

UNITED FOR FAMILIES



IMPACT AT A GLANCE



125

HIPPY participants provided school-readiness support



159

licensed early childhood education slots provided



1,729

in-home and virtual support sessions by HIPPY staff



195

at-home learning kits provided to families

United for Families identifies high-need areas and resources to ensure all children in our community have access to high-quality early childhood education.

To ensure the healthy development and learning potential of our youngest children, our United for Families program emphasizes increasing licensed childcare slots, improving the quality of childcare programs, and empowering parents in decision-making processes. Mile High United Way also engages the community to advocate for the policies that support and expand services for parents and young children.

“The [parent advisory council] benefits all parents from the program because it gives us an opportunity to be part of a community of people that care about the well-being of others.”

—JENNIFER, PARENT WITH HIPPY PROGRAM & MEMBER OF AURORA PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

EMPOWERING FAMILIES AT HOME

The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program brings support for a child’s success directly into each participating family’s home. We strengthen families by empowering parents to prepare their children for success in school. This year, we nearly doubled the number of children served by our HIPPY program from 36 to 67.

Home Visitors meet weekly with parents, providing educational tools and resources. All HIPPY families come together once a month to connect and learn from one another, and a Parent Advisory Council helps guide the program.

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS

United for Families’ community-driven work is guided by Parent Advisory Councils. By partnering with the families we serve, we can better understand and meet the needs in three areas across Metro Denver: Aurora, South Thornton, and Denver’s Globeville Elyria-Swansea neighborhood.

The Globeville Elyria-Swansea Parent Council partnered with Denver’s Early Childhood Council to establish a business plan for creating a community hub for families and residents; they plan to be operational in late 2022.

BUILDING A STRONGER WORKFORCE

United for Families invests in childcare providers by covering the cost of post-secondary courses at the Community College of Denver (ECE 101 and ECE 103). These courses help emerging professionals meet minimum licensing qualification requirements for early childhood teaching and can offer more opportunities to advance in the field and earn greater salaries.



Mile High United Way meets families in their neighborhoods through a partnership with Right On Mobile Education (ROME). The program’s mobile preschool – an airport shuttle converted into a classroom on wheels – has provided high-quality, licensed education for 64 young children to date in Denver’s Globeville Elyria-Swansea neighborhood and South Thornton. We provided 16 high-quality, licensed early childhood education slots to our community with ROME this year.

United for Families and ROME partnered with parents in these neighborhoods to bring this initiative to life and meet the community’s needs, ensuring their children enter kindergarten ready to thrive. [LEARN MORE](#)

**“Having these resources for my daughters is excellent.
I couldn’t ask for a better program.”**

–JENNIFER, PARENT WITH UNITED FOR FAMILIES HIPPY PROGRAM



PARTNERING WITH PARENTS FOR SCHOOL READINESS

Every child should begin kindergarten ready to succeed. Mile High United Way started offering Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) services in 2020 to empower parents with tools to support their child’s school readiness at home. HIPPY quickly became a beacon of our United for Families program.

In June, Mile High United Way staff gathered alongside families participating in our HIPPY program to celebrate the graduation and accomplishments of their amazing children.

[**WATCH VIDEO**](#)