

GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
Meeting Agenda for April 16, 2024
County Commissioners' Meeting Room
200 E. Virginia Avenue; Gunnison, CO 81230
(REMOTE OPTION BELOW)

9:05 am

- Call to Order; Agenda Review
- Minutes Approval:
 1. August 15, 2023
 2. October 17, 2023
 3. November 7, 2023
 4. December 19, 2023
- Consent Agenda:
 1. Memorandum of Understanding; Department of Human Services; Colorado Works Program; Hinsdale County; 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2025
- Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- Program Updates:
 1. Early Childhood Services and Local Coordinating Organizations (LCO)/Universal Pre-K (UPK)
- Legislative Updates:
 1. Current Status on Key Bills
- Next Meeting: June 18, 2024

9:50 am

- Adjourn

Please Note: Packet materials for the above discussions will be available on the Gunnison County website at <http://www.gunnisoncounty.org/177/Agendas-Minutes-Portfolios> prior to the meeting.

ZOOM MEETING DETAILS:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82753657556?pwd=MjNDbTZHTFNRVdDemZJdC91aVBIZz09>

Meeting ID: 827 5365 7556

Passcode: 471302

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,82753657556#,,,,*471302# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,82753657556#,,,,*471302# US (Houston)

AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Draft Human Services Minutes; 8-15-2023

Action Requested: Board of County Commissioners' Signature

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins:

Term Ends:

Grant Contract #:

Summary:

The draft 8/15/2023 Board of Human Services meeting minutes are attached for consideration.

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Katherine Haase

Submitter's Email Address: khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes No

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirmie

Discharge Date: 2/16/2024

Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda

Worksession

Time Allotted: 1

Agenda Date: 4/16/2024

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
August 15, 2023**

The August 15, 2023 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Board of County Commissioners' meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson	Joni Reynolds, Assistant County Manager & HHS Director
Greg Levine, Commissioner (Hinsdale County)	Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Elizabeth Smith, Commissioner	Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner	Other Persons Present as Listed in Text
Matthew Hoyt, County Attorney	

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Levine to approve the minutes for October 18, 2022, December 20, 2022, February 21, 2023 and April 18, 2023 as presented. Motion carried. Commissioner Puckett Daniels abstained from the vote since she was not present for all of the meetings.

1. October 18, 2022 Regular Meeting
2. December 20, 2022 Regular Meeting
3. February 21, 2023 Regular Meeting
4. April 18, 2023 Regular Meeting

APPROVAL FOR AMENDMENTS TO GUNNISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMPREHENSIVE CIVIL RIGHTS PLAN; COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING (HCPF) APPROVED EDITS. The Board did not have any questions or concerns about the edits. **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Levine to approve the amendments to the Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services Comprehensive Civil Right Plan. CA Hoyt requested that the motion include authorization of the Chair's signature, and Commissioners Smith and Levine both agreed to the addition. Motion carried unanimously.

CELEBRATION AND PRESENTATION OF AWARDS FOR GUNNISON AND HINSDALE COUNTIES BY COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES. Colorado Department of Human Services Director of County Relations Laura Strother and several members from the Gunnison County Health and Human Services team were present for discussion.

Ms. Strother presented 2022 Distinguished Performance Awards to Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties, which recognizes those Counties that meet goals for timeliness, safety and accuracy in their work. Gunnison County ranked 10th highest in Colorado during 2022, and this represented the fifth C-Stat award given to our organization. Hinsdale County ranked sixth in the State and received its second C-Stat Distinguished Performance award. It was also named "Most Improved Small County" for 2022. ACM Reynolds thanked her team and their incredible work. She also thanked the Board for continued support. Commissioner Levine echoed ACM Reynolds' statements, and he thanked Gunnison County for essential collaboration. Commissioners Houck, Smith and Puckett Daniels thanked staff for all of their work.

PROGRAM UPDATES:

1. Universal Pre-K and the Local Coordinating Organization (LCO). Community Health Manager Margaret Wacker and Early Childhood Services Supervisor Lana Athey were present for discussion.
 - a. Slots. A total of 120 children are currently enrolled; 14 are full time (30 hours per week) and 106 are part-time (15 hours per week). This brings a total of \$792,632 into the community. There are 22 openings potentially remaining in four different locations – Wonderland, Tenderfoot, Stepping Stones and Paradise Place.
 - b. Sick Leave Program. The program has supported 78 teachers with paid sick leave (Aug 2020 – Jun 2023) for a total cost of \$61,178 so far. Funding has been provided by the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley COVID Relief Fund, the Town of Crested Butte, and the City of Gunnison. Enough funding is currently available to continue the program through the end of 2023.
 - c. Stipend Program. During 2021, a total of \$13,100 was awarded to 49 teachers. During Dec 2022 through Jun 2023, a total of \$29,000 was awarded to 58 teachers. The program would need at least \$15,000 to continue to run the program at capacity in 2023. Grant funds will be sought.
 - d. Early Childhood Food Boxes for Teachers Program. Boxes have been provided to over 80 early childhood teachers and home providers on a monthly basis. A total of 686 food boxes were delivered between Oct 2022 and Jun 2023, for a total cost of \$36,000. This program was made possible by grant funding, and that funding has been exhausted.

- e. Family, Friend, Neighbor Caregiver Support. The Colorado Health Foundation provided grant funds of \$18,900 annually, and the grant ends 9/15/2023. Other funds have enabled continuance of this work through September 2024.
- f. Workforce Retention. Commissioner Puckett Daniels asked for any data related to whether or not the initiatives are helping to retain the workforce. ECSS Athey stated that data does show some level of retention, but not as much as was hoped. She also opined that the Sick Leave Program was very helpful to the workforce, especially during the pandemic when employees were forced to remain isolated at home. She also stated that raising teacher salaries would be a great step toward retaining this workforce. The work that the team has done and is doing has resulted in lower turnover in the valley as compared to other areas of Colorado.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION; MARILYN CHEEVER, CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES MANAGER. ACM Reynolds outlined Child and Family Services Manager Marilyn Cheever’s 16-year career timeline at Gunnison County, beginning with an internship. She noted that Marilyn has worked with hundreds of families in the community, and she presented her with a bouquet of flowers. The Board expressed thanks for all that Marilyn has done for the organization and the community.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for October 17, 2023.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 9:14 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved (insert date):

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Draft Oct 17, 2023 Human Services Minutes

Action Requested: Board of County Commissioners' Signature

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins:

Term Ends:

Grant Contract #:

Summary:

The draft 10/17/2023 Board of Human Services meeting minutes are attached for consideration.

