



Family Resource Center Association

Colorado's Child Welfare System Interim Study Committee

August 22, 2023

A family resource center is a natural vehicle for building a strong and healthy community.

Learn about Family Resource Center Association's (FRCA) service delivery model, The Family Pathways Framework

Explore how the legislature currently supports and can strengthen support for family resource centers (FRCs)

Learn about how FRCs partner in addressing inequities within the system facing families of color



How FRCA Supports Colorado

- By establishing new and expanding Family Resource Centers (FRCs).
- Through our close partnership with the State Departments advancing prevention.
- Backbone infrastructure for The Colorado Fatherhood Network.
- Colorado-grown 2Gen best practice, our Family Pathways Framework.



Family Resource Centers are defined by what they do, not what they are called.



Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA), Boulder



Mountain Family Center, Granby



Families Forward Resource Center, Denver



BENEFITS of a Family Resource Center

Families Need:

- ✓ Healthy Food
- ✓ Employment
- ✓ Utilities
- ✓ Stable Housing
- ✓ Childcare
- ✓ Insurance
- ✓ Transportation



The Action Center, Jefferson County

**One-Stop Location to Help
Access Services and
Achieve Long-term
Stability**

Family Resource Centers Provide:

- ✓ Community hub
- ✓ Support
- ✓ Connections
- ✓ Partnership
- ✓ Parent Peer Support
& Leadership
- ✓ Systems Change



The Family Pathways Framework®

- 2Gen, whole family-centered approach
- The Framework includes the use of an assessment tool called the Colorado Family Support Assessment 2.0 (CFSA2.0).
- The Framework enables centers to be agile, providing individualized supports that their unique community needs, while also being able to track meaningful outcomes.



The Family Pathways Framework[®] Outcomes

Families demonstrated significant growth, regardless of race and ethnicity, specifically in:

- ✓ economic security
- ✓ housing
- ✓ employment
- ✓ debt management

Families demonstrated significant increases in areas that protect against child maltreatment, such as:

- ✓ parental resilience
- ✓ social connections
- ✓ concrete supports
- ✓ nurturing and attachment
- ✓ knowledge of parenting and child development.



An Upstream Investment in Prevention

When communities face challenges, FRCs are well-positioned to react to those challenges through family-centered support.



Study gaging the return on investment of FRCs, showed that every \$1 invested resulted in \$2.92 of savings for the child welfare system.*

* [Return on Investment of Family Resource Center to Child Welfare System: Community Partnership Family Resource Center, Teller County Colorado](#), Omni, Project Code NFSN21



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Ongoing Support and Future Opportunities

Existing General Fund appropriation for Family Resource Centers.

Family Support Services is the mechanism by which state general funding is distributed.

Future opportunities to consider:

- Increase appropriation to achieve statewide access
- Leverage family resource centers existing infrastructure to implement additional prevention efforts



Impacting Racial Inequities in Child Welfare

Denver Indian Family Resource Center (DIFRC) is impacting inequities American Indian/Alaska Native children and their families face.

Foster care entry ratio in 2000: 2.6 to 1

Foster care entry ratio now: 1.6 to 1

89% of families served by DIFRC were preserved or reunified, compared to the national rate of 54%.



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Families Forward Resource Center (FFRC) believes strong families are the key to strong communities. As a full-service community service center, FFRC provides supportive services and programs to families throughout northeast Denver and north Aurora, working to enrich families through partnerships and services that create a safe, healthy, and connected community.

12000 East 47th Avenue, #400 Denver, CO 80239 www.familiesforwardco.com



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Healthy Babies Strong Families

At the heart of this effort is a commitment to reducing disparities in maternal and infant health in the metro area. FFRC's Healthy Babies Strong Families initiative supports families before, during, and after pregnancy by addressing their health and social service needs, strengthening family resilience, and engaging community partners to enhance systems of care.



Serving as a Denver Human Services Neighborhood Resource Site

- An intentional shift in service delivery
- Formalized collaborative effort
- Removes stigma and increases access to economic supports
- Builds well-being and resiliency for every child, adult and senior



Thank You



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