

# Taos Early Childhood Alliance

## THEORY of ACTION

### THE CHALLENGE

Too many Taos children and families, especially those most in need, lack access to high-quality and sustainable early childhood education and opportunities that promote child success, support working families, and enhance quality of life

### THE VISION

To inspire all Taos communities to value early education and recognize it as a right of all children as respected citizens.

### THE MISSION

To build and sustain relationships that help develop and realize a community driven model of high quality early childhood care continuum for communities within Taos County.

## STRATEGIES

- ▽ **Leverage partnerships and build community support to increase availability of early childhood programs.**
- ▽ **Expand the early childhood education workforce to ensure access and availability of early childhood programs.**
- ▽ **Implement a shared services model to promote and sustain high quality early childhood programs.**
- ▽ **Establish organizational infrastructure and governance to advance strategic goals.**

## OUTCOMES

- ✓ **Increase access and availability of high quality affordable childcare**
- ✓ **Well-prepared and talented local workforce of early childhood professionals**
- ✓ **Serve more children ages 0-4 served in high quality early childhood programs**
- ✓ **Increase access to employment and education opportunities for families.**
- ✓ **Improved child development outcomes**



## WE KNOW THAT

- Early childhood education improves academic, social, and emotional development of children and youth.
- Over 42% of Taos children live in poverty and are not meeting many indicators for child well-being.
- At least 60% of children not accessing high quality early education; there is a persistent waitlist for children ages 0-3.
- Currently, only 56% of young children in Taos County have parents in the workforce. Access to quality early childhood programs means more employment opportunities, which increases earning potential for families.
- Children and families benefit from strong partnerships between early childhood educators, community organizations, schools, and families