

Universal Preschool Program (UPK/ UPP) Site Participation Overview

Project Overview

[Assuring Better Child Health and Development \(ABCD\)](#) and [Healthy Child Care Colorado \(HCCC\)](#) are partnering to lead a two-year \$1 million project funded by the [Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation \(DDCOF\)](#). The project will integrate oral health education and activities as well as screenings and referral in Colorado's Universal Preschool Program (UPP) sites, and also build community capacity to support sites in preparing to meet the new UPP Healthy Development Quality Standards (8-CCR 1401-1-4.112). [Child Care Health Consultants \(CCHCs\)](#), which are required by licensing for every child care center, will play a critical role in the implementation of oral health education, screening, and referral. Six [Local Coordinating Organizations \(LCOs\)](#) serving 11 counties were selected to participate in this project:

Denver Preschool Program in partnership with Denver's Early Childhood Council

Joint Initiatives for Youth and Families

United Way of Weld County

Early Learning Ventures

Early Childhood Council of San Luis Valley

ECHO&Family Center Early Childhood Council

LCOs partner with Co-Design Teams, UPP Sites, and CCHCs in their community to support the rollout of the new UPP Healthy Development Quality Standards (8-CCR 1401-1-4.112) at the local level.

Goals for UPP Sites

Over the course of 18 months, participating UPP/UPK sites will partner with their Local Coordinating Organization (LCO) to successfully meet UPP Healthy Development Quality Standards (8-CCR 1401-1-4.112), specifically those related to oral health, by:

- Gaining knowledge on the importance of early childhood oral health for all staff at no cost
- Reviewing, revising, adopting, and implementing oral health policies and procedures
- Conducting on-site oral health screening and referral in UPP classroom(s)/group(s)
- Fostering relationships between UPP sites, child care health consultants (CCHCs), and LCOs

Activities

Professional Development

- All staff will complete the virtual 1.5-hour [Cavity Free Kids \(CFK\) training](#) at no cost. A certificate will automatically be awarded in the Professional Development Information System (PDIS) upon completion of these training hours.
- Program staff will complete other training related to the UPP Healthy Development Quality Standards (8-CCR 1401-1-4.112), as identified by the program director/administrator in the site's Professional Development Plan.

Oral Health Screening, Referral, and Education

- Complete the Oral Health Self-Assessment and Action Plan
- Adopt policies and procedures for oral health screening and referral
- Conduct at least one on-site oral health screening and referral with UPP classes/groups using a child care health consultant
- Implement a daily toothbrushing routine and other oral health activities with at least one UPP classroom/group
- Engage families in oral health by sharing resources and activities from Cavity Free Kids (CFK)

Healthy Development

- Review and adapt (as needed) the community-level Healthy Developmental Resource & Referral List, which will be created and shared by your LCO
- Identify intentional ways to share healthy development resources with families
- Interested in developmental, hearing, and/or vision policies and procedures, screening, and referral? We can help with that too!

Administrative

- Communicate regularly with your LCO and engage in ongoing continuous quality improvement
- With the support of your LCO, report project-specific data using standardized templates and tools that will be provided to you by your LCO

Support & Incentives

Your participation in this project will be supported by your Local Coordinating Organization (LCO) and child care health consultant (CCHC). Should your CCHC elect not to participate in this project, your LCO will support you in identifying another CCHC to support with on-site oral health screening and referral. Stipends and incentives will be provided to participating UPP Sites and CCHCs by your LCO.

Key Dates

Activity	Timeline
Join the Healthy Universal Preschool Collaborative	Summer/Fall 2024
Complete professional development	Fall/Winter 2024
Review, revise, and adopt oral health screening and referral policies and procedures	Oct 2024 - Feb 2025
Review and adapt the community-level Healthy Developmental Resource and Referral List provided by your LCO	Dec 2024 - Apr 2025
Plan and conduct at least on-site one oral health screening and referral using a CCHC	Jan - Dec 2025
Implement a daily toothbrushing routine in at least one UPP classroom/group	Jan - Dec 2025

Engage families by sharing information and activities about oral health on a quarterly basis	Jan - Dec 2025
Engage families by intentionally sharing the Healthy Developmental Resource and Referral List	Jan - Dec 2025
Project Ends	Dec 31, 2025

Learn More: Contact Joint Initiatives for Youth and Families,
Bernadine McCarron BMccarron@JointInitiatives.org Call or Text 719-659-7198