



**WORKFORCE
SERVICES**
CHILD CARE

OFFICE OF
**Child
Care**



Welcome●

Agenda

- I. Welcome Joyce Hasting
 - a. Committee Membership - Vacant Positions
 - b. Approval of 11/12/25, Meeting Minutes
- II. OCC Director's Update Heather Thomas
 - a. OCC Staffing Update
 - b. Federal Update
 - c. Budget Update
- III. Partner Highlight: Mountainland Child Care Resource Agency..... Joyce Hasting
- IV. OCC Updates
 - a. Child Care Quality System JoEllen Robbins
 - b. Engagement & Development Jamie Foster
 - c. School Readiness, Out-of-School Time & Community Grants Emma Moench
 - d. Subsidy Ann Stockham Mejia
- V. Agency Updates
 - a. Utah State Board of Education Cristina Barrera
- VI. Other Business & Public Comment
- VII. Adjourn



Committee Membership

Vacant Positions

- Small business community representative (2)
- Corporate community representative
(family-friendly workplace with efforts related to child care)

[Boards and Commissions Website - Apply for Seat](#)



OCC Director's Update

-Heather Thomas



OCC Director's Update

- OCC Staffing Update
- Federal Update
 - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: [Restoring Flexibility in the Child Care and Development Fund](#)
 - Public Comments due February 4th
- Budget Update



Child Care Resource Agency Mountainland



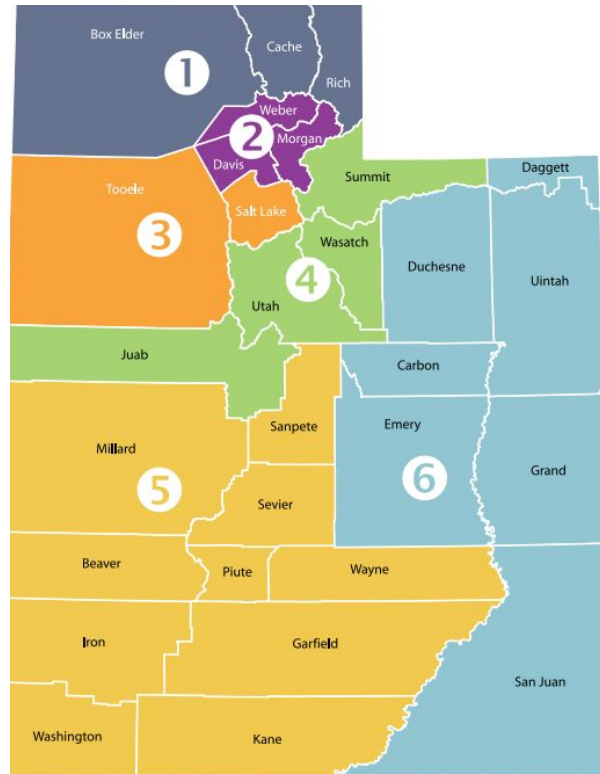
Partner Highlight
-Joyce Hasting



Service Area

Counties We Serve

- Juab
- Summit
- Utah
- Wasatch



Staff Members



Celebration from Last Year

- Met or exceeded all benchmarks
- CCQS participation increased by more than 10%
- 93% of programs completed whole record report
- Helped 39 early childhood professionals in attaining their CDA.
- Taught 56 courses which is over 500 hours of training
- Attended 21 Community Events



Unique Services

- Fingerprint Grants
- Nature Explore Workshops
- Professional Partners Conference



Goal for this Year

The first five years has so much to do with how the next 80 turn out. Children are #1!!!



OCC Updates



CCQS

-JoEllen Robbins



Center Comparative Data

Rating Distribution for Centers 2026

138 of 446 centers with certified rating= 31% of all centers

Foundation of Quality	Building Quality	High Quality	High Quality Plus
28/138=20%	51/138=36%	53/138=38%	6/138=4%

Rating Distribution for Centers 2025

127 of 443 centers with certified rating= 29% of all centers

Foundation of Quality	Building Quality	High Quality	High Quality Plus
25/127=20%	49/127=38.50%	48/127=37.5%	5/127=4%



Comparative Data for Rated Centers

	2025	2026	2025	2026
What is measured	Number of Programs	Number of Programs	Percentage of Programs	Percentage of Programs
ERS Observation Score Increase	73/115	76/121	62%	63%
SAPQA Observation Score Increase	50/80	46/86	62.5%	53.5%
Increase Points Education of Director	44/115	45/121	38%	37%
Increase Points Education of Caregiver	33/115	26/121	29%	21.5%
Overall Point Increase	74/115	66/121	64%	54.5%
Increase of Certified Rating	37/115	29/121	32%	24%

Family Child Care Comparative Data

Certified Ratings for FCC 2026

61 of 823 FCC Providers of = 7%

Certified Foundation of Quality	Building Quality	High Quality
8/61=13%	16/61=26%	37/61=61%

Certified Ratings for FCC 2025

53 of 833 FCC Providers = 6%

Certified Foundation of Quality	Building Quality	High Quality
10/53=19%	15/53=28%	28/53=53%



Comparative Data for Family Child Care Programs

	2025	2026	2025	2026
What is measured	Number of Programs	Number of Programs	Percentage of Programs	Percentage of Programs
Increase Observation Points	20/37	29/41	54%	71%
Increase Points Education of Primary Caregiver	11/37	7/41	30%	17%
Overall Point Increase	27/37	28/41	73%	68%
Increase of Certified Rating	7/37	7/41	19%	17%

