The purpose of the SWFI Child care Learning Community is to identify systemic barriers to child care – including cost, quality and service capacity - for low-income parents in the Denver-Adams-Arapahoe region seeking employment and career advancement, and to ascertain potential solutions.  In considering solutions, the Learning Community will take a focused look at program coordination, resource leveraging and policy changes needed across agencies and systems serving low-income parents and their children, including higher education, workforce and human services.  The Learning Community, which will be facilitated by The Civic Canopy and informed by research conducted by the Bell Policy Center, will draw upon a research-based Community Learning Model (CLM) that uses a deliberate step-by-step approach and continuous improvement orientation.

**Learning Community Outcomes:**

* Development of a more complete understanding of the current landscape of child care stakeholders and partnerships in the Denver-Adams-Arapahoe region
* Identification of barriers in the alignment of early childhood education, workforce and postsecondary systems
* Consideration of child care access solutions needed to promote parents’ education and professional advancement
* Acknowledgement of system-wide challenges and prioritize solutions through a two-generation approach which honors both parents’ and children’s well-being

The Learning Community will meet quarterly through June 2018. Consistent involvement by engaged participants is critical to accomplish our objectives. The meeting sequence following the kick-off will be:

**Meeting 1 – Defining Results (September 11, 2017, 1-3 pm)**

Develop a draft of initial Results Statements based on community input and survey of existing outcomes and match with potential indicators.

**Meeting 2 – Turning the Curve (January 8, 2018, 1-3 pm)**

Review data on one of the result areas, conduct a root cause (or root barrier) analysis, and develop strategies to improve outcomes.

**Meeting 3 – Building Our Action Map (March 12, 2018 1-3pm)**

Expand specific strategies to improve outcomes, identify crucial partners for each strategy, and begin to create a work plan to accomplish objectives.

**Meeting 4 – Sustaining Momentum (June 11, 2018 1-3pm)**

Reconvene larger learning community, update on progress, and establish clarity of next steps and roles.

 **To sign up or for more information, please contact**:

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