

2018 Annual Report

Mission: First Impressions of Routt County works to ensure that young children will be provided adequate resources and quality programs to promote healthy development and school readiness.

Vision: The First Impressions Council strengthens the community's collaborative web of resources where children and families experience dignity and a sense of belonging.

Goals:

1. Increase Infant Toddler Capacity
2. Recruit, Retain and Fairly Compensate Early Childhood Professionals
3. Access for all to quality early care and education programs

1. Increase Infant Toddler Capacity – Routt County has an average birth rate of 220 births a year. 77% of families with children under the age of 6 have both parents in the workforce.

94 slots	Licensed capacity for children ages 6 weeks to two years old. This reflects meeting 21% of the estimated need.
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2. Recruit, Retain and Fairly Compensate Early Childhood Professionals – A highly qualified early childhood workforce results in positive outcomes for children in their care and satisfied teachers/providers that stay in the field.

First Impressions Professional Development Program

29	Early childhood professionals received professional development funding to complete 141 college credits in Early Childhood Education Program. This is an increase from 23 early childhood professionals in 2017 and 101 college credits.
97%	Retention for early childhood professionals that benefitted from professional development funding compared to 96% retention for 2017.
74%	Retention for early childhood professionals that received professional development funding in 2016 and were still in the field at the end of 2018.

Early childhood professionals report they appreciate receiving this support and the impact of the opportunity to engage, learn, and share ideas with their peers in class.

*\$22,813 in professional development funding covered 90% of the costs for tuition and books.

*\$9,947 leveraged by the student's 10% portion and the College Opportunity Fund stipend through the Colorado Northwestern Community College.

Credentialed Early Childhood Professionals in the six level Professional Development Information System (PDIS)

	2018	2017
Level 1	14	10
Level 2	41	38
Level 3	28	26
Level 4	9	7
Level 5	3	2
Level 6 (highest)	1	
Total	96	83



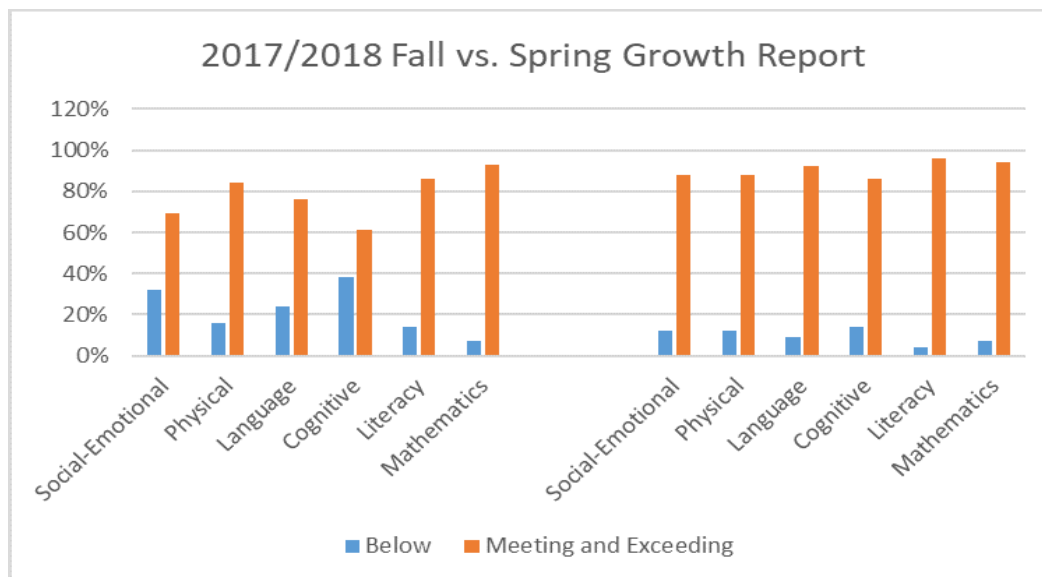
3. Access for all to quality early care and education programs – Children benefit the most from attending high quality early learning programs. First Impressions provides incentives for programs and providers to participate in early childhood quality initiatives.

First Impressions Best Practices Program

66%	Licensed birth to five programs (19 out of 29) are engaged in Colorado Shines five level quality rating and improvement system at a Level 2-5
75%	Early care and education programs (9 out of 12) participating with First Impressions and received a Level 2-5 in Colorado Shines
78%	Early care and education programs participating with First Impressions received a Level 4 (7 out of 9)
47%	Licensed family child care providers (8 out of 17) rated a Level 2 in Colorado Shines with one Level 2 family child care provider receiving a Level 4.
47%	Licensed family child care providers (8 out of 17) participating with First Impressions

Teaching Strategies GOLD (2017-2018 Child Outcomes)

91% of four-year olds were rated by their early childhood teacher as meeting or exceeding developmental milestones in the following areas: social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, and math. This was 87% for the 2016-2017 school year.



Parent Education Opportunities

309	First Impressions Facebook page Likes (29 more likes since 2017) with weekly postings connecting families to resources and early childhood care and education information.
46	Thoughtful Parenting articles for the weekly column in the Steamboat Today. The series is shared with the Routt County Youth Services Coalition, Council members and partners contributing informative parenting education articles for parents and children ages birth to 18. The series changed to twice a month – 2 nd and 4 th Mondays – as of November 2018.
2nd	Published 2nd edition of the Family Connections free resource guide highlighting local resources for families with children ages birth to 18 with Spanish translation. This is available for all parents in Routt County through hardcopy and an electronic link.
22	Provided free child care for 22 children making it possible for 17 parents to join 103 parents in attending the 2 nd Annual Parent Connection Summit.
300+	Community engagement in developing the Routt County Early Childhood Community Plan including having an informational tent at the Steamboat Farmer's Market for 6 Saturdays - July through September.

First Impressions Early Care and Education Tuition Assistance Program

	2018	2017	2016
City and County	\$133,620	\$124,000	\$122,000
United Way	\$62,191	\$75,400	\$90,000
Craig-Scheckman Family Foundation	\$10,500	\$19,500	
Temple Hoyne Buell	\$14,624	\$14,500	\$10,400
Child Care Program Funded (<i>individual child care programs</i>)	\$72,878	\$76,000	\$60,600
Yampa Valley Community Foundation	\$2,000	\$3,400	\$14,800
First Impressions Hardship Funding	\$6,000		
Total Funding for Tuition Assistance	\$309,313	\$312,800	\$298,000
Total served	180 children (162 families)	178 children (154 families)	173 children (156 families)
Average family served size and Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) percentage	Family of 4 at 174% FPG = \$43,800/year (\$3,650/month)	Family of 4 at 183% FPG = \$45,024/year (\$3,752/month)	Family of 4 at 185% FPG = \$45,000/year (\$3,750/month)
Children served and eligible for additional funding	67 children = 37%	67 children = 38%	59 children = 34%
Colorado Child Care Assistance Program through Department of Human Services	\$430,500	\$421,000 (estimated)	\$501,000 (waitlist went into effect August 1, 2016)
Colorado Preschool Program through School Districts	\$367,930	\$333,775	\$331,100
Total	\$1,107,740	\$1,067,575	\$1,130,100