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Katherine Haase

Submitter's Email Address: khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes No

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirmie

Discharge Date: 2/16/2024

Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda

Worksession

Time Allotted: 1

Agenda Date: 4/16/2024

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
October 17, 2023**

The October 17, 2023 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Board of County Commissioners' meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson	Joni Reynolds, Assistant County Manager & HHS Director
Greg Levine, Commissioner (Hinsdale County)	Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Elizabeth Smith, Commissioner	Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner	Other Persons Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 10:49 am. Commissioner Levine attended the meeting in person.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda.

FINANCIAL UPDATE: HHS Director Reynolds presented the summary financial report of the YTD expenses, and no concerns were expressed. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Levine to accept the financials as presented and authorize the Chair's signature. Motion carried unanimously.

PROGRAM UPDATES:

1. Child Support Services. Deputy Health and Human Services Director Brad Wheaton was present for discussion and brought hard copies of information for the group. Child Support Services Specialist Shelley Tucker was also present for discussion, and she provided the update. We are no longer collecting child support on foster care fees, as those fees are felt to be too much of a hardship on the families. All enforcement actions are again being sought after the pandemic. There is a new imputation rule in effect for collecting child support, meaning that a minimum wage of 32 hours per week for 50 weeks each year will be imputed if there is no extended work history. DHHS Wheaton noted that over \$600,000 was collected last year, and a C-Stat award was given to the department for the dollar amount of arrears payments received in 2022. A new interface will likely be implemented in 2024 to hopefully recoup additional monies owed to families.
2. Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). Wellness/Enforcement Services Manager Betsy Holena was present for discussion. WESM Holena confirmed that the application has been submitted to the State, and the results should be known in a couple of weeks. She also noted that staff is developing an onboarding packet for new Board members, which should be ready in November. So far this year, the program has helped 103 households with funding for things like rent, fuel, and transportation needs.
3. Economic Security. Economic Security Services Supervisor Brian Gage was present for discussion.
 - i. Medicaid. ESSS Gage confirmed that his staff is working to update the Medicaid program now that the public health emergency is over. The caseload must be reevaluated and new determinations made for all those who received were brought onto the program during the pandemic, and the work must be done within the next approximately eight months. The State has extended the public health emergency funding through June 2024.
 - ii. Food Assistance. ESSS Gage informed the Board that the Gunnison County issued \$182,000 in SNAP benefits to community members in September, which shows an expected decrease aligned with the program's reversion to calculated benefits after the Max Allotment ended in March.
 - iii. Able-Bodied Adult(s) Without Dependents (ABAWD) Rule Change. ESSS Gage explained that the State is requiring able-bodied adults without dependents to meet an employment requirement in order to qualify for food assistance. Over a 36-month period, if a person does not meet the work requirements three times, they risk being removed from the program. Previously, Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties were both exempt from this requirement, but Gunnison recently lost that exemption. Currently, Hinsdale is one of only four counties that qualify for the exemption.
4. Senior Care Center. ESSS Gage stated that the Senior Care Center facility is operating at 2/3 capacity due to staffing issues.
5. Medical Assistance. ESSS Gage informed the Board that the State has made Family Planning a new category of medical assistance. This change has helped the community with testing for sexually transmitting infections, and it helps with birth control services. Behavioral Health is another new program that will help to expand access to assistance related to mental health and substance abuse. More than 23% of Gunnison County's population is enrolled in Health First Colorado.
6. Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). Community Health Manager Margaret Wacker and CCAP Coordinator Cheryl Smejkal were present for discussion. CHM Wacker noted that the State requirements with this program have resulted in a greatly increased workload for staff.
 - i. Western Junior Mountaineers Camp. This year, the Camp opened up to CCAP families, which resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of families served.

- ii. Current Families/Cases Served in Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties. There are 29 kids currently authorized for CCAP childcare; up from 15 in Oct 2022, and down from 39 this past summer. There are 20 kids, primarily aged six months to two years old, on CCAP who do not have a current childcare authorization, because they are waiting for an open childcare slot.
- iii. Current FY 2024 Budget. Gunnison County's total allocation is \$289,191, and the State estimated Gunnison County's share to be \$24,780 of that. However, based on spending in July and August, the State estimated we might spend closer to \$194,373. Hinsdale County's allocation is \$24,607, of which \$2,108 would be Hinsdale's share. Last year, Hinsdale spent \$11,980.81, and the State estimates that \$12,449 will be spent this year.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for December 19, 2023.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 11:28 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved (insert date):

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

DRAFT

AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Draft HS Minutes; November 7, 2023

Action Requested: Motion

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins:

Term Ends:

Grant Contract #:

Summary:

The draft 11/7/2023 Board of Human Services meeting minutes are attached for consideration.

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Katherine Haase

Submitter's Email Address: khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes No

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirmie

Discharge Date: 2/28/2024

Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda

Worksession

Time Allotted: 1

Agenda Date: 4/16/2024

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
November 7, 2023**

The November 7, 2023 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Board of County Commissioners' meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson	Joni Reynolds, HHS Director (ABSENT)
Greg Levine, Commissioner (Hinsdale County)	Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Elizabeth Smith, Commissioner	Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner	Other Persons Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 8:34 am.

