

# Early Childhood Center

*A High-Quality, Developmentally Appropriate  
Center for Young Children*

Human Development and  
Family Studies  
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[www.hdfs.cahs.colostate.edu/pages/ECC/index.aspx](http://www.hdfs.cahs.colostate.edu/pages/ECC/index.aspx)

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**Director**

*Linda Carlson*

**Master Teachers**

*Pris Patti*

*Amy Irwin*

*Chris Johnson*

*Lacey O'Connor*

**Administrative Assistant**

*Kathy Williams-Tolstrup*

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**Goals**

- Provide state-of-the-art curricula, programs and teaching models
- Provide a stimulating, clean, and safe environment for children, students and families.
- Provide research opportunities related to children's development.

The Early Childhood Center (ECC) is a program in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS). The purpose of the Center is to involve graduate and undergraduate students in internship and other training experiences with young children, to serve the needs of children and families for half-day or full-day enriched educational experiences, and to provide opportunities for research conducted by faculty members and students.

The core mission of the ECC is to educate and train students about how to work with young children and their families. This is accomplished through student teach-

ing, observations, and post lab experiences.

Students completing ECC internships and practicum experiences are consistently sought out to work in settings throughout the community including preschool and elementary classrooms, and as administrators and staff in other human service professional settings.

The ECC provides a service to the Colorado State University and Fort Collins communities by offering high quality, developmentally appropriate programs for young children.

Key aspects of the ECC include:

- A diverse and international program



- Collaboration within the University, including HDFS's Marriage and Family Therapy Program, the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, the School of Education, and others
- Exposure to cutting edge early childhood curricula.
- Student teaching placements for CSU's Early Childhood Education Licensure Program.

College of  
**Applied Human Sciences**

**Colorado  
State  
University**