

THE Efshar Project

Powering possibilities for Jewish early childhood education in Colorado.



And you shall teach them unto your children. – Jewish Proverb

Our mission:

To inspire lifelong Jewish connections through exemplary early childhood education experiences.



WHO ARE WE?

A skilled, experienced and highly invested team with expertise in Jewish and secular early childhood educational practices, leadership development, and policy/advocacy work.

We work on behalf of:

- **11 Jewish early childhood education centers and preschools**
- **200 educators**
- **1000 children**
- **850 families**



WHY DO WE EXIST?

To ensure that exemplary early education experiences, grounded in Jewish values, serve as a starting point for any family seeking high quality formative learning within a Jewish setting.



WHAT DO WE DO?

- Serve as a trusted resource and advocate on behalf of early childhood education
- Provide leading edge, responsive professional learning and leadership development
- Partner with lay and professional leaders in Jewish organizations
- Offer community-wide family programming



"A child's brain undergoes an amazing period of development from birth to three— producing more than a million neural connections each second. The development of the brain is influenced by many factors, including a child's relationships, experiences and environment" "Brain Development," Zero to Three.

"The Efshar Project has provided extraordinary support in the areas of leadership development and pedagogical practices at an affordable cost for our community. We are a better early childhood center because of our partnership with the Efshar Project." S. Purdin, Director of Early Childhood Education, Temple Sinai Preschool

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

1. Customized quality training and professional development around high quality practices
2. Leadership development and responsive coaching for Directors and Assistant Directors
 - Reflective Supervision training
 - Individual and/or Team Coaching
 - Monthly Director Meetings
 - Cohort learning and peer support
3. Facilitated small group cohort experiences
 - First 36 Fellowship Program
 - Educator Community of Practice (CoP)
 - New teacher supports
 - Cohort Trips
4. Annual community Jewish ECE Conference
5. Access to local, state and national professional learning experiences and resources



Jewish early childhood education is both an entry point into Jewish learning for young children and often becomes a reentry point for parents who take a renewed interest in pursuing Jewish life as a family. "Gleanings", 2017

WHAT ARE OUR PRIORITIES?

E

Educators

Elevate our educators through differentiated, career-building ECE professional development opportunities

F

Families

Meet the growing demand for infant/toddler and parent engagement offerings

S

School Leaders

Build the capacity of our current and emerging ECE school leaders through a peer cohort learning model and coaching

H

Holistic Support

Offer comprehensive support during COVID-19 and beyond through a case management support strategy

A

Advocacy

Build awareness of the impact of high quality ECE through advocacy work and stabilize support through fundraising

R

Resources

Explore options for new revenue streams and provide access to innovative opportunities

Funding Partners

Rose Community Foundation - The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Colorado - Simms/Mann Institute - Anonymous donors

School and Organizational Partners

Aleph Academy | BMH-BJ Preschool | Ganeinu | Gan Chaya Esther | Garden Preschool | Hebrew Educational Alliance Preschool | Jay and Rose Phillips Early Childhood Center at the Boulder JCC | Rabbi Steven Foster Early Learning Center at Temple Emanuel | Rodef Shalom Preschool | Temple Sinai Preschool | Staenberg-Loup Denver JCC Early Learning School