CONSENT AGENDA: **Moved** by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Levine to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Approval for Intergovernmental Agreement Amendment #1 to Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) Community Partnerships contract #179140; for participation in the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) Supplemental County Leased Computing Asset Lease Schedule Program, under terms set forth by CDHS; Effective date 11/17/2023; \$12,988

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 8:35 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved (insert date):

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Draft Human Services Meeting Minutes; 12/19/2023

Action Requested: Board of County Commissioners' Signature

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins:

Term Ends:

Grant Contract #:

Summary:

The draft 12/19/2023 Board of Human Services meeting minutes are attached for consideration.

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Katherine Haase

Submitter's Email Address: khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes No

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirmie

Discharge Date: 2/16/2024

Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda

Worksession

Time Allotted: 1

Agenda Date: 4/16/2024

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
December 19, 2023**

The December 19, 2023 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Board of County Commissioners' meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson
Greg Levine, Commissioner (ABSENT)
Elizabeth Smith, Commissioner
Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner

Joni Reynolds, Health and Human Services Director
Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Other Persons Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 9:17 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda, though Commissioner Houck opted to modify the order of items in case Commissioner Levine was able to join the meeting at some point.

2024 COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MERIT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION: ACM Reynolds explained that this is an annual requirement. This year, it requires Board signature. **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve the 2024 Colorado Department of Human Services Merit System Certification and authorize the Chair's signature. Motion carried unanimously.

PROGRAM UPDATES:

- Child Welfare Services. Child and Family Services Supervisor Laura Rascon and Deputy Health and Human Services Director Brad Wheaton were present for discussion. ACM Reynolds congratulated CFSS Rascon on her promotion, and she noted that CFSS Rascon completed the State's required supervisor training last week. The Board congratulated CFSS Rascon on her promotion. DHHS Wheaton noted that CFSS Rascon has been with the department since 2005 and has served in many roles. CA Hoyt said that he's had the chance to work with CFSS Rascon and is very pleased that she has been given this role.
- 2024 Calendar. ACM Reynolds stated that she will send a draft calendar to the commissioners after the holidays.

HINSDALE COUNTY FUNDING REQUEST LETTER; ROCKY MOUNTAIN HEALTH PLANS; REGIONAL ACCOUNTABLE ENTITY (RAE) HEALTH NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT OVERVIEW; \$20,000: ACM Reynolds explained that Rocky Mountain Health Plans reached out to help Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties with work being done by the eligibility team. Each County may apply for \$20,000, and Gunnison County has completed an application. **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve the Rocky Mountain Health Plans support letter and authorize the Chair's signature. Motion carried unanimously.

HINSDALE COUNTY - CCI PROXY: ACM Reynolds confirmed that she is normally the designated Hinsdale proxy, and she confirmed that this action is on the Hinsdale County BOCC's agenda this week.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for February 20, 2023.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 9:26 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved (insert date):

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Memorandum of Understanding; Department of Human S

Action Requested: Other Board of Human Services chair signature

Parties to the Agreement: Colorado Department of Human Services

Term Begins:

Term Ends:

Grant Contract #:

Summary:

CDHS is requiring an annual "reaffirmation" of the Colorado Works MOU to be signed by the County Board of County Commissioners. Board signed Gunnison County recently but CDHS is requiring an additional one for Hinsdale County.

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Joni Reynolds

Submitter's Email Address: jreynolds@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Appears legally sufficient. Importantly, however, the document needs to go not on a BOCC agenda but a Gunnison-Hinsdale Board of Human Services agenda. Document should reference and should be executed by Gunnison-Hinsdale Board of Human Services . MRH

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mhoyt

Discharge Date: 4/5/2024

Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes No

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirmie

Discharge Date: 4/10/2024

Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda

Worksession

Time Allotted: 0

Agenda Date: 4/16/2024



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - ANNUAL REAFFIRMATION

The State of Colorado Department of Human Services and the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services or other elected governing body of Hinsdale County, Colorado.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made this 1st day of July, 2022 between the State of Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) and the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services or other elected governing body of Hinsdale County, Colorado (the “County”).

CDHS is the sole state agency with the responsibility to administer or supervise the administration of the human services programs listed in CRS 26-1-201.

The Colorado General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 97-120 in response to the passage of the federal “Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996” thereby adopting the Colorado Works Program (“Works Program”) for the purposes of this MOU.

CRS 26-2-715 requires CDHS, and the County to enter into an annual performance contract that explains the County’s duties and responsibilities in implementing the Works Program.

CDHS and the County understand and agree that the services and assistance outlined in this MOU are subject to available appropriations by the General Assembly, and the County. Neither party will be obligated to provide services or assistance if adequate appropriations have not been made.

The following terms are agreed to by CDHS and the County:

1) **MOU MEETS PERFORMANCE CONTRACT REQUIREMENT**

a) The parties agree that the provisions of this MOU constitute compliance with CRS 26-2- 715.

2) **TERM**

a) The term of this MOU will be from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. This MOU shall be reaffirmed annually through an amendment signed by both parties.

3) **REQUIRED DUTIES OF THE COUNTY**

a) The County will administer and implement the Works Program using fair and objective criteria, and in compliance with federal law, State Statute, and applicable program policy in 9 CCR 2503-6 (Works Program).

b) The County will not reduce the basic assistance grant administered according to CRS 26-2-709, except as otherwise outlined in 9 CCR 2503-6.

c) The County will not restrict eligibility or the provisions of services, nor will it impose sanctions that are inconsistent with State Statute or Federal law and applicable program policy, including the process and sanctions outlined in 9 CCR 2503-6.



