

# Early Childhood Council of Boulder County

## ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Our *vision* is to ensure that all young children  
birth to five in Boulder County are ready  
to succeed in school and life.

Our *mission* is to expand and improve  
the comprehensive system  
of quality early childhood services  
for families in Boulder County.



# Letter to the Community...

*From ECCBC Board President & ECCBC Executive Director:*

2010 was a year of great change for ECCBC. After 11 years of support from the City of Boulder, ECCBC completed the process of becoming a standalone 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. As an organization with a countywide mission and legislative mandate, the ECCBC Board felt that the time was right for the organization to take this last step toward full independence. And while the City will no longer be acting as the fiscal agent for ECCBC, we look forward to continuing the partnership we've had in advancing the role of early childhood education in creating a socially sustainable community.

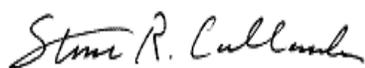
In December 2010, ECCBC moved its offices to the building owned by Foothills United Way at 1285 Cimarron Drive in Lafayette. Foothills United Way is now not only our landlord, but was instrumental in facilitating the separation from the City by agreeing to provide accounting and bookkeeping functions as an in-kind service to ECCBC, consistent with their commitment to early childhood education. Purchasing these services would have been cost-prohibitive to the organization, so the Board wishes to extend its thanks both to the City of Boulder for over a decade of support, as well as to the Board of Foothills United Way for playing an instrumental role in allowing ECCBC to transition into a fully independent nonprofit.

State budgets cuts over the past few years (and especially this last legislative session) have hit all sectors hard. Education and ECCBC was no exception. We lost about 4% of our overall operating budget through cuts to our main state funder agency. However, on the bright side, ECCBC has been able to generate funds from new foundation and individual donor partners, which bodes well for our future fiscal stability.

Where are we headed next? ECCBC entered into an agreement with the David and Laura Merage Foundation to assess the feasibility of bringing a shared services model to early childhood providers across Boulder County. If this makes fiscal and operational sense, ECCBC would provide, through a membership organization, access to state-of-the-art business and operational practices for ECE centers and family child care homes. A decision will be made in late 2011 about the feasibility of proceeding with this new capacity-building framework.

ECCBC remains committed to bringing a comprehensive high quality early childhood system to the young families and early childhood providers across Boulder County, and we welcome your participation in this exciting and ongoing endeavor.

