



RIVERHOUSE CHILDREN'S CENTER

Adoption & Sponsorship Program

Your Generous Gift Supports:

- ✓ Healthy Meals
- ✓ Tuition Subsidies
- ✓ Teacher Benefits
- ✓ Classroom Supplies

Riverhouse Children's Center strives to build the foundation for a lifetime of success through quality early childhood education.

📞 970-247-0204

🌐 development@riverhousecci.org

🌐 www.riverhousecci.org

Riverhouse Children's Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Tax ID 20-0737335



Adoption & Sponsorship Program

Riverhouse Children's Center
2024 / 2025

Riverhouse Children's Center is a 501(c)3 **nonprofit** early childhood education center, caring for 72 children from six weeks to five years of age. We have been serving the Durango community for **21 years**, and have an unwavering commitment to supporting some of the smallest, sweetest, and most vulnerable members of our community. Of the four non-profit childcare centers in Durango, we are one of only two that takes **infants before 18 months** of age. Caring for infants is a significant commitment, and we are exploring how to grow our number of infant spots to better serve our community. We're unique in many respects, but another unique attribute of our center is that we have a **certified kitchen** and provide a daily **nutritious breakfast and lunch** to our students.

Each year, to maintain our facility, retain staff, and provide subsidies to families, Riverhouse must raise over **\$150,000** through grants, sponsorships, and individual donations. In years past, we relied on a large annual fundraiser called Cheers for Children. Since the fundraising landscape in Durango has been **increasingly challenging post-COVID**, our adoption & sponsorship program is a great alternative to raise much needed funds and recognize the **generosity of our local businesses & community supporters**.

Our teachers, families and students are all members of the **Durango community**, and each segment benefits greatly from your support! Our goal is to **raise \$30,000** in adoptions and sponsorships, which directly contributes to retaining and **developing talented educators**, offering **livable wages**, **supporting working families** who struggle to afford quality childcare, and ensuring a **safe and enriching environment** with research-based and innovative learning experiences to **prepare children for kindergarten** and beyond.

With your support we aim to continue providing an essential service to Durango for years to come. Enclosed is a list of adoption and sponsorship opportunities. Please let us know how you might like to support early childhood education in our community.

Email: development@riverhousecci.org | Phone: 970-247-0204

Thank you for investing in our community!



Sarah Bishop
Executive Director



Barrie Newberger King
Board President



Why Riverhouse?

There is no better "bang for the buck" than supporting early childcare in our community

Supporting a child's quality of life in the first 5 years reaps huge dividends as it builds a solid foundation for the rest of their lives. A majority of brain development occurs before the age of five, so it is our children's earliest interactions and experiences that significantly shape their future learning, behavior, and overall well-being. Research shows that high quality pre-k education can significantly increase a child's chance of success in school and life. (1)

Accessing quality childcare is a challenge. "La Plata County is designated as a 'child care desert' for infants and toddlers, with over three times as many children as licensed child care spaces for enrollment." (2) Working parents struggle with a lack of childcare options and the rising costs of quality childcare. "60% to 70% of children under the age of 6 have all parents in the workforce, 58% of parents who leave the workforce leave because of a lack of needed child care options, and 1 in 5 employees say they'd switch jobs for better child care options." (2)

Many Riverhouse parents and staff live with significant financial stress due to the fact that early childhood education is not subsidized in the US, except for those who are living at poverty levels. Riverhouse monthly tuition costs for each of our 50+ families range from \$1,260 per month (for 4 and 5 year olds) to \$1,638 per month for an infant (about \$19,000 per year). 80% of our \$1.1 million dollar budget goes to paying staff who average \$16-\$20 per hour (or approximately \$33k-41k per year).

By the numbers:

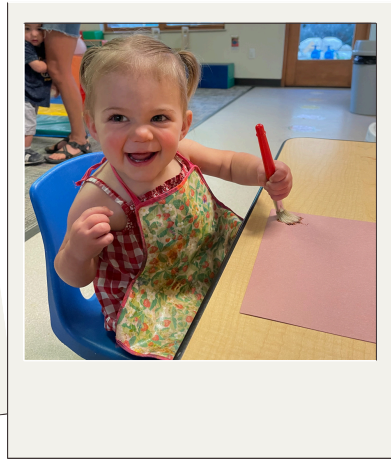
- We provide early childhood education for 72 children and 58 families
- We have 16 out of 28 infant care spots in La Plata County
- 28% of enrolled children receive tuition assistance, saving our families a total of over \$100,000 a year!
- 18 full-time employees, 10 part-time employees that are continuing their education and career paths
- 60 gallons of organic milk purchased monthly, 720 annually!
- Community Partnerships have expanded with the 9R School District, the Early Childhood Council, Department of Human Services and several others.

(1) What is Early Childhood Development? A Guide to the Science. Harvard University Center on the Developing Child. (2024). <https://developingchild.harvard.edu>

(2) Burney, C. (2024, October 20). Powerhouse in durango to offer licensed prekindergarten child care services. The Durango Herald. Retrieved October 21, 2024, from <https://www.durangoherald.com>.