- d) For the term of this MOU, the County's negotiated Work Participation Rate (WPR) will be held accountable only to the adjusted WPR, after the caseload reduction credit is applied, with the elimination and removal of the Two-Parent rate. The County's agreement to meet the federally required participation rate is relevant to CDHS's anticipation that CDHS will, in turn, be able to meet any work participation rates imposed by the federal government.
- e) The parties acknowledge that the WPR is, as of the signing of this MOU, the only federally mandated performance goal identified specifically in CRS 26-2- 712 (4). The parties also acknowledge that in an effort to help individuals prepare for and enter the workforce, they are encouraged to adopt employment focused measures, as outlined under "OPTIONAL OUTCOME MEASURES" below.
- f) The County will maintain sufficient records, and will permit CDHS or its duly designated agents and/or representatives of the federal government, to inspect the records and make such records available to CDHS as specified in CRS 26-2-717 for the Colorado Works Program. The County must also continue to report to CDHS as currently required by CRS 26-2-716 and 717 for the Colorado Works Program and must report to CDHS as required by law. In addition, Counties or county departments that are covered entities, or contracting parties to a Business Associate Agreement, pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), must comply with HIPAA, as required by law.
- g) As specified by rule and state statute, counties shall have flexibility in determining the approaches needed to achieve federal and State requirements. The County agrees to provide CDHS with its adopted policies and any updated written information when, or if, changes to these policies are made in these Programs. The County agrees to provide the information and policies specified in paragraph (h) herein, to CDHS for review and approval prior to adopting aforementioned policies.
- h) Outside of what is required by statute or rule, the parties agree that information and policies provided by the County to CDHS, as described in paragraph (g) herein, are for informational purposes and are provided to assist CDHS in meeting its responsibilities, with respect to the Colorado Works Programs. Nothing in this MOU gives CDHS the authority to require any County policies beyond what is required by statute or rule. The County acknowledges CDHS's right to review, comment upon or request reasonable additional information or clarification of any County policies or records. Such requests will be made in writing and directed to the County Department of Human/Social Services Director.
- i) The County will utilize the technical assistance, training and reporting or tracking resources offered by CDHS in order to administer the Programs, including those that support the four purposes of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and will meet the WPR.
- j) The County will participate in formal expeditious vetting processes with CDHS to review, draft and recommend policies or rule changes that would have a positive impact on WPR and meet federal guidelines.
- k) In order to maximize the caseload reduction credit for the State, the County will actively identify and report third party Maintenance of Effort (MOE) contributions, in accordance with the timelines and guidelines established by CDHS.

4) OPTIONAL OUTCOME MEASURES

- a) Counties may submit a proposal as an attachment to this MOU, describing additional employment focused performance measures, specific to employment. Such proposals may be submitted either at the time of execution or at any time during the period of this MOU. The proposal is limited to issues



regarding the pursuit of programs, strategies, and associated evaluation plans that focus on improving employment outcomes and contribute to the evidence base for effective programs. In addition, terms and conditions will require either interim targets for each performance measure or a framework for how interim goals will be set after the baseline measures are established. The terms and conditions will establish a review process for programs, strategies and metrics designed to achieve optimal outcomes.

b) Upon approval of the proposal by CDHS, the County or region will be subject to the performance measures, interim goals, and other conditions set forth in the MOU addendum, and negotiated WPR that consider employment focused outcome measures and anticipated statewide case-load credit reductions.

5) DUTIES OF CDHS

a) In consultation with the Counties, CDHS will oversee the statewide implementation of the Works Program, and will develop standardized forms that streamline the application process, the delivery of services, and the tracking of participants.

b) CDHS will monitor the County's provision of basic assistance grants and, if necessary, perform the duties outlined in CRS 26-2-712 (5).

c) CDHS exercises oversight of and responsibility for the development, implementation, maintenance, and enhancement of the State Benefit System and its application relative to the Works Program. Because the State Benefit System is a system that utilizes decision tables run by a rules engine for determining eligibility and amount of benefits to the extent allowed by law, the County will not be sanctioned or required to follow a remediation plan for erroneous decisions made by the State Benefit System. Without limitation, this applies to erroneous eligibility decisions, erroneous determination of amount of benefits, erroneous decisions resulting in overpayments and subsequent claims, and erroneous decisions resulting in underpayments and subsequent supplemental payments of restorative benefits.

(1) The State acknowledges that liability to third parties resulting from erroneous, inaccurate or inadequate State Benefits System notices to Works Program households, is properly the State's liability. CDHS will not take recovery action against the County for any claim, including a legal claim, that is defined in this paragraph as a State Benefit System caused error. This provision does not apply to any errors, claims or issues caused by the County's inaccurate data entry in the system, the County's failure to follow clear, reasonable, and lawful instruction, or failure to follow program rules formally adopted by the State Board of Human Services. This provision does apply to the State Benefit System training and data entry rules and/or any rules that are part of the State Benefit System rule engine.

d) CDHS will develop and provide training for Works Program staff, as required by CRS 26-2-712 (7).

e) CDHS will hold Contracted Agencies with cooperative agreements with the State Department responsible for providing reception and placement services for refugees, accountable to its own WPR and must not include refugees receiving Contracted Agency's services in the County's calculation of the WPR. The Contracted Agency's negotiated WPR will be held accountable only to the adjusted WPR after the case-load reduction credit is applied with the elimination and removal of the Two-Parent rate.

f) CDHS will use valid data from the State Benefit System and other sources, as necessary, to accurately calculate the County's WPR. Prior to submitting its calculation to the federal government, CDHS will provide the County the individual data variables and supporting information used in the



calculations, so that the County may review the data to ensure the accuracy, validity and proper calculation of the WPR.

- g) CDHS will provide technical assistance and available resources to the Counties to help Counties meet WPR and Payment Accuracy Goals.
- h) CDHS will provide ongoing technical assistance, training, and reporting for tracking resources to help the County administer the program, in support of the four purposes of TANF and to meet WPR.
- i) CDHS will conduct formal expeditious collaborative processes with the County to review, draft and recommend policies or rule changes that would have a positive impact on work participation rate and meet federal guidelines.
- j) In order to maximize the caseload reduction credit for the State, CDHS agrees to actively identify and report third party Maintenance of Effort (MOE) contributions.
- k) The amount identified for a County's level of spending shall be identified annually in the Allocation Agency Letter as required in CRS 26-2-712.

