## CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF RENAISSANCE CHILDREN'S CENTER



2024 is not only the 40th anniversary of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, but also the 25th anniversary of the award-winning Renaissance Children's Center (RCC), which serves low-income families and those experiencing homelessness with infants and children pre-school aged.

Located in Lakewood, this 6,600 square-foot facility features eight naturally lit classrooms, two outdoor play areas, and a staff trained in a trauma-informed approach that emphasizes practical life skills, tools for academic achievement, and creative problem solving.

The Renaissance Children's Center provides children with a safe, supportive, and enriching environment that focuses on the vital skills needed for school readiness and to disrupt the cycle of homelessness. The program uses both a child-directed curriculum and a social skills curriculum, which build emotional competence, social interactions, and academic learning that will serve them well throughout their lives. The center also participates in the Child Nutrition/School Meal Program and provides a wonderfully varied menu, feeding children breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack daily. Meals are prepared onsite, by a professional chef.

But this unique facility serves not just the students, but families as well, by providing an onsite food pantry, access to case management in a new Family Resource Room, and onsite mental health therapy available to children and families. The center also partners with key local organizations to provide services, including with Therapy of the Rockies to provide speech and occupational therapy to children who qualify, and enrichment through the Culture of Wellness in Preschool program and work with the Jefferson County Library.









## 100 CHILDREN AND 60 FAMILIES ARE SERVED EACH YEAR



Renaissance Children's Center is a very special place, and it is a privilege to have worked with so many families over the years. Though the children may not remember everything about attending RCC, the love and care they have received will be the ripple that they carry forward in their educational experience.

Susan Dunn, Director, Renaissance
Children's Center