Other CCQS Updates

- Evaluating performance for renewal of coaching contracts
- Intensive Coaching Grant opportunity application window is open until Friday, January 16 for eligible programs
- Peer Learning Community Information meetings for Centers: Monday, January 26, 12:30-2:00 or Tuesday, January 27, 6-7:30.
 - Application will open immediately after for attendees and close on January 30
 - Programs will be contacted the following week
 - Work begins the week of February 9
- Framework revision and Administrative Rule change



Utah Early Childhood Conference



Dates: March 13 - 14, 2026

Location: Loveland Living Planet Aquarium in Draper

Early Bird Registration Ends: January 31st

Keynote Speakers

- Friday: Julie De Jesus
- Saturday: Jen Bradwell

For more information and registration, click [here](#).



Engagement & Development

- Jamie Foster



Engagement & Development

Upcoming Conferences:

CCRA Western Early Childhood Conference

When: April 10 - 11

Where: Southern Utah University

Register [here](#)

Child Care Business and Administration Summit

When : May 2

Where: City Center Hilton

Registration begins in February



School Readiness, Out of School Time and Community Initiatives

-Emma Moench



Grants Team

Education Savings Incentive (My529)

Annual state-funded incentive that provides a match of up to \$300 in a my529 educational savings account(s) for eligible families experiencing intergenerational poverty

- Eligible families have received information via email and postcard
- Application Window: January 2 - March 3, 2026
 - 3 applications
- Application review in April
- my529 payment in May



Utah Afterschool Network Conferences

- [Youth Mental Health First Aid Training \(Virtual\)](#)
 - January 27, 2026
 - Registration Deadline: January 13, 2026
- [Northern Recharge](#)
 - February 21, 2026
 - Glendale Middle School, Salt Lake City
 - Early Bird Registration | Nov. 11, 2025 - Jan. 30, 2026 | \$110
 - Late Registration | Jan. 31, 2026 - Feb. 13, 2026 | \$135
- [Virtual Recharge](#) (Programs 80+ miles from Salt Lake City)
 - March 6, 2026
 - Live virtual training sessions will be recorded and available for 6 weeks
 - Early Bird Registration | Nov. 12, 2025 - Feb.13, 2026 | \$60
 - Late Registration | Feb. 14, 2026 - Feb 21, 2026 | \$75



Subsidy Update

- Ann Stockham Mejia



Subsidy Update

Provider Guide Update

- Common policy clarifications
- Attendance requirements

Providers will be notified of the update 30 days prior to the effective date.



Agency Updates





The **Utah State Board of Education (USBE) Vision** is “To open doors of opportunity for all Utah children.”

We believe in the power of early learning and are dedicated to supporting families, educators, and communities in fostering the healthy development of preschool-age children.

USBE

- Cristina Barrera



2025 Utah Preschool Conference



- We're excited to share that all **30 conference sessions** are now available for professional learning on the *USBE-Student Support Services YouTube channel!*
- [2025 Utah Preschool Conference YouTube Playlist](#)



Every Day Counts!

Get Involved with Every Day Counts

- USBE's attendance team has launched the "Every Day Counts" campaign to highlight the critical importance of daily school attendance.
- We invite you to learn more and consider becoming an ambassador by visiting our webpage on [Absenteeism and Truancy Prevention](#).

More Information: [Megan Menlove](#)



Statewide Attendance Campaign

Everyone is invited to become a **Statewide Attendance Ambassador** and fill out this [survey](#)!

A Statewide Attendance Ambassador is someone who:

1. Is working hard to promote students attending school.
2. Knows about the campaign and helps spread the word within their school or community.
3. Cares about students and their success in school and out of school.
4. Supports others by sharing tools and pointing them to helpful attendance resources.



Every Day Counts Campaign

USBE Statewide Community Resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• After-School Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crisis and Suicide Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legal
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental Health
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parenting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special Ed.

Title IV, Part B: 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Grants

- The **21st CCLC Program** is a competitive federal grant for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and Community or Faith-Based Organizations (CFBOs) to serve students and their families attending schools with poverty levels of *40 percent or higher* outside of regular school hours.
- Currently, Utah has **over 30 CCLC grants**, serving **over 100 individual school or community sites** and **over 6,000 students statewide**.



Title IV, Part B: 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) Grants

- 21st CCLC grants are available to **local education agencies (LEAs), non-profit, and faith-based organizations** for preschool and school-aged afterschool programs.
- USBE is planning on releasing the next 21st CCLC *Request for Application (RFA)* in **early February 2026** with applications due in May 2026.
 - [Title IV, Part B: 21st Century Community Learning Centers \(CCLC\)](#)



Child Nutrition Programs

You are welcome to register now for upcoming virtual and in person trainings through [EventBrite!](#)

- **Wednesday, February 18** at 10:30-11:30 am
 - [*Virtual Power Hour: Whole Grain Rich \(WGR\) Requirements, Updated Cereal & Yogurt Sugar Limits*](#)
- **Wednesday, May 13** at 10:30-11:30 am
 - [*Virtual Power Hour: Healthier CACFP*](#)
- **Tuesday, May 19** at 8:30 am-3:30 pm
 - *In-Person Basic Training at USBE*



Other Business



Adjourn

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm





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