6) JOINT STATE AND COUNTY DUTIES

- a) The State and Counties will work together in partnership to communicate performance expectations and results to jointly achieve federally required performance outcome measures related to the WPR.
- b) As needed, the State and Counties will convene meetings, workshops, focus groups, or other forums to share information, best process, or targeted strategies to achieve the spirit and intent of this MOU document and related federally required performance requirements.
- c) The State and the Counties will work together to ensure that the information entered and reported in the Colorado Benefits Management System is as accurate as possible. The State shall work to address any system issues in a timely manner, and Counties will enter accurate client and provider information in the systems.

7) REMEDIATION PLANS

The County, in consultation with CDHS may develop a remediation plan if, during the term of this MOU, the County engages in any of the following actions:

- a) Spending, federal or state, Works Program funds in a manner disallowed by Federal or State law, which could include receipts or recoveries that are not reported;
- b) Failing to meet the WPR, after the caseload reduction credit is applied, as contained in this MOU and/or failing to meet the negotiated performance measures;
- c) Reducing the basic assistance grant, restricting eligibility or the provision of services, or imposing sanctions in a manner inconsistent with a federally compliant state law and state plan, and applicable program policy;

8) SANCTIONS



a) Subject to the limitations set forth herein, if CDHS subject to a federal sanction, and the County's remediation plan was insufficient, CDHS may impose sanctions on the County pursuant to this MOU only if during the term of this MOU, the County engages in any of the following actions:

1. Failing to meet the WPR, after the caseload reduction credit is applied, as contained in this MOU and/or not meeting negotiated performance measures;
2. Reducing the basic assistance grant, restricting eligibility or the provision of services, or imposing sanctions in a manner inconsistent with a federally compliant state law and state plan and applicable program policy;

b) A sanction should not be imposed on the County for failing to adhere to a state regulation that conflicts with federal law.

c) The county will not be sanctioned or required to follow a remediation plan if:

1. the County can demonstrate by a preponderance of evidence that CDHS provided inaccurate guidance, training or data with regards to performance under this MOU; and,
2. that the County's reliance on this information is the proximate cause for the imposed sanctions. If the County can only demonstrate that it is the proximate cause for part of the sanction, the County will not be liable for that portion of the sanction.

9) PROCEDURES FOR IMPOSING REMEDIATION PLAN OR SANCTIONS

a) The process for a sanction or remediation plan against the County by CDHS will be as follows:

1. CDHS will provide the County with written notice of the County's failure to meet the performance measures outlined in this MOU. This notification will include all associated documentation that supports CDHS's determination of the performance failure. Upon receiving such notice, the County has sixty (60) days to contest, explain, offer evidence of mitigating factors, and/or submit a remediation plan to correct the alleged performance problem.
2. If the County's remediation plan does not rectify the performance problem, CDHS may determine the appropriate level of sanction. CDHS shall take into consideration as a mitigating factor any violation of a state regulation that exceeds or conflicts the requirements of the federal law. CDHS will provide the County one hundred eighty (180) days written notice of the proposed sanction before imposing any sanction. This notification will include the rationale of imposing the sanction, as well as, all associated documentation, a calculation of the proposed sanction, and an indication of what constitutes a remedy or correction that will allow the County to avert the sanction, if any remedy or correction is possible. Upon receiving such notice, the County has sixty (60) days to contest, explain or offer evidence of mitigating factors, sanctions are imposed.
3. If a sanction is imposed, the amount cannot be greater than that imposed by the federal government. If CDHS has incurred a sanction due to the failure of more than one County to meet its obligations under the terms of this MOU, the County will only be sanctioned for its share of the sanction.



b) CDHS will provide the County with all documents received from the federal government related to any proposed or imposed federal sanction within twenty (20) days of receipt, together with all CDHS documents related to the actions giving rise to that federal sanction, or that related to the sanction process. If CDHS fails to provide the required documentation within the twenty (20) days, it may not hold the County liable for that sanction.

10) CIRCUMSTANCES FOR CDHS ASSUMING ADMINISTRATION

a) If the County continues to knowingly or consistently fail to meet its obligation specified in this MOU, CDHS may assume the County's administration and implementation of the Works Program.

i) In that event, CDHS will provide the County ninety (90) days written notice before assuming these duties. Upon receipt of such notice, the County shall have the opportunity to contest, explain, offer evidence of mitigating factors, or to correct the failure before assuming the duties.

b) If the County continues to consistently fail to meet its obligation specified in this MOU, the County at its sole discretion, may ask CDHS to assume the County's administration and implementation of the Works Program. CDHS is under no obligation to accept or assume the administration of the Works Program.

i) If CDHS assumes the County's administration and implementation of the Works Program, it may retain the unused portion of the allocation that was provided to the County, as part of the County's block grant for its administration and implementation of the Program, in accordance with the formulas described in CRS 26-2-714 for the Colorado Works Program. CDHS will, in consultation and in conjunction with the County, develop or modify automated systems to meet the reporting requirements of CRS 26-2-717 for the Colorado Works Program

11) DISCRETIONARY MATTERS

The parties agree that all portions of Part 7 or Article 2 of Title 26, C.R.S. for the Colorado Works Program grant discretion to either party regarding the administration of the Works in the County, will not be affected by the execution of this MOU except as explicitly stated herein.

12) SEVERABILITY

To the extent that this MOU is executed, and the performance of the obligations of the parties may be accomplished within the intent of the MOU, the terms of the MOU are severable. Thus, should any term or provision herein be declared invalid or become inoperative for any reason, such invalidity or failure shall not affect the validity of any other term or provision herein. The waiver of any break of term, herein shall not be construed as a waiver of any other term, or of the same term upon subsequent breach.

13) INTEGRATION OF UNDERSTANDING

This MOU is intended as the complete integration of the understanding between the parties concerning the matters negotiated between them and incorporated in this MOU. No prior or contemporaneous addition, deletion, or other amendment hereto shall have any force or effect whatsoever, unless embodied in writing. No subsequent notation, renewal, addition, deletion, or other amendment hereto shall have any force or effect unless embodied in a written amendment executed by the parties.



