

July 11, 2024

Dear Town Manager and Members of the Minturn Town Council,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing on behalf of the Eagle Valley Child Care Association (EVCCA) to propose a business partnership with the Town of Minturn that will support the establishment of the Minturn Family Enrichment Center (MFEC). I had the pleasure of presenting this project to you at the May 15 council meeting and appreciate your consideration of our proposal.

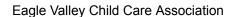
The MFEC project is a vital initiative aimed at transforming the ECSD property located at 436 Pine Street into a high-quality early childhood education and family support facility. This center will provide essential services to families in Minturn and the surrounding areas, addressing the significant demand for accessible childcare, especially for accessible infant and toddler care.

In order to bring this project to fruition, we propose a partnership in which the Town of Minturn contributes \$100,000 towards the necessary renovations to make the MFEC facility licensing-compliant and ready for operation. In return for your generous contribution, EVCCA will guarantee that 10 childcare slots at the opening of MFEC will be reserved for families with household members who live and/or work in Minturn.

According to a recent survey, approximately 20% of households on our waitlist have adult household members who live and/or work in Minturn. With our current waitlist just over 400 families, it is clear that there is a critical need for quality childcare in our community. Your support will not only help us address this need but also contribute to the overall well-being and future prosperity of Minturn's families.

I have received multiple inquiries from Minturn families asking if there is any way they can receive priority since the center is in Minturn. As residents of the areas where our other centers are located do not receive such a priority, we cannot fairly provide this to Minturn residents. This underscores the urgency and importance of our proposed partnership, which will directly benefit Minturn families and further your strategic goal of sustaining and investing in the things that define Minturn as a proud, sturdy mountain town. While this proposal outlines a short-term business partnership, we are open to discussing a long-term arrangement that could give Minturn residents or employees access to a priority waitlist for future openings at MFEC. This would ensure ongoing support for the community's childcare needs and further strengthen our collaboration.

If you need more information before making a decision, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at 970-476-1615 or sarah@eaglevalleychildcare.org. I would be happy to provide additional details or answer any questions you may have. Once a decision has been made,





please inform us of the council's decision and any next steps we should take to formalize our partnership.

I have enclosed a brief overview of the Minturn Family Enrichment Center project for your reference. We would be happy to provide any additional information or answer any questions you may have about this initiative.

Thank you for considering our proposal. We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with the Town of Minturn in support of this important cause. We look forward to working together to make a positive impact on the lives of children and families in our community.

Best regards,

Sarah Foglesong

**Executive Director** 

Eagle Valley Child Care Association (EVCCA)

Sarah@eaglevalleychildcare.org

970-476-1615



## Minturn Family Enrichment Center

**Eagle Valley Child Care Association** 



**Objective:** The Minturn Family Enrichment Center seeks to transform the former ECSD childcare property into a state-of-the-art early childhood education and family support facility.



**Projected Capacity:** Upon completion, the center will accommodate up to 32 children, ranging from infants to five years old, with a focus on serving infants and toddlers.



**Facility Features:** This 3,800-square-foot early care and learning center will provide age-appropriate learning environments and nature-based outdoor play areas tailored to support each child's development.



EVCCA

**Timeline:** Renovations of the facility are planned, with construction slated to commence in May 2024. The Minturn Family Enrichment Center is projected to open its doors to the community in January 2025.

## **Addressing the Childcare Crisis:**

Minturn and surrounding areas face a critical shortage of affordable and accessible childcare options. The Minturn Family Enrichment Center will serve as a crucial support system for working families, offering high-quality childcare services and alleviating the burden on parents.

## **Empowering Families:**

By providing equitable access to childcare, the center will empower families to pursue career opportunities, further their education, and contribute to the economic growth and vitality of the Eagle Valley region.

## **Nature-Based Early Learning:**

Through outdoor exploration, gardening activities, and nature-inspired play, children will develop a deeper appreciation for the environment while fostering a sense of stewardship and environmental appreciation from an early age.

The Minturn Family Enrichment Center is a vital initiative spearheaded by the Eagle Valley Child Care Association (EVCCA) to address the pressing need for quality childcare in Minturn and surrounding areas. With an increasing number of families struggling to find affordable and accessible childcare options, this project aims to provide a lifeline to parents while nurturing the development of the youngest members of our community.

EVCCA is actively seeking partnerships with local businesses, community organizations, and philanthropic individuals who share our commitment to supporting early childhood development, strengthening family bonds, and bringing nature-based early learning to the valley. As part of our efforts, we are currently fundraising to meet our \$250,000 goal needed to perform facility renovations and bring our vision to life.

For inquiries or to explore partnership opportunities, please contact Sarah, Executive Director of Eagle Valley Child Care Association, at sarah@eaglevalleychildcare.org.