Respectfully,

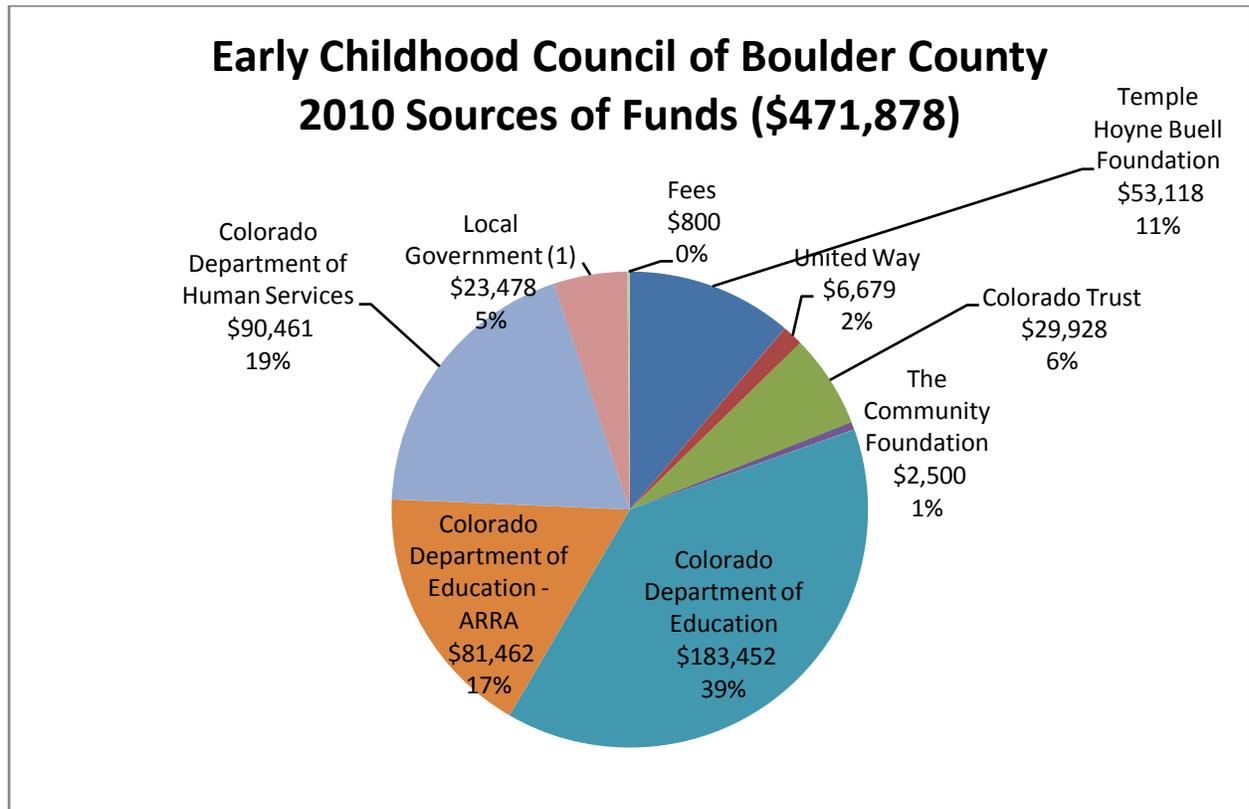


Steve Callander, Board President



Bobbie Watson, Director

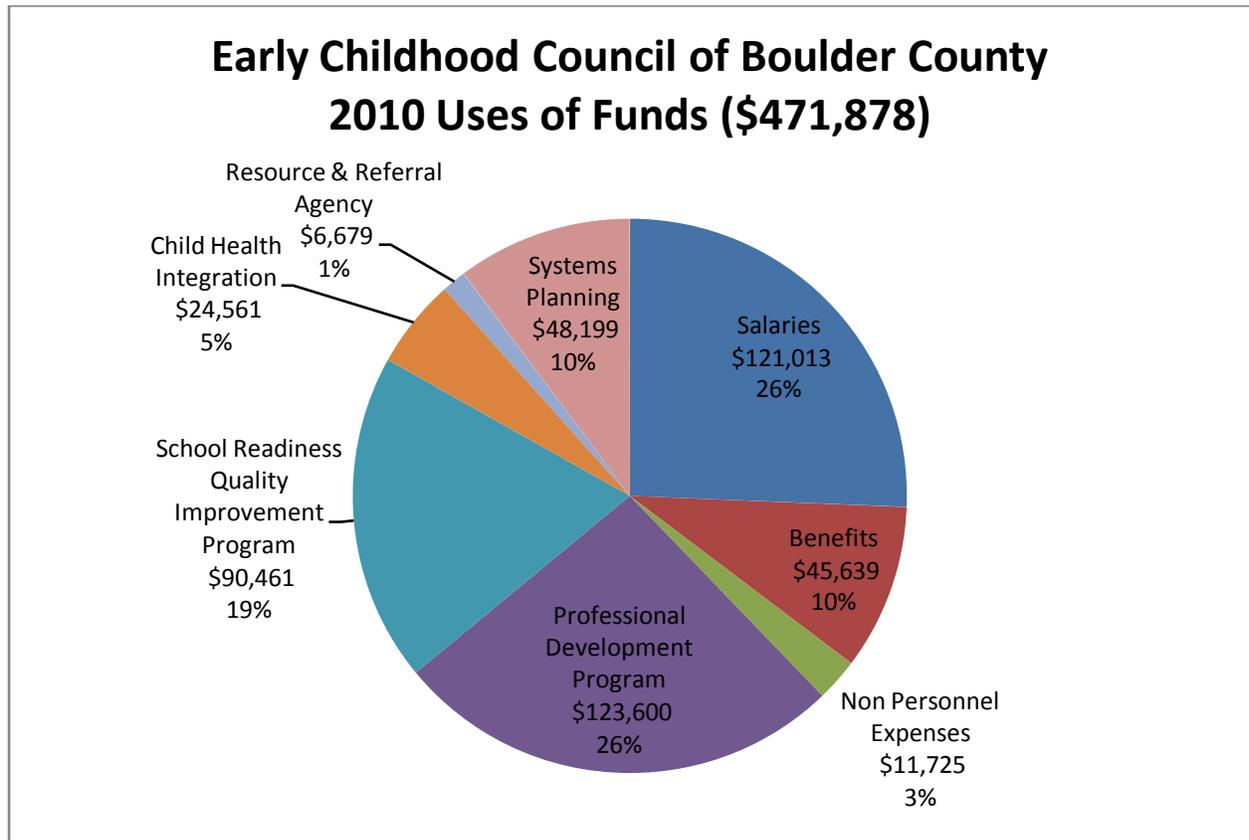
## Sources of Funds – \$471,878



The majority of the council budget in 2010 was funded by state and federal government funds (58% and 17% respectively). The Colorado Department of Education, Colorado Department of Human Services and American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) support included 78% of the Director salary and 100% of the Coordinator salary, 100% operating costs, all of the School Readiness Quality Improvement Project, 57% of professional development initiatives and 49% of systems planning initiatives. Local government funds and foundations provided 6% of the overall budget to fund systems development activities.

While ARRA funds significantly supported additional Expanding Quality Infant Toddler Caregiving funds, Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation funding again provided the basis for the council's professional development programs. The Colorado Trust funded the Child Health Integration Project, 2010 being the first year of a three year project which will end in the 2012 calendar year. Foothills United Way support enabled the council to continue to support some Child Care Resource & Referral Agency activities.

## Uses of Funds – \$471,878



Direct services to the child care community of Boulder County accounted for 52% or \$245,301 of the 2010 budget funds. 26% was spent on quality improvement services for child care providers and the children in their care. Quality improvement activities included Qualistar rating support, resources for new materials, parent resources, and child health and mental health services. \$123,600 or 26% was spent supporting professional development needs of licensed child care provider in Boulder County through career path support and access to high quality trainings opportunities. Systems planning funds (\$48,199) provided research and development support. Non-personnel expenses (3%) supported operating costs including office expenses and support for the Advisory Council. Salary and benefits accounted for 36% of the council budget.