The parties recognize the nature of the relationship between the County and State. This relationship is governed more broadly by pertinent provisions of the Colorado Constitution and of State statutes and rules, and for Colorado Works includes, lawful rules promulgated by the State Board of Human Services. The parties further recognize that this MOU is not intended to supersede or change the relationship between the County and the State as established by any legal authority.

14) NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARY

This MOU is binding on CDHS and the County as well as their respective successors and assigns. It is agreed that the enforcement of the terms and conditions of the MOU are reserved for CDHS and the County, to the extent permitted by law. Nothing contained in this MOU allows a claim or right of action by a third party. Any third-party receiving services or benefits under the provisions of this MOU is deemed an incidental beneficiary.

15) DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- a) Prior to the execution of this document, if CDHS or the County are unable to reach agreement concerning the inclusion of, or wording of, provisions of the MOU that apply to the Colorado Works Program, either CDHS or the County may refer the dispute to the State Board of Human Services for resolution pursuant to the provisions of CRS 26-2-715 (3).
- b) Subsequent to the execution of this document, CDHS and the Counties will work in good faith to resolve a dispute arising from any provision of this executed MOU as applied to the Colorado Works program. If the parties are unable to resolve such dispute, any of the following non-binding mediation options are available by agreement of the parties;
 - i) Mediation by the Governor or a third party of the Governor's choosing. Such review must be initiated by notice provided to the Governor and other party, by certified mail. Decision by the Governor, or his appointed third-party, is non-binding.
 - ii) Mediation by a dispute resolution panel, to consist of one County designated member, one CDHS designated member, and one member selected by the other two panelists. Each party must pay for its own costs and attorney fees and must share equally in any fees paid to panel members. The panel's decision shall be made by a majority vote of its members and is non-binding.
 - iii) Mediation by the State Board of Human Services. If the State Board is requested to mediate, the provisions of CRS 26-2-715 concerning time limits and final effect of the State Board's decision will not apply. The State Board of Human Services' decision is non-binding.
- c) None of these options will be a jurisdictional prerequisite to legal action by either party.

Clint Woodruff

Digitally signed by Clint Woodruff
Date: 2023.12.15 11:54:59 -07'00'

Clint Woodruff, Acting Executive Director, State of Colorado Department of Human Services



COLORADO
Department of Human Services

COUNTY OF _____ COLORADO, by and through the GUNNISON/
HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES

Chairman

ATTEST:

County Clerk to the Board

Date: _____

AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Financial Statements; Department of Human Services

Action Requested: Discussion

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins:

Term Ends:

Grant Contract #:

Summary:

Dept of Human Services Financial Stmts

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Lupita Halligan

Submitter's Email Address: lhalligan@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\PSolheim

Discharge Date: 4/11/2024

County Attorney Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes No

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirmie

Discharge Date: 4/12/2024

Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda

Worksession

Time Allotted: 5

Agenda Date: 4/16/2024



Gunnison/Hinsdale DHS Financial Report
for the Period Ending 12/31/2023

<i>Expense</i>	YTD Expense <i>Gunnison</i>	YTD Expense <i>Hinsdale</i>	<i>Total</i>	Estimate of Gunnison County Only \$\$
155 HB 1451	43,318.78	-	43,318.78	-
340 Colorado Works (TANF)	251,956.51	11,747.11	263,703.62	50,391.30
340 Child Care	223,023.35	10,415.93	233,439.28	44,604.67
350 County Admin	644,547.97	1,085.62	645,633.59	128,909.59
350 Adult Protective Services	85,672.59	-	85,672.59	17,134.52
360 Child Welfare	953,372.07	49,492.64	1,002,864.71	190,674.41
360 Core Services	155,992.93	28,212.73	184,205.66	31,198.59
365 Child Support Enforcement	116,955.97	1,578.07	118,534.04	39,765.03
380 LEAP	168,882.42	5,762.74	174,645.16	-
380 Aid to Needy Disabled	27,915.70	-	27,915.70	5,583.14
380 Old Age Pension	103,087.30	1,470.17	104,557.47	-
380 Food Assistance	2,575,292.17	15,237.47	2,590,529.64	-
380 Grants	74,836.67	-	74,836.67	-
	<u>5,424,854.43</u>	<u>125,002.48</u>	<u>5,549,856.91</u>	<u>508,261.25</u>

