



as a partner in the Rural Resort Region
Northeast Early Childhood Council

Strategic Plan 2011-2013

Vision: A community that values the health and development of young children, their families, and the professionals who provide quality care and education.

Mission: To promote a child centered school readiness system that fosters early learning, facilitates healthy child development and promotes family success in Grand County and the Rural Resort Region Northeast.

Guiding Principles:

- Be child focused and family centered
- Recognize and respond to variations in cultures, language and abilities
- Use data to inform decisions
- Build on the strengths of communities and families
- Focus on children birth to age eight
- Promote partnerships
- Act at a county, region, and statewide level

Goal One: Educated family members who are skilled and support their child(ren)'s health and development.

Domain Areas:

Early Learning Mental Health Family Support and Education Health Cross Domain

Rationale: from 2010 RRRNE early childhood community needs assessment analysis

- > Focus group data reported how challenging it is to inform families about the importance of early childhood and current events who are not utilizing early learning programs or families who recently moved to the area
- > Focus group data from parents and providers in both counties indicated that there was a lack of awareness about available services, events and activities for families with young children
- > Approximately 1/3 of parents reported they did not know where to look for information about challenging behavior or concerns and over 40% believed that related services were not affordable for families in the area
- > Over 60% of surveyed early learning providers reported that they worked with children whose learning they were concerned about and many of these respondents indicated speech, reading and language development as the primary concern

Success Indicators:

- Increased number of children screened using ASQ
- Increased participation in evidenced based parenting training/education
- Increased participation in community services such as CHP+, WIC

Strategy One: ___Internal Capacity ___Build Foundations XImpact Services

Educate families about early childhood development through a defined marketing campaign.

Strategy Two: ___Internal Capacity ___Build Foundations XImpact Services

Increase opportunities for parents to better understand their child(ren)'s development.

Goal Two: A professional early childhood workforce.**Domain Areas:**

___Early Learning ___Mental Health ___Family Support and Education ___Health XCross Domain

Rationale: from 2010 RRRNE early childhood community needs assessment analysis

- > 41.7% of Grand providers indicated needing additional support with social emotional development
- > Over 50% of providers in Grand indicated needing additional support with the physical environment of their center or home
- > Approximately 50% of Grand early learning respondents reported needing assistance in the following areas: availability of fringe benefits, financial support to help meet increased expenses and opportunities for professional development and advancement
- > over 80% of the 49 early learning respondents were not currently seeking employment outside of the early learning field

Success Indicators:

- Increased number of EC professionals with Office Professional Development Credentials
- Increased number of EC professionals meeting EC Teacher and Director qualifications
- Increased engagement of early childhood professionals with professional learning opportunities: meetings, trainings, events

Strategy One: ___Internal Capacity ___Build Foundations XImpact Services

Increase availability and accessibility of quality professional development opportunities

Strategy Two: ___Internal Capacity ___Build Foundations XImpact Services

Increase professionalism in the early childhood workforce

Goal Three: Collaboration & coordination of services provided by those individuals & entities who are committed to early childhood.

Domain Areas:

Early Learning Mental Health Family Support and Education Health Cross Domain

Rationale: from 2010 RRRNE early childhood community needs assessment analysis

- > Focus group data from parents and providers in both counties indicated that there was a lack of awareness about available services, events and activities for families with young children
- > Focus group data from the system building group indicated the need to target system-level interventions in order to create the biggest impact
- > Focus group data from the system building group identified the RRRNE early childhood council should serve as the organizing body to bring organizations together for collaboration.

Success Indicators:

Increased opportunities to engage existing and potential partners: events, meetings, presentations
Increase the number of universal applications being shared across programs

Strategy One: Internal Capacity Build Foundations Impact Services

Provide internal capacity to operate within best practices identified for 501c3's and early childhood councils.

Strategy Two: Internal Capacity Build Foundations Impact Services

Maintain and continue to cultivate relationships with existing and potential partners.

Strategy Three: Internal Capacity Build Foundations Impact Services

Increase coordination across early learning, family support, and health including social emotional health of early childhood services and supports.