



illuminate
Building Brighter Childhoods

Caramel: Colorado's Innovative Child Care Solution

Impact on Children of Caregiver Substance Use: Stakeholder Process

Timeline: October 2017 - April 2018



Purpose: To create a research-based, viable multidisciplinary strategy for substantial, actionable change to prevent child maltreatment and improve outcomes for children in Colorado impacted by caregiver substance use.

Partners: Professionals in the fields of Early Childhood, Child Welfare, Public Health, Behavioral Health, Law Enforcement, Judicial, Education, & Family Support

Child Care & Substance Use Disorder Treatment Work Group

Timeline: July 2018 - June 2019

Priorities: To develop and advocate for viable models for expanding pathways to providing child care for caregivers seeking substance use disorder treatment and/or recovery support services

Partners: Professionals in the fields of Early Childhood, Child Welfare, Public Health, Behavioral Health, Advocacy, & Family Support

House Bill 2019-1193

Established the Child Care & Substance Use Disorder Treatment Pilot Project as a two-generation initiative to:

- Enhance the existing Child Care Resource and Referral Programs navigation capacity in one urban and one rural site to serve pregnant and parenting women seeking or participating in SUD Treatment
- Enhance the capacity of the existing Child Care Resource and Referral Program's Centralized Call Center to serve pregnant and parenting women seeking or participating in SUD Treatment
- Pilot a regional mobile child care model serving child under 5 in at least three facilities that provide SUD Treatment to pregnant women as a public-private partnership

Illuminating Child Care

- **Mobile Child Care Classrooms**
 - Denver Metro Area
 - San Luis Valley
 - Pueblo & Fremont Counties
- **Illuminating Child Care Navigation Services**
 - Denver Metro Area
- **Colorado Shines Child Care Resource & Referral**
 - In Partnership with Mile High United Way
 - Navigators training & data system updates
 - Promotional Materials developed & disseminated



Why We Do This

- Difficulty finding child care is a stronger predictor of maternal neglect than almost any other factor, including mental health, severity of drug use, history abuse as a child, & use of public assistance
- In 2018, only 3.3% of outpatient SUD treatment facilities in Colorado provided child care
- Through this project, we are:
 - Increasing access to child care services
 - Partnering with parents to improve their well-being
 - Supporting children's health, safety, & social-emotional needs



Honey: launched Sept 2020 in Denver



Acorn: launched August 2021 in Alamosa



Building Partner Relationships

- In Summer 2021, Illuminate Colorado secured funding to add an additional mobile classroom to the fleet.
- With guidance from the Child Care and Substance Use Disorder Treatment Advisory Board, Illuminate reached out to 3 regions in the state to determine interest and level of readiness for a mobile classroom.
- Children First was immediately interested and responsive, demonstrating community connections, community leadership, and high level of readiness. Multiple partners were convened and involved in the decision to expand to the region.



Classroom Renovation

How to turn a Recreational Vehicle (RV) into infant and toddler child care classrooms

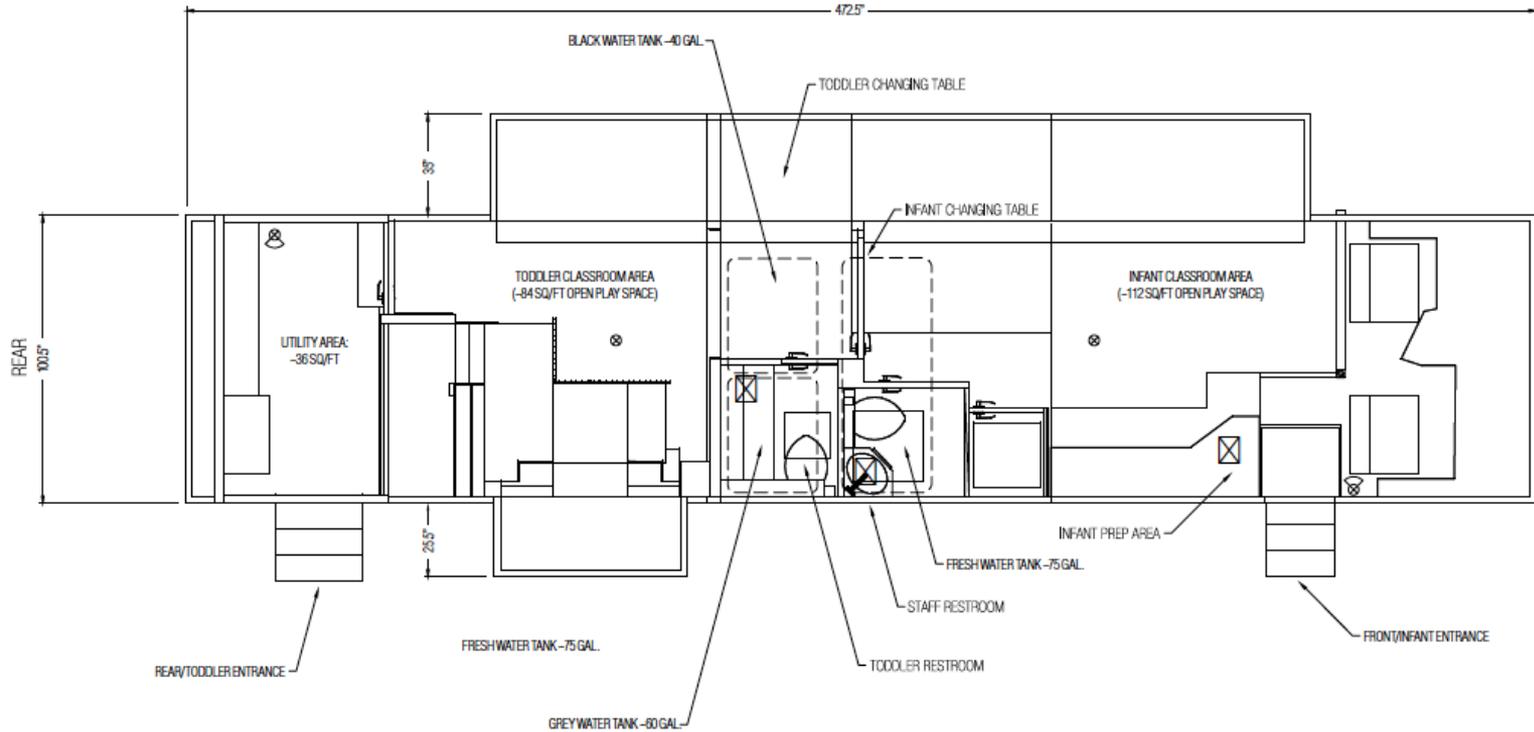
- Locate the right units
- Conduct inspections
- Purchase the units
 - Denver RV came from Lehi, UT
 - San Luis Valley RV came from Junction, OR
 - Pueblo RV came from Reston, VA
- Coordinate Delivery
- Approve Layout & Design
- Demo & Rebuild
- Prepare for Services