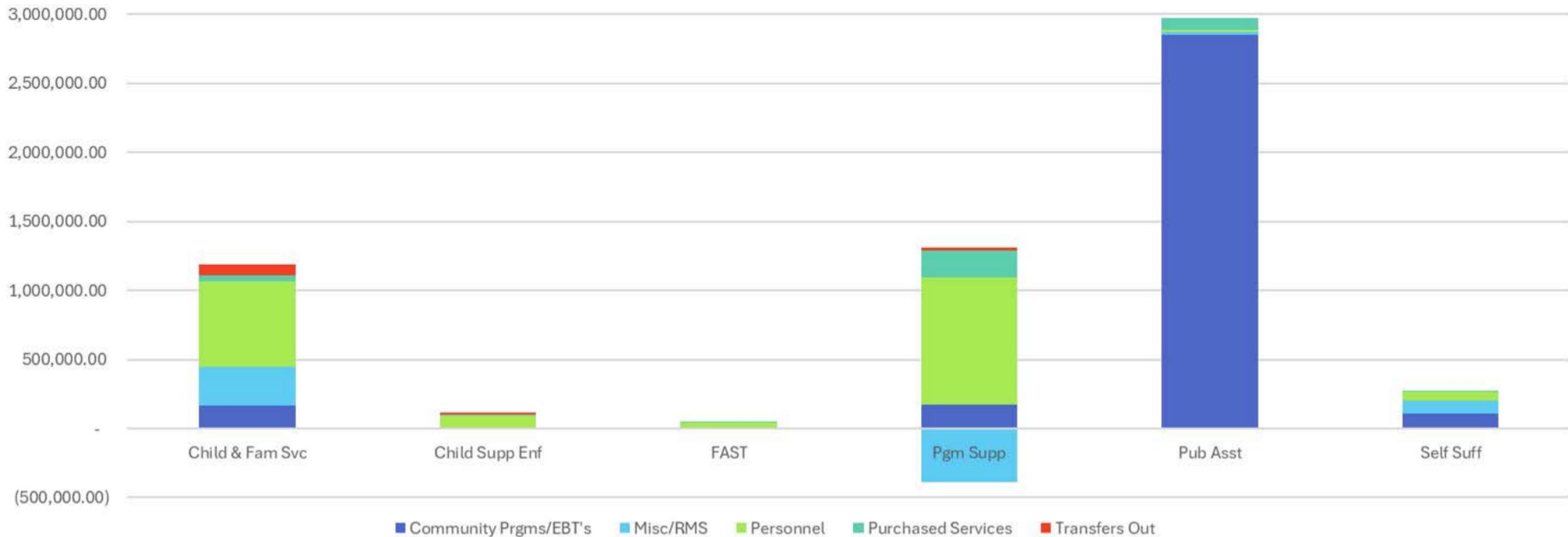
Signatures

Director, Gunnison/Hinsdale DHS

Chair, Gunnison/Hinsdale Board Human Services

DHS Expenses

Period Ending 12/31/2023



AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Early Childhood Services and Local Coordinating Or

Action Requested: Other Presentation on Early Childhood Services and Universal Preschool

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins:

Term Ends:

Grant Contract #:

Summary:

Presentation on Early Childhood Services and Universal Preschool by Joni Reynolds, Assistant Count Manager, Lana Athey Early Childhood Services Supervisor. and Margaret Wacker Community Health Manager

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Lana Athey

Submitter's Email Address: lathey@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\PSolheim

Discharge Date: 4/11/2024

County Attorney Review:

Required

Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by:

Discharge Date:

Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes No

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirmie

Discharge Date: 4/12/2024

Consent Agenda

Regular Agenda

Worksession

Time Allotted: 10

Agenda Date: 4/16/2024



Early Childhood Gunnison County

- Joni Reynolds,
 - Assistant County Manager

- Lana Athey,
 - HHS Early Childhood Services Supervisor

- Margaret Wacker,
 - HHS Community Health Manager

Strategic Plan

C. PROMOTE PROSPEROUS, COLLABORATIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Strategic Results

By December 31, 2025, Gunnison County will lead efforts in the valley to stabilize and increase early childhood education, child care and pre-K slots by:

- a) Developing policy to maximize current capacity at all licensed providers and expand capacity for infant and toddler care.
- b) Securing funding to implement stable evidence-based workforce focused programs.
- c) Implementing the Local Coordinating Organization (LCO) plan for universal preschool.
- d) Outreach, education and support services to increase licensed home providers.



Universal Preschool

2023-2024 School Year

120 children enrolled
14 receiving full time- 30 hours
per week
\$10,669.68 per child

106 children part time 15
hours/week
\$6,068.47 per child

2024-2025 School Year (As of April 4, 2024)

115 families have applied
It has not yet been determined
how many hours of funding
each child will receive.

Expecting at least 20-30 more
families to apply by the
beginning of May

Currently Tenderfoot, Lake School, Paradise Place, and Wonderland have openings for 4 year old preschool.



Increasing Number of Licensed Family Child Care Homes

Valley's first Spanish-speaking, licensed daycare opens in Gunnison

Daisdasa family child care center already at capacity

Abby Hamman
Times Staff Writer

(Editors note: This is a photo of the interview location.)

Paola Tapia stood at the front of the small room, balancing a child on her hip. At the same time, she spoke in Spanish to a crowd of parents sitting on a colorful rug, doing paperwork. She thanked them for allowing her to live their children the way they live.

As of mid-March, Tapia is Gunnison County's first licensed family child care home provider whose native language is Spanish. A family child care home provider cares for kids in a home setting rather than a separate, usually larger space —

Daycare Aid



(Left to right) Ruby Hernandez and her mother, Rosa, sit with Isabella Hernandez and her son, Daniel, at the Daisdasa Family Daycare on Monday, March 23. Owner Paola Tapia recently received her license to run the home-based child care center. Daisdasa is located on the west side of Gunnison. (Photo by Abby Hamman)

Sick Leave Program

The GHECC has supported **84 teachers** with paid sick leave
from August 2020-March 2024

There is a \$1,000 cap/teacher per year

TOTAL COST OF PROGRAM SO FAR: \$68,388.50

Funding for this program has been provided by the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley COVID relief fund, the Town of Crested Butte, and the City of Gunnison.

*A large portion of the funding has come through 1 year grant opportunities

The Early Childhood Workforce Innovation Grant 2021-2022 - \$25,850

CIRCLE Grant 2022-2023 - \$15,000

Buell Workforce Grant 2024 - \$7,000

Annually the Sick Leave Program costs between \$18,000 and \$25,000

Early Childhood Educator EC Credential Stipend Program

Stipend program that provides a modest award to early childhood educators based on their Early Childhood Credential Level

In December of 2021

A total of \$13,100 was awarded to 49 Teachers

- **8 teachers - \$100 Stipend**
- **13 teachers - \$200 stipend**
- **15 teachers - \$300 stipend**
- **13 teachers - \$400 stipend**

December 2022-June 2023

A total of \$29,000 was awarded to 58 Teachers

- **5 teachers -\$100 Stipend**
- **10 teachers -\$200 stipend**
- **5 teachers - \$300 stipend**
- **9 teachers -\$400 stipend**
- **9 teachers -\$600 stipend**
- **20 teachers -\$800 stipend**

January 2024-current

A total of \$16,000 was awarded to 32 Teachers

- **7 teachers -\$200 stipend**
- **1 teachers - \$300 stipend**
- **7 teachers -\$400 stipend**
- **6 teachers -\$600 stipend**
- **11 teachers -\$800 stipend**



Early Childhood Food Boxes for Teachers

- Through a partnership with Mountain Roots the GHECC has been able to provide food boxes to **80+ early childhood teachers** and home providers on a monthly basis.
- A total of **686** food boxes have been delivered from October 2022-June 2023 with an additional **200+** boxes being delivered to sites from September 2023-December 2023.

