Dear ECC Family and Friends,

The Early Childhood Center has been in existence on the Colorado State University campus since 1929. As a laboratory school, the ECC has a threefold mission to (a) prepare University students for careers in the field of early childhood; (b) promote research related to children, families, and early childhood education; and (c) provide developmentally appropriate, Reggio Emilia-inspired care and education for young children.

Each year, the ECC provides early care and education to more than 140 children (ages 6 weeks to 6 years) while simultaneously training more than 170 students from various departments across campus, including Human Development and Family Studies; the School of Education; Occupational Therapy; the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance; and Food Science and Human Nutrition.

We are delighted to share with you the 2017 ECC Annual Report, with news about the many exciting happenings of the past year. Highlights of 2017 include:

• A major gift to the Marie Macy Director’s Legacy Endowment
• The ECC’s recognition as an Outstanding Unit on campus
• An online/remote system for reserving observation time in the ECC observation booths
• New practicum placement opportunities for music therapy students

As we look back at 2017, we invite you to look forward with us in 2018. Thank you for your support as we continue to lead in the field of early childhood education.

Warmly,

Karen Rattenborg, Ph.D.
CSU ECC Executive Director
Assistant Professor – Human Development and Family Studies

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HDFS Department Head Lise Youngblade and ECC Executive Director Karen Rattenborg nominated the ECC as an Outstanding Unit through the CSU Employee Appreciation Board. This board recognizes outstanding departments/units for going above and beyond their normal work duties to make CSU a great place to learn and work. Guess what? The ECC was chosen for recognition as an Outstanding Unit out of 40 submitted nominations. To celebrate, the EAB provided ECC full-time employees with a lunch from Spoons and some great CSU swag.

Congrats to everyone at the ECC for being an Outstanding Unit. Your dedication to children, families, and University students really does make CSU a great place to learn and work.

An equal-access and equal-opportunity University
The purpose of the fund is to provide financial support for needs and improvements at CSU’s Early Childhood Center. “Marie’s role as director of the CSU Preschool was truly foundational to the Early Childhood Center as we know it today. We value her immensely and are grateful for her ongoing support of our program and her inspirational commitment to children and families,” said Karen Rattenborg, executive director of the ECC.

Macy is a 1955 home economics graduate of Colorado A&M, where she studied child development. After graduation, Macy served as assistant professor and director of the CSU Preschool, now the Early Childhood Center, where she was affectionately known as “Miss Marie.”
Our research mission is to promote diverse opportunities for research related to children, families, and early childhood education.

The ECC supports a wide array of research from across campus related to child development.

The ECC’s relationships with RE-Mind, Pyramid, Motivational School Readiness Assessment, and IJOYY continued in 2017.

Observation Opportunities at the ECC

Each of the ECC’s seven classrooms is equipped with observation technology that provides meaningful applications for CSU students and researchers. This year, the ECC launched an online/remote system for reserving observation time in the ECC observation booths.

Every Child Benefits: Expanded OT Research into Play-Based Early Childhood Education

Occupational Therapy faculty member and doctoral student Lisa Fyffe is conducting research at the ECC on how the experience of play prepares children for school. To date, she has explored teacher perspectives on how early childhood education and OTs blend best practice to provide a dynamic learning environment where every child is supported as they learn, play, and grow. This line of research expanded in 2017 to include parent perspectives on the benefits of play-based experiences in early childhood.
TEACHING

Our teaching mission is to prepare CSU students for careers in the field of early childhood.

175 CSU students at the ECC in 2017

7 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY GRADUATE STUDENTS

2 MUSIC THERAPY PRACTICUM STUDENTS

36 CENTER FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION STUDENTS
   1 Student Teacher
   9 EDUC 425 Practicum Students
   26 EDUC 340 Literacy Fieldwork Students

46 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES STUDENTS
   20 HDFS 286 Practicum Students
   20 HDFS 488 Interns
   5 HDFS 101 Honors Students
   1 HDFS 410 Student

84 FOOD SCIENCE AND HUMAN NUTRITION STUDENTS

“AFTER MY TIME SPENT AT THE ECC, I now see education as an experience or interaction. Children learn such monumental things in ways that are easily overlooked. We as educators, parents, and adults in general, have an immense amount to learn from observing these children as they interact with and explore their world.” – ECC Intern
ECC Children in the Neighborhood

During the spring session, the children in the Older Preschool Room 6 took some time to write a letter to one of our neighbors. During walks around the neighborhood, they had become very inquisitive about the neighbor's yard and wanted to find out more.