# 2010 HIGHLIGHTS

## Systems Planning Activities – Three major activities

1. The ECCBC Board of Directors voted to terminate the fiscal sponsorship agreement with the City of Boulder and to physically move the ECCBC offices to Lafayette. This move allows ECCBC to become a free-standing nonprofit with no obligations to a fiscal sponsor. This reorganization emphasizes the mission to serve all young children across Boulder County and increases the likelihood of private foundation support for ECCBC' programs and services.
2. ECCBC worked with The Community Foundation and the Boulder Valley School District in the successful passage in the fall of 2010 of Ballot Initiative 3A which resulted in an increase to the mill levy within BVSD thereby substantially increasing pre-school slots within the district. We see this as one step (of many) to implement a comprehensive early childhood system for all young children across Boulder County.
3. ECCBC Board and staff began conversations with The Early Learning Venture Alliance (funded by The David and Laura Merage Foundation) to consider bringing a shared services model to early child hood providers across Boulder County. The ECCBC Board sees the provision of shared services to EC providers (that is, offering back-office and business support services) as a way to positively impact the quality of early childhood programs.

## Programs & Services – Professional Development

The ECCBC Professional Pathways Program provided direct service and continued its role to promote access to high quality training and ongoing education. Training opportunities for the child care community were provided and included in the expansion of infant toddler caregiving training services.

Professional development career path initiatives awarded \$27,800 in financial incentives for undertaking college level coursework to 91 child care providers in Boulder County. Fourteen persons received recognition for achieving their Early Childhood Credential. Since 2004 over \$125,000 has been distributed in incentives for ongoing college level education to Boulder County child care providers.

Monthly Training Calendars with news and information continued to be provided in 2010 to over 300 licensed child care providers in Boulder County. 10 child care providers received 15 clock hour certificates for training in socio-emotional competence in early childhood through the Directors Training Series. Three took the course for college credit as well. Overall, ECCBC

provided approximately 600 clock hours of ongoing professional development in 2010. Sponsored trainings included Eco Healthy Child Care training and the Parade of Classrooms.

