

Pyramid Plus: The Colorado Center for Social Emotional Competence and Inclusion

2013-2014 Annual Report

Executive Summary

September 2014



The Colorado Center for Social Emotional
Competence and Inclusion



School of Education
& Human Development

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

WOW, what positive behaviors and interactions have come out of our Pyramid Plus experience for children, parents, staff, and our community.

-Jo Beth Palmer, Director Fremont County Head Start

I. Summary of Key Accomplishments to Date and Overall Impact (2009-2014)

- **Over 2,200 people intensively trained state-wide in the Pyramid Plus Approach. Trainees evaluated the training as being high quality and producing gains in their knowledge and skills.** Additionally we have provided: training to trainer and coach certification candidates, webinars and conference sessions to hundreds, and Pyramid Plus trainer candidates have provided parent trainings in many communities.
- **Eighty-eight (88) people certified state-wide as Pyramid Plus Trainers and Coaches,** with 28 current candidates expected to complete their certification in 2015.
- **Four programs certified as Pyramid Plus Demonstration Sites** providing data to the Center on the effects of adopting the Pyramid Plus Approach with high fidelity as well as providing tours and information state-wide so others may replicate their work.
- **Six communities selected as Implementation Communities** with their own Pyramid Plus programs, trainers, and coaches.
- **An interagency, collaborative Pyramid State Policy Team** that meets monthly with an average rating of just over “4” on meeting evaluations (out of a possible 5).
- **EC personnel showed significant gains on a measure of their high fidelity use of the evidence-based practices.**
- **Hundreds of children throughout the state benefitting directly from Pyramid Plus programs, trainers and coaches; and thousands more benefitting indirectly from the professionals and families that received training.**

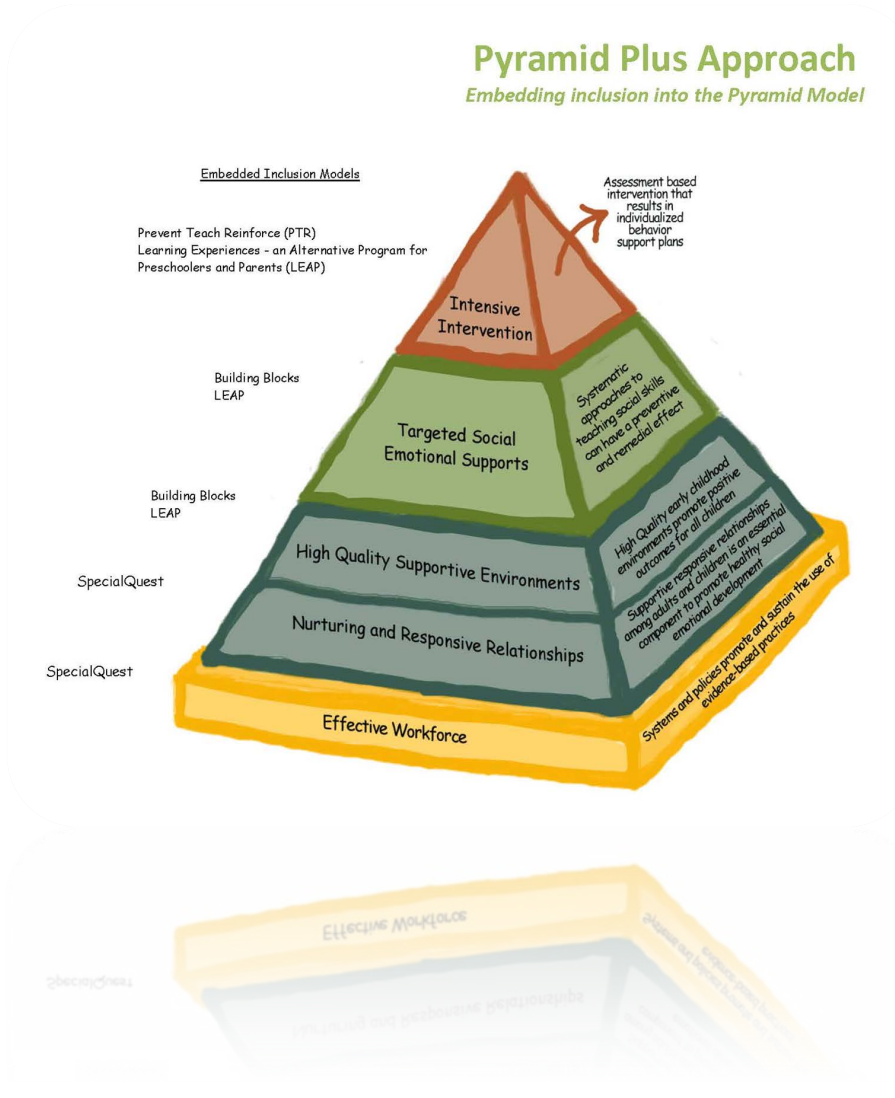
II. Our History and Approach

In October 2009, The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) Divisions of Child Care, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities / Early Intervention Colorado announced a state-wide collaborative effort to improve the social, emotional and behavioral competence of all infants and young children and the inclusion of children with disabilities in all early childhood settings. Through a competitive process, The University of Colorado Denver, School of Education and Human Development, was selected to implement the initiative and Pyramid Plus: The Colorado Center for Social Emotional Competence and Inclusion was launched.

Pyramid Plus Approach

Our *conceptual approach* is a tiered model that focuses on: 1) providing all children the support they need to experience social, emotional and behavior success and high quality inclusive services, 2) providing intentional teaching to promote social, emotional and behavioral success and inclusion to those children needing additional support, and 3) providing individualized, intensive interventions for those children with serious, persistent challenging behavior and other learning needs. Our practices integrate the following evidence-based models: the **Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence and Addressing Challenging Behavior in Infants and Young Children**, **Prevent Teach Reinforce for Young Children (PTR-YC)** the **SpecialQuest Birth-Five Approach**, and

other evidence-based inclusion practices, specifically: **Learning Experiences-An Alternative Program for Preschoolers and Parents (LEAP)**, and **Building Blocks for Teaching Preschoolers with Special Needs**, creating the “**Pyramid Plus Approach**”.



We would like to thank the following organizations for their support of the Pyramid Plus Center