Adoption & Sponsorship Opportunities



Adopt a Classroom (\$2,500)

We have six vibrant classrooms up for adoption for the 2024/2025 school year. Our classrooms offer more than just a safe place for children to grow and thrive; they offer a robust and thoughtfully curated early childhood education program. A child's developmental milestones are documented and celebrated from six weeks all the way to the summer before their first year in Kindergarten, as they grow physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Your classroom adoption covers the costs of:

- Expanding preschool materials with essential equipment and manipulatives for age appropriate explorations of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics
- An annual subscription to a research-based Early Childhood Educational curriculum for children from birth through preschool
- Regular improvements to classroom furniture and materials to ensure a fun, safe, and healthy environment
- Elevating staff members' annual pay with annual cost of living adjustments and merit-based raises as we aim to retain talented teachers and ensure all staff earn a livable wage

In appreciation for your gift, you receive:

- Company logo displayed outside the adopted classroom
- Company logo displayed in school lobby for the 2024/2025 school year
- Student "Thank You" art/mural to display at your place of business, made by Riverhouse students and teachers
- Invitation to Riverhouse annual community events with the opportunity to include a table/booth to promote your business (Fall Festival - Oct. 2024, Holiday Bazaar - Dec. 2024)
- "Proudly sponsored by" logo placement on our monthly newsletter, website and Facebook pages
- Featured on social media (including 1 personalized post) and online ads, including Chamber Business Facts



Adoption & Sponsorship Opportunities

Adopt a Teacher (\$500)

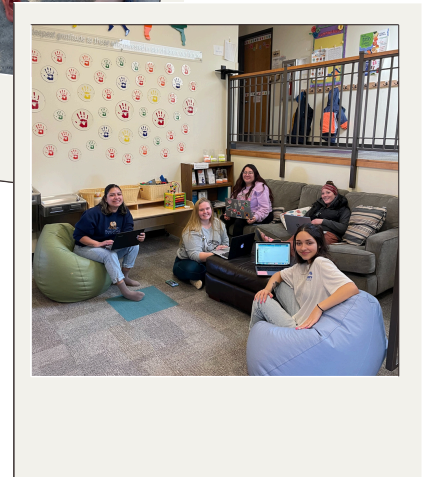
We have 21 teachers who have chosen to work in early childhood education because of a passion for nurturing young minds and caring for our kids. Retaining early childhood professionals is a challenge, especially in an environment where there are competitive salaries in other entry level careers (i.e., retail, restaurants, grocery stores, etc.).

Your contribution directly supports our teachers' wellness and development. With your support, Riverhouse can provide the following:

- Funding for teachers to pursue a degree or credential in early childhood education
- Ongoing training and professional development to strengthen the skills of our early childhood professionals and ensure teachers are well equipped to provide high quality Early Childhood Education
- Access to primary care as needed through Durango Primary Care
- Dental benefits and employer sponsored IRA

In appreciation for your gift, you receive:

- Company logo displayed in school lobby for the 2024/2025 school year
- Student "Thank You" art/card to display at your place of business, made by Riverhouse students and teachers
- "Proudly sponsored by" logo placement on our website



Adoption & Sponsorship Opportunities



Art & Enrichment Sponsor (\$1,000 - \$5,000)

Arts and STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) related programs are especially vulnerable to limited budgets as they rely on expensive consumable products. A student's creativity and innovation shouldn't have a limit, and your support makes this a reality.

- Your funding makes yoga and dance classes available twice monthly for children ages 2-6. Concentration, strength, decreased aggression, social emotional regulation, reducing anxiety, improving gross motor skills, and increasing self-esteem and confidence are all benefits of movement classes in early childhood education.
- In appreciation for your gift, you receive:
 - Company logo displayed in school lobby for the 2024/2025 school year
 - Card and gift to display at your place of business, made by Riverhouse students and teachers
 - "Proudly sponsored by" logo placement on our website
 - *Additional recognition and engagement opportunities based on sponsorship level

School Health & Wellness Sponsor (\$1,000 - \$5,000*)

Prioritizing the health and wellness of our teachers, staff and students is essential. Your sponsorship supports Riverhouse in providing direct primary care and dental insurance for all employees. Access to primary care is critical for early childhood educators who are in an environment with higher exposure to illness and infection. Because of your contribution, we can also support our staff's mental health by partnering with a therapist to provide 3 complimentary therapy sessions per employee. Lastly, our students benefit from your sponsorship by helping provide complimentary dental, vision, and hearing screenings for students who may not have access to these services.

- In appreciation for your gift, you receive:
 - Company logo displayed in school lobby for the 2024/2025 school year
 - Card and gift to display at your place of business, made by Riverhouse students and teachers
 - "Proudly sponsored by" logo placement on our website
 - *Additional recognition and engagement opportunities based on sponsorship level

***Looking for a customized sponsorship opportunity? Let's chat!**



Thank You

2024 Supporters

Kysar Millennium Leavitt Insurance Agency

Advance Fire Systems, Inc.

Tafoya Barrett and Associates

Kennebec Wealth Management

NewbergerKing Law LLC

JBo's Pizza Company

Maynes, Bradford, Shipps, and Sheftel, LLP

Durango Kids Pediatric Dentistry