The Expanding Quality Infant Toddler caregiving training program grew significantly in 2010 to provide five (5) EQIT cohort trainings, including 6-8 hours of coaching for each trainee. The program trains providers in best practices in infant toddler care through EQIT 48 hour curriculum and one-to-one coaching. The Boulder County EQIT team of six (6) dedicated early childhood experts worked with over 70 child care providers in Boulder County in 2010. These activities provided an additional 3780 contact hours of training and produced 68 graduates. In addition to increasing EQIT 48 hour training cohorts, the EQIT team delivered two Ounce Scale Assessment 15 hour workshops to 37 participants including an additional 340 hours of one-to-one coaching on the implementation of Ounce Scale Assessment in centers.

## Programs & Services – School Readiness

2010 was the second year of participation for the third School Readiness Quality Improvement Project cohort of child care providers. The four child care centers (3 Longmont, 1 Boulder) received annual Qualistar rating and intensive quality improvement support. Over 200 children in 23 classrooms across the sites received child health promotions service from Boulder County Public Health including vision, hearing, dental and developmental screenings, referrals and follow-up. All preschool classroom teachers received social skills training services from Mental Health Partners Inc through the project. Two of the four sites improved to a 3 star rating with 2010 being their second annual Qualistar rating. The other two sites received their baseline rating in 2010, each achieving two stars.

## Programs & Services – Child Health Integration

The Colorado Trust granted ECCBC \$31,000 each year 2010-2012 to work on integrating child health services into the local early childhood system. In 2010, the first year of this grant ECCBC expanded partnerships with Boulder County Public Health, Child Health Promotions, and Mental Health Partners Inc, Child Development Team, to promote child health and mental health screening and referral services to underserved populations in Boulder. 161 underserved young children were screened with the following referrals for further treatment for issues that negatively impact child health and school readiness: vision 29%; hearing 19%; dental 44% and developmental 30%. Child Health Integration Project partners used this work to leverage systems development conversations in the county with critical health partners such as Dental Aid, Boulder County Healthy Kids initiative and Child Find in both school districts.

## ECCBC ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

**Donna Arnold**, Boulder Valley School District

**Jordana Ash**, Mental Health Center Serving Boulder and Broomfield Counties

**Karen Cody Carlson**, Dental Aid

**Annette Crawford**, Child Care Recruitment & Training, City of Boulder

**Peter Dawson MD**, People's Clinic

**Kim Decker**, Parent Representative

**Matt Eldred**, The Acorn School for Early Childhood Development

**Judy Fry**, Child Care Resource & Referral, City of Boulder

**Janet Gutman**, St Vrain Valley School District

**Maria Harper**, Boulder County Head Start

**Tikki Heublein & Denys Vigil**, Center for Responsible Education

**Joan Holtz**, Imagine!

**Kate Johannes**, YWCA of Boulder County

**Will Kropp**, Parenting Place

**Joan Martin**, Early Childhood Specialist

**Sue McCord PhD**, University of Colorado - retired

**April Menzies PhD**, Front Range Community College

**Linda Miron**, Boulder Valley School District

**Susan Moore**, University of Colorado

**Ann Norris LCSW**, Denver University

**Amy Oglivie**, Wild Plum Center for Young Children and Families

**Sarah Scully**, Boulder County Public Health

**Marcia Seegers**, Front Range Community College

**Jennifer Selbitschka**, Boulder Journey School

**Marsa Williams**, Aspen Family Services

**Karen Zeid**, Parent Representative

# Board of Directors

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Robin Bohannon, Vice President  
Director, Boulder County Department of Community Services

Karen Rahn, Secretary/Treasurer  
Director, Housing & Human Services, City of Boulder

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Retired Deputy Superintendent  
Boulder Valley School District

Richard Garcia  
Executive Director  
Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition

Barbara Gigone  
Retired Director,  
Boulder County Department of Community Services

Barbara Pingrey  
President & CEO  
Foothills United Way

Susan Purdy  
Retired Director,  
Housing & Human Services, City of Boulder

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**Early Childhood Council of Boulder County**  
1285 Cimarron Drive, Suite 201  
Lafayette CO 80026

[www.eccbouldercounty.org](http://www.eccbouldercounty.org)

**Council Staff: Bobbie Watson, Director; Danielle Butler, Coordinator**