

# FRCA Spring 2026 News



Family Resource Center Association

## What's new with FRCA

As the first quarter of 2026 comes to a close, you might be seeing blue pinwheels in your community as the **Pinwheels of Possibility** campaign launched in Colorado and throughout the nation to acknowledge Child Abuse Prevention Month. Pinwheels are a symbol of hope, happiness and a joyful childhood. FRCA staff kicked off the month with a trip to the Capitol for the *Pinwheels in the Chambers* event.



This spring, FRCA's staff have been adding up the miles, conducting in-person site visits throughout the state with members and FRC grantees. In April alone, ten centers will be visited.

And finally, we are excited to open the doors to our Five Points office on **April 25th** to welcome anyone interested in connecting with FRCA's team to join us for **Spring Social**. This free event will feature live music, food, drinks, and good conversation. We sincerely hope to see you there! RSVP [here](#).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mandy Watrous-Gale". The signature is fluid and cursive.

FRCA Executive Director,  
Mandy Watrous-Gale



Family Resource Center Association

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR  
THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER ASSOCIATION'S

# Spring Social

3:00 - 5:00pm

SATURDAY | APRIL 25th | 2026

Come and connect with us at FRCA's historic Five Points office for music, yard games, an ice cream truck, food, drinks & free entry

Families are welcome!

2543 California St. Denver, CO 80205



[RSVP HERE](#)

[DONATE HERE](#)



Thank you to our  
event sponsor!

**DAVIS  
GRAHAM**

## New Published Research from Omni and FRCA!



Omni and FRCA have published new peer-reviewed research in *Family Sciences* on what drives improvements for families in Colorado's Family Development Services (FDS) program, a pathway from FRCA's Family Pathways Framework®. The short answer: a family's readiness to change and family-focused practices that develop that readiness.

### The Study

Omni analyzed Colorado Family Support Assessment (CFSA 2.0) data from 2,031 families across 31 FRCA-member FRCs between 2020 and 2024, using multilevel modeling to examine how readiness to change at different points in enrollment related to improvements in economic self-sufficiency and health.

### The Findings

- Families who expressed readiness to change at baseline improved faster in areas of economic self-sufficiency and health.
- As families engaged in Family Development Services, some accumulated readiness to change that was also linked to improvements.

- Readiness at a prior assessment predicted gains at the next one, pointing to momentum built through motivational interviewing and family-driven goal setting.

### Why It Matters

This study provides insight into why the model produces results: when families feel heard and in control of their own goals, they make measurable progress.

[Read the research here](#)

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## STAFF HIGHLIGHT

### Welcome Kristen Weese!

After raising her two kids in Montana, Kristen moved to northwest Colorado over ten years ago and brought her passion for community with her. As the former Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Steamboat, Kristen dedicated her time to empowering youth and families. Now she is excited to continue that mission with FRCA, as the Northwest Food Security Coordinator.



When she's not working, you'll find Kristen by some sort of water with her husband, playing with her granddaughter and her dogs, and always enjoying some good music.

## MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



## Morgan County Family Center Ribbon Cutting

FRCA congratulates Mary Gross and her team on officially opening their new office in Fort Morgan!

The new, large building on Main Street offers plenty of space for staff offices, community convenings and classes. Congratulations!

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