

## U.S. PROGRAMS

# Investing in Childhood: Colorado

Save the Children invests in childhood – every day, in times of crisis and for our future. In the United States, our child experts work to ensure that our nation's most underserved children have the best chance for success. Every day, we help children get ready to learn and succeed in school and live healthy, active lives. We ensure children are protected when crisis strikes. And we advocate to ensure American children's voices are heard and their needs addressed, securing the future we share.

Save the Children has been implementing our evidence-based education and health programs in Colorado since 2004. Thanks to the support of our generous donors, we currently partner with seven schools in five counties to deliver these programs to 1,646 children in the state.

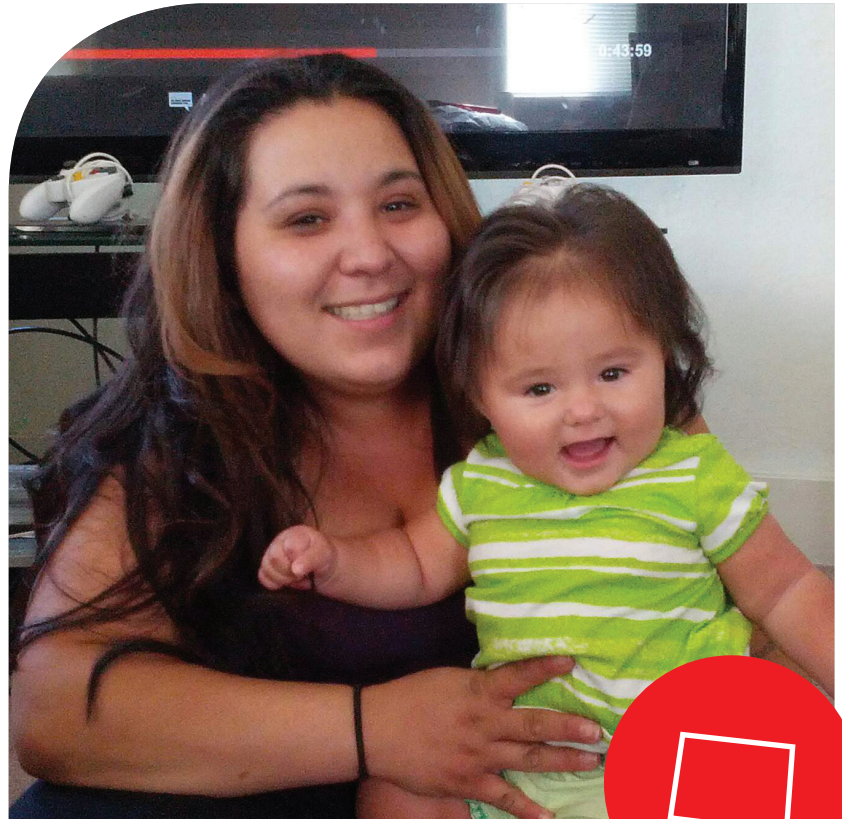
## EVERY DAY

Save the Children's Early Steps to School Success program assists babies and young children with language, social and emotional development; equips parents with the skills and knowledge to successfully support their child's growth; and develops strong home-school connections. The program can begin when moms are pregnant and it follows infants and toddlers through age 5.

Through our Literacy program, we provide children in kindergarten through sixth grade with the opportunity to increase their reading achievement by supplying the tools they need to develop reading skills and the guidance and support they need to grow as readers.

And our Healthy Choices program increases children's access to regular physical activity and healthy snacks, as well as nutrition education to increase children's knowledge of healthy living. It also serves children in kindergarten through sixth grade.

**Results:** In 2014-2015 in Colorado, 73 percent of 3-year-olds in our Early Steps to School Success program scored at or above the normal range for vocabulary acquisition. Children in our Literacy program read an average of 59



books during the school year, and more than 56 percent of participants showed significant reading improvement. On average, literacy improvement was equivalent to an additional 2.7 months of schooling.

Children in our Healthy Choices program participated in an average of 28 minutes of physical activity per day and were introduced to nutritious snack options.

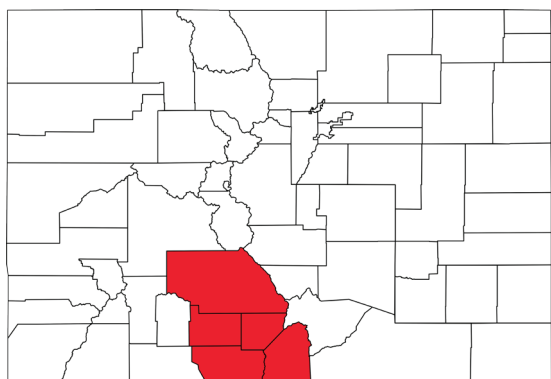
## IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Save the Children's Get Ready Get Safe initiative helps communities prepare to protect their kids before, during and after a disaster. We respond directly to disaster-affected communities, working to address unmet needs of children. We also support the child care community by providing recovery assistance, as well as emergency preparedness. In addition, we offer long-term resiliency support to children and caregivers through our emotional support program, Journey of Hope.

**Results:** Since 2005, we've helped more than 1,000,000 U.S. children in crisis through our emergency preparedness, response and recovery programs.

***Rhiannen's parents are learning new ways of encouraging her healthy development since enrolling in Early Steps to School Success.***

Thanks to generous supporters like you, Save the Children ensures children develop the critical literacy skills they need to succeed – in school and life.



## FOR OUR FUTURE

We advocate for initiatives and legislation at the state and national levels that promote children's well-being and resiliency, including the necessity of quality early education programs, funding for underserved school districts, and child care emergency preparedness. Results: Since 2010, Save the Children has achieved policy change in 37 states and the District of Columbia, benefitting 57,000,000 American children.

## WHERE WE WORK

SITES	Children Served	Early Steps	Literacy	Healthy Choices
<b>ALAMOSA COUNTY</b>	1,073			
Alamosa Elementary		•	•	•
<b>COSTILLA COUNTY</b>	50			
Centennial Elementary		•		
<b>RIO GRANDE COUNTY</b>	100			
Del Norte Elementary		•		
Marsh Elementary		•		
<b>CONEJOS COUNTY</b>	149			
Guadalupe Elementary		•	•	•
La Jara Elementary		•		
<b>SAGUACHE COUNTY</b>	274			
Haskin Elementary		•	•	•

## CHILD POVERTY IN COLORADO

- 17% of children live in poverty.<sup>1</sup>
- 41% of children are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals – a socioeconomic challenge recognized as a barrier to student achievement.<sup>2</sup>
- 69% of 3- and 4-year-olds from low-income families are not enrolled in preschool/nursery school programs.<sup>3</sup>
- 59% of fourth graders scored below proficient in reading achievement on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.<sup>4</sup>
- 23% of children ages 10-17 are overweight or obese.<sup>5</sup>



2000 L Street NW,  
Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20036

800-Save the Children  
SavetheChildren.org/USA

<sup>1</sup> 2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

<sup>2</sup> 2011-2012. National Center for Education Statistics.

<sup>3</sup> 2011-2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

<sup>4</sup> 2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

<sup>5</sup> 2011-2012. National Survey of Children's Health.