



WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

LIVING UNITED

PROVIDES

Expanding Quality In Infant And Toddler Care

OPPORTUNITIES

Jen had always planned to offer child care in her home when she had her first child, so when she found out she was pregnant, she decided to take an early education class to prepare. With all the other costs of a new baby, the thought of college tuition was daunting. Through United Way, Jen was able to take the Expanding Quality in Infant and Toddler Care classes at a low cost. Not only did she learn how to create an environment in which children can thrive, it also allowed Jen to gain licensure and develop a network of supportive peers.

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.



CHALLENGES

In 2016, there were 14,249 children under 6 in Weld County with both parents in the labor force, and just 6,400 licensed child care slots (currently only 259 of those slots are for infants, and 475 are for toddlers). The vast majority of young children in Weld County do not have access to licensed child care. By increasing the number of licensed child care providers, we can help ensure that children are cared for in high quality environments where they can

thrive. Without high quality early childhood intervention, an at-risk child is...

- 25% more likely to drop out of school
- 40% more likely to become a teen parent
- 50% more likely to be placed in special education
- 60% more likely to never attend college
- 70% more likely to be arrested for a violent crime

Studies have shown that based on the quality, intensity, and duration of the program, when we spend **\$1** on early childhood education the return on investment in our community ranges from **\$8 - \$16**.





“Participants in these user-friendly trainings grow professionally, appreciate the interactive curriculum, and receive individualized support through coaching.”

– Weld County EQIT Training Team

INVESTMENTS

The Expanding Quality in Infant and Toddler Care (EQIT) training is a 48-hour curriculum, and is offered twice per year in English and once per year in Spanish. The curriculum covers information including infant and toddler brain development, responsive caregiving, emotional development, motor development, language and literacy, understanding and respecting culture, inclusion/special needs, safe and healthy environments, positive guidance and more.

Participants may enroll through United Way of Weld County for certification and/or through Aims Community College to earn college credit. Grants are often available.

Upon completion of the training, participants will meet the state education requirements for Infant/Toddler Nursery Supervisor, Infant/Toddler Home License, 3 under 2 Family Child Care License, Large Family Child Care License or Experienced Provider Family Child Care License.

In 2020-2021, United Way of Weld County served 88 child care providers through four virtual EQIT course.

In 2020-2021, 61 EQIT participants completed the course and received certificates.

GIVE

Make a donation to United Way of Weld County to support Expanding Quality in Infant and Toddler Care and you may 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

Consider serving on the Reading Great by 8 Early Care and Education Services and Professional Development committees.

Please contact the UWWC Community Impact team at Impact@UnitedWay-Weld.org or 970-353-4300 for more information or to get involved.