



**WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER**

**LIVING UNITED**

**PROVIDES**

**Child Care Resource And Referral**

**OPPORTUNITIES**

When Terry went back to work after having her daughter, she was nervous to leave Ellie with someone else and was unsure of how to find a child care provider she felt comfortable with. Terry called United Way of Weld County’s Child Care Resource and Referral program asking for help (1-877-338-2273). The call specialist asked her a few preference questions, and then provided information for five providers that met all of her criteria. After meeting with three, Terry decided on one who ended up being a perfect match.

**ABOUT UNITED WAY OF WELD COUNTY**

United Way has the vision, experience, relationships, and ability to take on and solve some of Weld County’s biggest challenges. Through United Way, together we are building a better Weld County, one where children are reading to learn by the start of fourth grade, youth are working at good jobs by age 25, families have stable housing, older adults are aging well, and people are connecting to the help they need. **Will you join us?**

Reading Great by 8-involved programs help children enter kindergarten ready and read at grade level by the start of fourth grade.



Over **90%** of brain growth occurs during the early years, between ages **0-5**. The people who help care for your child are also those who help shape your child’s mind.

**CHALLENGES**

The average preschooler spends 33 hours per week in child care. Research shows that young children's healthy development depends on safe and positive experiences during the first five years of life. Choosing child care is an important decision that requires balancing parental needs and the developmental requirements and personality of a child. The child care system is surprisingly complex; Child Care Resource and Referral provides a variety of resources to help parents navigate it.

What are some of the indicators of high quality child care?

- low child/teacher ratios
- small group size
- staff with higher education and on-going training
- prior experience and education of the director
- low teacher turnover
- positive teacher/child interactions
- accreditation or higher than minimum licensing standards
- age appropriate activities
- good health and safety practices





“When I called Child Care Resource and Referral, I was in distress. The person was patient, knowledgeable, and I had hope for a positive outcome from my search. Many thanks!!!”

– Anonymous Caller

## INVESTMENTS

Child Care Resource and Referral, in partnership with the State of Colorado Office of Early Childhood, maintains a database of all licensed home and center providers in Colorado.

A trained referral specialist is available to help parents find local child care services that meet their child’s needs. For each family, the specialist provides at least four matching child care providers.

United Way of Weld County connects with every Weld County child care provider annually to update contact information, number of child care openings available, and other items. These updates are included in the Child Care Resource and Referral database.

Additionally, the database is available for use as a statistical analysis tool as it includes information about program type, capacity, services, wages, and benefits.

**In 2020-2021, United Way of Weld County’s Child Care Resource and Referral served 137 families.**

**In 2020-2021, the information for eight Weld County child care providers was updated.**

## GIVE

Make a donation to United Way of Weld County to support Child Care Resource and Referral and you could be eligible for a 50% tax credit on your state income tax!

## ADVOCATE

Encourage your family and friends to utilize Child Care Resource and Referral.

## VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are always needed to perform program-related clerical tasks.

**Please contact the UWWC Community Impact team at [Impact@UnitedWay-Weld.org](mailto:Impact@UnitedWay-Weld.org) or 970-353-4300 for more information or to get involved.**