



Board Agenda Background

Date: 2/24/2026
To: Board of County Commissioners
Through: Colton Rohloff, County Manager
From: Peter A. Lichtman, County Attorney
Subject: Consideration of Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Gateway Partnership for Early Childhood and Clear Creek County

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Gateway Partnership for Early Childhood and Clear Creek County.

BACKGROUND

Recently, Clear Creek, Jefferson and Gilpin Counties passed resolutions naming Jefferson County Public Health (“JCPH”) as the region’s Early Childhood Council (“ECC”). JCPH is not formally recognized as the region’s ECC until it submits and receives approval of its application from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (“CDEC”). The JCPH proposal is for JCPH to operate the ECC as a program within the health department, rather than forming a separate legal entity. That program is called the Gateway Partnership for Early Childhood, and JCPH would serve as the fiscal agent and contracting entity with the State.

ANALYSIS

The MOU being considered by the Board of County Commissioners is a “membership” MOU required as part of the ECC application. State requirements specify that the application include signed MOUs from required and recommended stakeholder representatives (including local governments). These are intended to document each member’s commitment and role in ECC participation and governance.

CDEC has asked that applications be submitted by March 4 so that reviews and contracting can occur in time for a start date of July 1, 2026. The membership MOU is one of the required application components. The purpose of the MOUs from the State’s perspective is to demonstrate that the ECC has the required cross-sector representation and documented member commitment at the time of application.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft MOU