A total of \$36,000 has been spent on this project.

The boxes delivered from September-December 2023 were fully funded through Mountain Roots Food Project.

Annually we estimate that this program would cost around \$60,000 annually to continue for at the current level of operation.



Photo from Gunnison Times March 1st, 2023

Family, Friend, Neighbor Caregiver Support

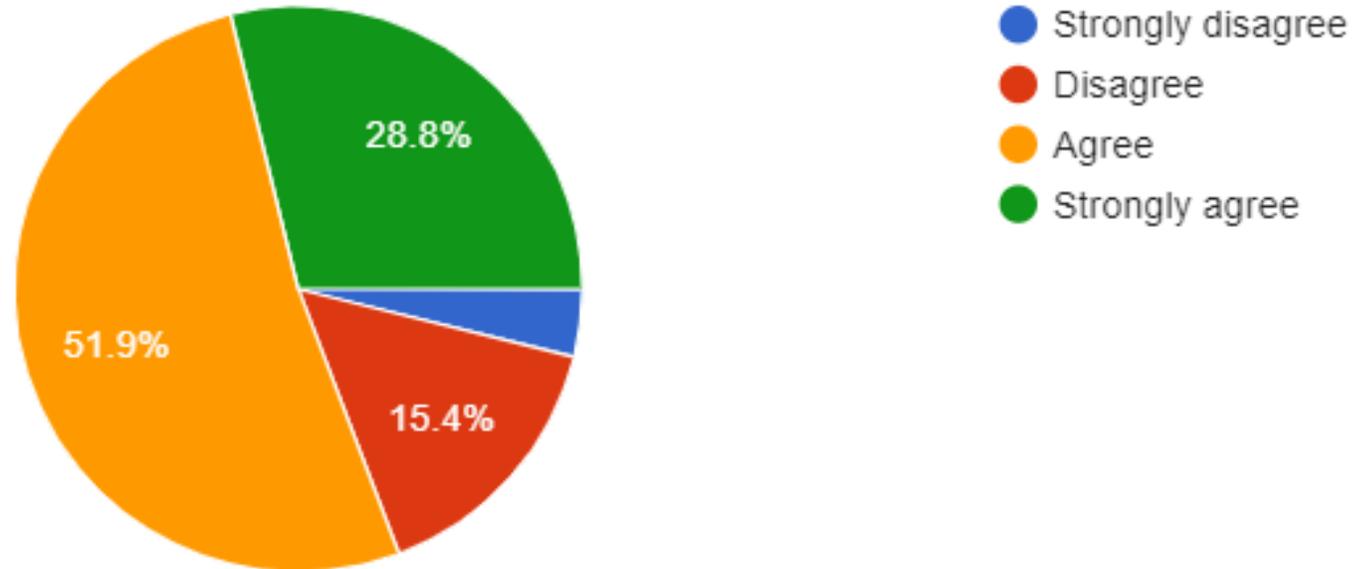
- Colorado Health Foundation
 - 3 year grant from September 2020-September 2023
 - \$18,900 Annually
 - Grant Ended September 15th, 2023

Council received an additional 2 years of funding to continue this work through 2025

Workforce Retention

I intend to stay in the ECE field for at least the next five years.

52 responses



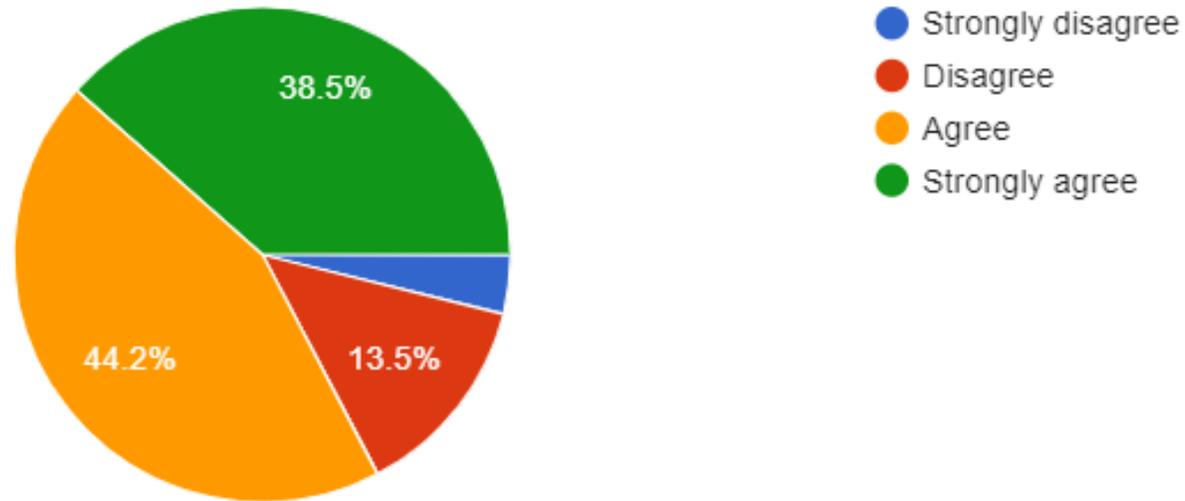
In 2023 80.7% agreed or strongly agreed compared to 54.5% in 2022

A 26.2% Increase!

Workforce Retention

I intend to work at my current employer (center/provider) at least two more years

52 responses



In 2023 82.7% agreed or strongly agreed compared to 59.7% in 2022

A 23% Increase!