United Way of Weld County fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community. We are more than fund-raisers. We are hand-raisers. We raise our hands not only to lead the fight, but to reach out to people who need help. And hope.

We win when we Live United. By forging unlikely partnerships. By finding new solutions to old problems. By mobilizing the best resources. And by inspiring individuals to join the fight against our community’s most daunting social crises.

**WHY WE FIGHT**

The first three years of a child’s life are a critical time of growth and development. Beginning in infancy, high quality child care affects a child’s ability to succeed in school, develop relationships and master social competence. In the United States, nearly 11 million children under the age of 5 spend some or all of their day being cared for by someone other than their parents. It is imperative that our children’s caregivers have the knowledge, skills and tools needed to help every child flourish.

Through working with child care providers to create and maintain high quality early learning environments, United Way’s Colorado Shines Quality Improvement Program helps some of the most vulnerable children in Weld County be better prepared for school success.
“We know that environments teach, and a separate set of eyes is a great way to make improvements for sustainability. One-on-one coaching gives providers support with teaching and guidance strategies, supporting routines and coaching to a healthy and safe child care center or child care home.”
— Cheri, Quality Improvement Coach

In 2017, 42 Weld County child care providers increased the quality of child care provided.

In 2017, Weld County child care providers received $94,000 in quality improvement grants.

JOIN THE FIGHT

- **Give**
  Make a donation to United Way of Weld County to support the Child Care Quality Improvement Project and you could be eligible for a 50% tax credit on your state income tax!

- **Advocate**
  Please share with your legislators the value of child care quality improvement programs.

- **Volunteer**
  There are a variety of program-related clerical tasks that can use volunteer support.

Please contact the UWWC Early Care and Education Services team at Impact@UnitedWay-Weld.org or 970-353-4300 for more information or to get involved.

Become a hand-raiser, a game-changer. Because United we fight, United we win. We have one life. To live better, we must Live United.