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Bright Futures



Serving Our Community

Individuals

Living in the San Juan Mountains of rural, southwest Colorado, adequate access to support and resources is a barrier for families in San Miguel and Ouray Counties. As a Family Resource Center, an Early Childhood Council, and a Child Care Resource and Referral Agency, Bright Futures plays a vital role in bolstering supports for families in these rural communities.

Government

Whether it is assisting families in navigating available resources, making referrals to other agencies, providing bi-lingual in-home parent education, leading parenting workshops, fostering literacy in young children through library partnerships, collaborating on community events to celebrate Latino heritage, or advocating for increased, quality early education opportunities, Bright Futures strives to offer a variety of supports to families so they can live and thrive in this beautiful region of Colorado.

FRCA Member Profile



Bright Futures has experienced many successes over the past year to sustain and expand support for children and families in the San Juan Region. Here are a few noteworthy highlights:

- A property tax increase to support early care and education throughout San Miguel County
- The founding of the Early Childhood Development Collaborative which strengthens regional partnerships, aligns early childhood resources and expands social emotional supports to early childhood teachers, young children, and families through the implementation of Pyramid Model.
- On-boarding two bilingual parent educators which enables Parents as Teachers to serve more families in San Miguel and Ouray Counties.
- Implementing the Child Maltreatment Prevention Planning Grant which has enabled Bright Futures to lead community coalitions in San Miguel and Ouray Counties in the "Empowering Families Project," an initiative to identify and align
- existing resources, as well as advocate for additional resources to support families.
- Through our Early Childhood Council work, over 75% of childcare and preschool providers have bolstered the quality of their program as defined by Colorado Shines.



"Today was one of the best days I've had working with my PAT families. I met with three different families at the town park for sledding. At first the Moms were hesitant and stood back, watching me sledding with the kids, but by the end they were asking for turns with the sleds and going with the children. They even asked me to take some family photos for them- it was the first time most of the parents and some of the children had ever been sledding! Siblings were sharing and working together and it was great to see parents having active fun with their children. It was such a great opportunity to talk about taking advantage of all the wonderful things our community has to offer, especially physical and outdoor activities. We talked about physical health, healthy diets, and active living in a very natural way- I always try to focus our talks on what is relative to our activity and what is going on in my family's lives, so it is more of a conversation than me "telling" them what to do. When we left the park, all of the children were asking when we could come back again and the Moms were asking when they could use the sledding hill. It was a good feeling to tell them "anytime" and encourage more of this play with their children!"



How You Can Help

Help Bright Futures sustain and expand programming by donating on our website and spreading awareness of the various supports we offer to children, families and early childhood providers.



⁻amily Success Story