

**Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan
Child Development Partnership Group Meeting
November 9, 2010
Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Teresa Adams, Boys & Girls Club of the Pikes Peak Region
- Amber Coté, Pikes Peak United Way
- Kate Hatten, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- Colleen Head, The Resource Exchange
- Jackie Harriman, DoD State Liaison Office
- Deana Hunt, Child Care Connections
- Kris Ingram, Alliance for Kids
- Jennifer Johnson, Boys & Girls Club of the Pikes Peak Region
- Tom Miller, PPACG
- Diane Price, Early Connections Learning Centers
- JoAnn Trujillo, Children First
- Jennifer West, El Paso & Teller Counties Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

Growth Plan Phase 3

Following introductions, Kate Hatten provided an update on Phase 3 of the Fort Carson Regional Growth Plan. This phase will focus on updating Soldier and family demographic projections, including conducting another survey of Fort Carson Soldiers and families, as well as ongoing communication and coordination between Fort Carson and community-based service providers and implementation of the recommendations from Phases 1 and 2 of the Growth Plan.

Tom Miller provided an example of the child care facility mapping that PPACG is developing to assist providers in planning, as well as assist military families in locating services. The group discussed what should be included in the map(s), such as identifying centers and homes (separately); accreditation, including providers that take military subsidies; capacities; age ranges accepted; and type of care provided (e.g., day care, afterschool, preschool programs). Including information (by density) on where Soldiers/families live off-post will also help providers plan for capacity-building and enhancing quality care off-post. Mr. Miller indicated that maps could be provided as PDFs, with various layers (such as elementary school locations) that can be filtered, as needed. PPACG will work with Child Care Connections and Children First to make sure the data included in the maps are accurate and up-to-date.

Ms. Hatten indicated that PPACG is moving forward with development of a website to provide enhanced information to service members, veterans, and family members. Additional information will be provided on this website development once the contract with the provider has been finalized. Similar sites have been developed for other locations, including California, Maryland and Oregon. An example of what the Pikes Peak region's site may look like can be found here:

<http://sandiego.networkofcare.org/Veterans/home/index.cfm>.

Other Business

Diane Price provided an update on the Employer Toolkit being developed by the Early Childhood Leadership Commission (ECLC) and Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (EPIC). The purpose of the toolkit is to help businesses become more family friendly. More details are expected to be available by December 1 and can be found on EPIC's website: <http://www.coloradoepic.org/employer-toolkit>.

The 4th Annual Alliance for Kids Early Childhood Conference is scheduled for 2 April 2011. Trainer/Presenter proposals (proposal package attached) are due 14 January 2011. The theme for the conference is "Smart from the Start", and the keynote speaker is Janet Humphries with Head Start Region 8.

Kris Ingram also indicated that Alliance for Kids is working with Community Partnership for Child Development to host a conference for parents tentatively scheduled for 30 April 2011.

Jackie Harriman discussed the DoD Child Care pilot program in Colorado and twelve other states regarding state quality rating and improvement systems. A video on Virginia's pilot program (<http://vimeo.com/16092348>) provides background information. NACCRRRA is currently seeking to hire a state child care liaison for the program. Ms. Harriman will be seeking input as she works with the state legislature on any relevant legislation during the upcoming (2011) session. It was noted that one of the key ongoing challenges is the number of inspections required to meet military standards; additional resources are needed to decrease caseloads for case managers so that facilities can be inspected more frequently.

It was also noted that there is a strong potential that the state child care tax credit will be eliminated based on state budget challenges.

Amber Coté provided an update on Pikes Peak United Way's School Readiness initiative. Literacy nights are currently being planned for 2011; other ways to help include opportunities for businesses to Adopt a Learning Center. PPUW recently sponsored a viewing of the film *Waiting for Superman* to engage the community in a dialogue about the public school system. Teacher's union representatives are also interested in presenting another viewpoint through the film *Race to Nowhere*.

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

- The next Child Development Partnership Group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 11 January 2011 at 10:30am
- The next CDMC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 19 January 2011 at 3:00pm

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.