

Elevating the Early Childhood Workforce at CDHE

Presentation for the Early Childhood & School Readiness Legislative Commission

September 8th, 2021





66% ATTAINMENT BY 2025
on the way to 75%

STRATEGIC GOAL #1

Increase Credential
Completion

STRATEGIC GOAL #2

Erase Equity
Gaps

STRATEGIC GOAL #3

Improve Student
Success

STRATEGIC GOAL #4

Commit to
Affordability, Cost
Containment and
Innovation

A group of graduates in silhouette, standing on a hill and celebrating at sunset. They are throwing their caps into the air, which are captured in mid-air, forming a semi-circle above the group. The sky is a mix of purple, orange, and yellow, with some clouds. The overall mood is celebratory and hopeful.

New Early Childhood Efforts in Higher Education

Early Educator Investment Collaborative (EEIC) Grant



Principal Investigators Leading the Grant:

Dr. Kristie Kauerz
Associate Clinical Professor
Director, National P-3 Center

Dr. Diana Schaack
Assistant Professor



Dean Kantor's Vision: Stronger Together

Continuing Dr. Rebecca Kantor's legacy of collaboration, inclusion, and positivity that seeks to build broad support for young children by connecting ECE, higher education, and state policy so that, together, we build programs for the workforce that are:

- Nimble and meet students where they are
- Have efficient pathways that lead to degrees
- Culturally and linguistically responsive and contribute to a more just world
- Grounded in the rights of children

EEIC Grant: Transforming Early Educator Lead Teacher Preparation Programs through Multi-Partner Innovation

Facilitate innovative approaches to dismantle barriers in Colorado's early care and education (ECE) teacher preparation system in order to reform the system itself to better serve the current and future ECE workforce.



Support system transformation and reforms

- (1) Within and across institutions of higher education in Colorado
and
- (2) To the state policy context specific to teacher credentialing/licensure, credit for prior learning, and compensation.

Connecting the Dots:
Director of ECE Workforce Policy,
CDHE

Sondra Ranum,
Director of ECE
Workforce Policy
at CDHE



EEIC Grant's Policy Priorities

Meaningful engagement of Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs)

Transformation of preparation programs for early educators

Break down systemic barriers to education

Increase financial assistance and compensation



Connections to Current Initiatives

Department of Early
Childhood Transition
Planning
(HB21-1304)

ECE Financial
Incentives
(SB21-236, HB19-003,
Rural Incentives; SB21-232;
HB21-1330)

Teaching Career
Pathways & Alignment
(SB21-185 HB20-1053)

College Credit for
Work-Related
Experience
(HB20-1002)

Diversifying the
Educator Workforce
(SB21-1010)

Thank You!

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