

COLORADO'S WIDE NETWORK OF RESOURCES FOR THE CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL

Colorado Alliance for Quality School-Age Programs, CAQSAP

6612 South Ward Street, Littleton, CO 80127, (303) 409-2127, www.caqsap.org

CAQSAP is a voice for quality school-age care in Colorado, advocating for program funding, leadership training, and the implementation of quality standards. The membership organization collaborates with other early childhood advocates to enhance quality child care, serves as a network and educational forum for professionals, enhance public awareness, and foster collaboration in the field. CAQSAP's objective is: 1) Promoting quality out-of-school time programs; 2) Ensuring all out-of-school time programs will engage children, families, and community and be integrated, comprehensive and respected; 3) Fostering collaboration and implementation of NAA Quality Standards for the ongoing evolution of our profession; and, 4) Providing high-quality programs that are fully funded and accessible.

Colorado Association for the Education of Young Children (and local affiliates), CAEYC

P.O. Box 261326, Highlands Ranch, CO 80163-1326, (303) 791-2772 or (888) 892-4453

www.coloradoaeyc.org

CAEYC serves and acts on behalf of the needs, rights, and well being of children, families, and early childhood educators. The organization's vision is that every young child in Colorado will have access to high quality early care and education. CAEYC's objective is: 1) Promoting high quality, developmentally appropriate, accessible early childhood care and educational services for Colorado children from birth to age eight; 2) Offering professional development opportunities to early childhood educators; 3) Advocating for improved compensation, working conditions, and recognition for individuals in the early childhood profession; 4) Educating and influencing policymakers, elected officials and the public at large to achieve the mission and goals of CAEYC; and, 5) Cooperating with local, state, and national organizations and agencies working with and for young children.

The Colorado Association of Family Child Care, CAFCC

www.coloradochildcare.com

CAFCC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the support and education of licensed family child care providers. The organization assists parents in finding a quality child care environment for their child and to aid child care providers with the means of improving the quality of their business (through education, business aides, and field updates), and to offer employers a resource to share with their employees. CAFCC was organized for the promotion of social welfare and their objective is: 1) Promoting community welfare and education of family child care providers and other persons concerning all aspects of child care services; 2) Promoting high standards and the furthering awareness of family child care providers as a positive professional group; and, 3) Promoting communication among child care providers, officials, organizations, child care consumers, government agencies and all others which enhance the general society's understanding of family child care providers and society as a whole that will benefit thereby.

Colorado Association of Family and Children's Agencies, CAFCA

1120 Lincoln Street, #701, Denver, CO 80203, (720) 570-8402, www.cafca.net

CAFCA is a broad based group of not-for-profit organizations uniting together to develop the best care possible for Colorado's children and their families, through collaboration, leadership and public policy activities. CAFCA's objective is: 1) Promoting and supporting quality social services and programs for Colorado's children through education, research and training; 2) Advocating for child welfare services, and working on policy issues with the state and local governments to strengthen the child welfare system; and, 3) Providing research, education and training to agencies serving Colorado's vulnerable children.

Colorado State Foster Parent Association, CSFPA

7651 West 41st Avenue, Suite 90, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033, (303) 463-7989, www.csfpa.org

CSFPA is dedicated to preserving the integrity and effectiveness of foster parenting through ongoing training seminars and an annual training conference. The Public Policy Committee for CSFPA participates in drafting legislation promoting quality foster care practices and providing expert testimony on proposed legislation. Membership consists of foster parents, social workers and other community members who support the association's

Colorado State Foster Parent Association, CSFPA (continued)

goal. CSFPA is committed to supporting foster care through education, advocacy and the provision of resources for Colorado foster parents. At the association-sponsored annual education conference, CSFPA seeks to provide the most current and topical subjects presented by recognized experts in the field, so that the ultimate educational opportunity is provided to their members.

Early Childhood Education Association of Colorado, ECEAC (formerly Colorado Child Care Association, CCA) **1120 Lincoln Street, #1303, Denver, CO 80203, (303) 860-7174, www.coloradochildcare.net**

ECEAC is a non-profit organization which represents the private provider in the community, advocates for higher reimbursement rates, lobbies on legislation that affects providers, and works to improve quality in the early education industry. The association is dedicated to providing support and guidance in the management and administration of child care centers, achieved through education, networking and legislative representation. ECEAC's objective is: 1) Perpetuating licensed child care in private sector centers and programs; 2) Encouraging excellence, education and professionalism within the child care industry. 3) Encouraging uniformity and fairness within the child care regulatory process; 4) Encouraging and supporting creativity, individuality and innovativeness within the child care industry; 5) Providing a forum for the free sharing of knowledge, ideas, experiences and resources; and, 6) Educating the public and fostering a positive image of early care and education.

Food Programs

4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, Denver, CO 80246-1530, (303) 692-2000, www.cdphe.state.co.us

CACFP serves family child care homes providers, providing financial support to help child care providers provide nutritious meals and snacks for young children in licensed child care homes. CACFP's goals are to teach good eating habits and assure that well-balanced, nourishing meals are served to children in care. CACFP: 1) Visits providers at least three times per year to provide information on feeding children; 2) Helps the provider comply with food program requirements; and, 3) Provides at least one food program training during the year at no charge to the child care provider. The program is administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Child and Adult Care Food Program (CDPHE-CACFP), and is funded by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Foster Care and Adoption Agencies of Colorado, FCAAC (formerly CPA Network)

19215 Sixpenny Lane, Monument, CO 80132, (719) 331-1214, www.childplacementagencies.org

FCAAC is a statewide membership association of private child placement agencies. Specifically, FCAAC is comprised of twenty seven private, non-profit child placement agencies licensed by the State of Colorado to provide foster care and adoption services for children ages 0-18. At any given time, this network of agencies serves over 1,500 foster children per night through over 500 foster homes that are represented by the agencies in the network, which geographically spread throughout all of Colorado. Member agencies provide quality care for children within local communities by establishing and promoting best practice standards through education, training, resource development and advocacy for legislation to strengthen and support the foster care and adoption system in Colorado.

Qualistar Early Learning

3607 Martin Luther King Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205, (303) 339-6800, www.qualistar.org

Qualistar is a statewide network of local nonprofit agencies that support families and early childhood caregivers. Qualistar works with local child care resource and referral agencies serving communities throughout Colorado. Agencies work collaboratively to promote universal access to quality child care, support and empower families, and impact policy and systems change. Qualistar is the child care resource and referral network for the state of Colorado. The network consists of 16 agencies throughout the state, which are able to help support families and child care providers. For child care provider, Qualistar provides opportunities for continuous professional development through support of accreditation programs. For parents/guardians choosing child care, Qualistar provides them with referrals for local child care providers, information on state licensing requirements, availability of child care subsidies, and other important information.

For updates and further information, see the Division of Child Care's website at www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare.