



**Pueblo Early
Childhood Council**

MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 22, 2022 VIRTUALLY VIA WEBEX

Mission Statement

Pueblo Early Childhood Council is a diverse, active network that collaborates and advocates to enrich and strengthen the lives of children, families, and the community.

Attendance:

Angie Shehorn-PECC/Children First
Justin Gage-PDPHE
Molly Milusnic-PECC/Children First
Brenda Rodriguez-PECC/Children First
Karen Garcia-PDHS
Paula Arellano-PECC/Children First
Rebecca Bellavia-PECC/Children First
Jennifer Walters-PECC/Children First
Angie Rogers-Children's Palace
Valerie Maldonado-Children First
Terry Bond-Children's Palace
Rita Samora-ECEMS

Ida Rhodes-Catholic Charities
Angela Vigil- YWCA
Wendy Romero-Health Solutions
Lisa Armao-ECSC
Teresa Mathews-PECC/Children First
Maria Subia-ESCCC
Kristie Dorwart-Health Solutions
Dr. Tanya Chavez-PCC-ECE
Amanda Rosales-Children First
Darla Hall-PECC/Children First
Mari Palma-ECEMS

I. Introductions: Meeting called to order by Angie at 11:10 am.

II. Additions to the Agenda: N/A

III. Approval of Minutes: May & July 2022

IV. Agency Highlight- [Early Childhood Service Corps](#)

Lisa Armao-ECSC Site Director

Lisa stated Early Childhood Service Corps is an innovative, intergenerational response to the critical workforce need in the Early Childhood Field and to the unprecedented departure of older Americans from the workforce. She explained the program recruits, trains and deploys older adults to serve in the Early Childhood Field. She stated Early Childhood's critical need is the workforce crisis and business support. Lisa explained there are three ways to be involved as a volunteer-Volunteer Business Advisors, Classroom and Site Volunteers and ENCORE Subs (Early Teacher qualifications for paid teacher, substitute or floater positions).

- As Classroom & Site Volunteers
 - Volunteers are able to assist in the classroom in many ways, playground assistance. small group work, reading buddies, crafts. storytelling, and more!
 - ECSC Classroom Volunteers have 21 hours of Early Childhood Training and are registered in the Colorado Shines POIS system.
- As Encore Substitutes
 - Encore Substitutes pursue two tracks of training and are Early Childhood Teacher Qualified within the Colorado Shines POIS system.
 - All ECSC Member have completed and passed a Level 3 background check through Sterling Volunteers.
- As Volunteer Business Advisors
 - Volunteer Business Advisors have previous business experience and take 6 hours of Early Childhood Rules & Regulations ECSC coursework and 3 hours of Cultural Responsiveness in

Early Childhood. Using their expertise and passion, they help early childcare centers achieve their business goals.

Lisa explained volunteers, substitutes and advisors have coursework they will complete to participate. She explained the Early Childhood Program and Site information.

- Process for ECE Partner Sites
 - Attend or watch an Info Session
 - Decide how you want to be involved
 - Complete an interest form
 - Complete an Application and \$25 application fee*
 - Host a Site Visit or ZOOM interview
 - Pick a Membership Level and Sign an MOU
- To be Considered a Host/Partner Site
 - Must be a licensed ECE site in the state of Colorado
 - Must identify one ECSC Site Coordinator
 - to attend Quarterly Cohort Gatherings
 - be point of contact with ECSC Administrators
 - provide quarterly data to determine the impact Service Corps Members are having on your organization
 - Must have follow all licensing requirements for volunteers and substitutes
 - Must have a Parent and Staff Handbook
 - Must have a non-discrimination policy
 - Must show evidence of anti-bias trainings for staff
 - Must show evidence of social emotional/mental health support and/or curriculum for staff and students.
 - Must provide a classroom at least one for ECSC students to observe in their Site and provide written verification
 - Must show proof of liability insurance for volunteers on site
 - Must share ESCS information with members of the Site community: parents, board members

Lisa reviewed the membership monthly pricing. She encouraged anyone interested or has questions to reach out to her. lisa@earlychildhoodservicecorps.org

V. New Business:

A. Pueblo Community Perspective

1. Self-Care during these stressful times

- What practice/resource have you used for yourself and/or staff?
 - Self-care
 - Pamper-alone time
 - Long drive into mountains
 - Escape
 - Hiking
 - Meditating
 - Essential oils-home/office
 - Calming activities
 - Silver slippers
- How did you find out about it?
- How has it helped you or your staff?
 - Less stressed
 - Focused

B. FY23 Funding

Angie Shehorn (Children First)- Angie stated Children First was finalizing the paperwork for the LCO. She stated Children First received notice of our funding for FY23. Angie explained this includes Colorado Shines funding - child care programs please submit your application.

C. ECE Coordinator

Dr. Tanya Chavez (PCC) – Dr. Chavez stated she is the new Early Childhood Coordinator at Pueblo Community College. She described her 27-year career as an elementary school, middle school, and high school teacher as well as an Adjunct in Florida. She stated she is excited to be a part of PECC.

- D. Memorandum of Understanding**
Angie Shehorn (Children First)-Angie stated if you or your agency has not submitted an MOU with the Council - please contact Teresa to begin this process. If you are not sure, contact Teresa and she can help you. Teresa.mathews@pueblocc.edu or call 719-562-7048.
- E. Colorado Shines Funding**
Angie Shehorn (Children First) – Angie stated there are applications for coaching/QI money that began on 7/1/2022. She emphasized programs applying for the funding.
- F. CSU-P ECE Student Help**
Angie Shehorn (Children First)-Angie informed the council a CSU Pueblo ECE department Karen Krepps is asking for help to place her students in quality programs for observation time that is required for their degree. If interested please contact her at Karen.Krepps@csupueblo.edu.
- G. EC Scholarships-ECE [COSI](#) and [T.E.A.C.H.](#)**
Angie Shehorn (Children First) - Angie stated the COSI scholarships from ECCLA are for individuals laid off, experienced decreased earnings, job offers rescinded, or who could not enter the workforce due to adverse economic conditions. She stated they also have the family child care home facilities improvement grant. Angie stated the T.E.A.C.H scholarships will pay for credentials and certificates-AA, BA. She emphasized the specialist's opportunity is for coaches, professionals and nonprofit professionals, and substitutes.
- H. Early Childhood Funding microsite [Growing Forward](#)**
Angie Shehorn- (Children First) Angie stated the Site contains info about lots of state funding available.

VI. Sub Groups: (subgroups): on hiatus

VII. Community Reports

YWCA-Angela Vigil-Angela informed the council she applied for the National Director Credential Grant and was awarded the grant.

VII. Evaluation Process

Eileen Dennis

Angie stated Eileen Dennis from Triple Aim will be sending an evaluation (1-5 rating with feedback) email after every council meeting. Darlene stated your contributions will be appreciated. Eileen will compile and share those reports. The information is received in aggregate.

VIII. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

IX. Next Meeting — September 26, 2022 HYBRID Virtually via Google Meets

<https://meet.google.com/nap-qgti-mxo>

Local Resources

Children First Child Care Connections – www.childrenfirstco.org

Pueblo County Childhood Resources <https://county.pueblo.org/public-health/pueblo-county-childhood-resources>

Statewide Resources

www.coloradoshines.com (Colorado Shines)

<https://www.coloradoshinespdis.com/s/login/> (Colorado Shines Professional Development Information System –PDIS)

<https://earlylearningco.org/> (Colorado Early Learning and Development Guidelines)

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Arellano