"Dear Neighbor,
Why do you have fake animals? Why did you put those animals in your yard? We enjoy them too. Where did you get those giraffes and zebras? Are they from your house to put out?
Do you see the nest in your tree? Why do you have a nest on your tree? We like the animals and the nests you put outside. I (we) hope you like trains!"

We were all very excited when our neighbor responded and let us know that the plastic animals are in her yard for fun!

ECC Annual Singalong with CSU President Tony Frank

December in the CSU Administration Building just wouldn’t be the same without the annual holiday singalong. This year, guitar accompaniment was provided by School of Music, Theatre, and Dance Professor Andrew Knight, who supervises music therapy practicum students at the ECC.

“IT IS ALWAYS ADORABLE TO SEE the little ones perform, and the joy they bring ... this was the very best year ever. You may just have a stellar group of little ones, but we believe the music therapy professor also played a big part.” – CSU Staff Member

Who we served in 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL FAMILIES SERVED</th>
<th>TOTAL CHILDREN SERVED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Who we served in 2017:

- Children of CSU faculty or staff: 75
- Children of CSU student-parents: 19
- Children of community members: 53
- Infants/toddlers: 35
- Preschoolers: 112
- Children of CSU student-parents: 53
- Infants/toddlers: 35
- Preschoolers: 112

OUR WAITING LIST HAD 219 APPLICANTS FOR FALL 2017
ECC GRANTS

The funds provided by grants to the ECC have a positive impact on the participating families:

“The BENEFITS FOR MY FAMILY can’t be put into words. My life and my son’s life wouldn’t be where they are, and our futures wouldn’t look how they do.” – CSU Student-Parent

“It CANNOT BE SAID ENOUGH: Thank you, thank you, thank you.” – CSU Student-Parent

COLORADO PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

This grant provides three slots each school year at the ECC for Poudre School District children participating in the Colorado Preschool Program, a state-funded early childhood education program run by the Colorado Department of Education.

THE TEMPLE HOYNE BUELL FOUNDATION

The generous support of the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation provides child care tuition assistance to both CSU student-parents and community members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECC families served through the Buell grant:</th>
<th>21 CHILDREN 19 PARENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

CCAMPIS FUNDING

$871,447

CHILD CARE ACCESS MEANS PARENTS IN SCHOOL

The ECC supports student-parents through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Child Care Access Means Parents in School provides financial support for campus-based child care services to income-eligible CSU student-parents. Between 2014 and 2018, a total of $871,447 in CCAMPIS funding has supported and is supporting CSU student-parents and their children at both the Early Childhood Center and the Sunshine House at CSU.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECC families served through CCAMPIS funding in 2017:</th>
<th>16 CHILDREN 14 STUDENT-PARENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
SUPPORT THE ECC TODAY
We deeply appreciate the support provided to the ECC by our many generous donors during 2017. Gifts of $100 and greater are recognized on our ECC Giving Trees mural in the ECC main office. Come visit us to find your name!

Giving Grows Up
Sowing the seeds for a love of learning during early childhood can reap huge rewards in the future. Likewise, planting seeds of generosity by investing in the ECC can bear fruits beyond expectations. For example, we are pleased to share that for Colorado taxpayers, your next gift to the ECC may qualify for the Colorado Child Care Contribution Credit. Please consult your tax adviser to determine the tax-deductibility of your gift. For more information, visit: col.st/BT9Rn

Contact Karen Rattenborg to find out how you can partner with the ECC to help us enhance our offerings and make a difference in the lives of our youngest Rams: Karen.Rattenborg@colostate.edu

REVENUE
Revenue for FY17 was $1,123,232, which was funded 100 percent through child care tuition, grants, and fees.

IMPACT OF PRIVATE SUPPORT
In 2017, the ECC was supported by 45 donors, who gave more than $434,000 in contributions, allowing us to provide additional services and support to our children and families.

FINANCIALS

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>Supplies, operating and facilities expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91.1%</td>
<td>Salaries and fringe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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