/Outputs	Target Date	Person Responsible
Attend Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance meetings and participate on committees that will support the expansion of a state Early Childhood System in Colorado.	Bright Futures Director represents the Regional Early Childhood Council on the Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance (ECCLA) to support the expansion of a state Early Childhood System in Colorado.	July 2009 to June 2012	Cathy James, Bright Futures Director
Partner with state organizations and committees including Smart Start Colorado...	Bright Futures Regional Early Childhood Council is a Smart Start Colorado Partner and its director and members participate on state committees.	July 2009 to June 2012	Cathy James,, Bright Futures Director

Goal 6: Build strong local subcommittees in Ouray, San Miguel, Delta, Montrose Counties
Strategy 6A Develop strong local subcommittees in each county to help implement the work of the regional council.

Action	Outputs	Target dates:	Person responsible:
Each of the four counties will have a subcommittee led by two voting members of the regional council. They will have four meetings a year after the regional council meeting to inform the local people of the work of the regional council and help to implement the regional strategic plan in their community.	\$500 will be given to each of the four counties to plan meetings and carry out the regional council work at the local level. Each county will be more involved in the work of the regional council.	July 2009-June 2012	Ouray-Deb Read Montrose-Patty Ray San Miguel-Cathy James Delta-Carol Phelps

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