Introducing Caramel



Caramel: Floor Plan



Classrooms



On Site Classroom Schedule

Monday Pueblo	Tuesday Canon City	Wednesday Pueblo	Thursday Pueblo & Canon City	Friday Pueblo
Teacher Schedule: 8:00 to 4:30 8 hour day	Teacher Schedule: 9:00 to 6:30 8.5 hour day	Teacher Schedule: 8:30 to 4:30 7.5 hour day	Teacher Schedule: 7:30 to 5:30 9 hour day	Teacher Schedule: 8:00 to 3:30 7-hour day
Health Solutions Montbello Location Crestone Recovery 8:30 to 11:30 AM session 12:00 to 12:30 to get gas 12:30 to 1:00 drive to SOCO Harm Reduction and set up	Solvista West 10:00 to 1:00 AM session	SOCO Harm Reduction 9:00 to 12:00 AM Session 12:30 to 1:00 drive to new location & setup	Pueblo Health Solutions Montbello Location Crestone Recovery 8:30 to 11:30 AM session Drive to Canon City 11:30 to 12:30	Health Solutions Family Center 8:30 to 11:30 AM session
11:30 to 12:00 break	1:00 to 1:30 break	12:00 to 12:30 break	12:30 to 1:30 break	11:30 to 12:00 break
SOCO Harm Reduction 1:00 to 4:00 PM session	Solvista East 1:30 to 2:00 set up 2:00 to 4:00 PM session 4:00 to 5:30 CC for treatment groups	Gateway Prairie Ave Location 1:00 to 4:00 PM session	Canon City Solvista E/Gateway 1:30 to 4:00 PM Session (Gateway Yale Location 4:00 to 5:30 for CC for treatment groups (Solvista E)	Teacher planning time, staff meetings, team building etc.

Local Implementation Costs

- **\$130,000** per year for 2.0 FTE Early Childhood Teachers (includes salary, benefits, supervision, substitutes, etc.)
- **\$50,000** per year for Classroom Operation (including supplies, consumables, gas, maintenance, storage, professional development, etc.)
- **\$20,000** per year for administrative costs

Total Local Implementation: \$200,000

Current Funding

- **\$380,000** awarded to Illuminate Colorado from the Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Behavioral Health for a 3rd Classroom & Start Up
 - **Children First** selected as implementation partner
 - Currently set to expire 6/2022, additional funding may be available
- **\$500,000** per year allocated to the Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Early Childhood through HB19-1193 for all three classrooms
 - Awarded to Illuminate Colorado through RFP
 - Currently set to expire 6/2023, request pending to extend to 6/30/2028
- **\$150,000** over two years request (\$75,000 per year) under consideration pending with the Packard Foundation

Ongoing Opportunities for Support

- Heated garage for parking when Caramel is not in service.
- Teachers for the on site classroom.
 - Positions are now open until filled.
- Classroom Supplies & Materials
- Ongoing Local Implementation Funding

Thoughts or Ideas? Please contact Angela Shehorn with Children First/Early Childhood Council of Pueblo



ILLUMINATING CHILD CARE

VIEW OUR REGISTRY TODAY!

COME TO OUR BABY SHOWER!

TWO DATES | TWO LOCATIONS

PUEBLO	CAÑON CITY
THURSDAY APRIL 14TH OPEN HOUSE	WEDNESDAY APRIL 20TH OPEN HOUSE
ANYTIME 10 AM TO NOON	ANYTIME 10 AM TO NOON
EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS AND LOCAL FOOD TRUCK AVAILABLE FOR FOOD PURCHASES CHILDREN FIRST/PUEBLO EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE 900 W. ORMAN AVE. PUEBLO, CO 81004	LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED PUEBLO COMMUNITY COLLEGE - FREMONT CAMPUS 51320 W HIGHWAY 50 CAÑON CITY, CO 81212

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illuminatecolorado.org/babyshower

Questions?

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