



Denver Preschool Program

2019-2020 School Year

Denver City Council | Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021

PRESENTED BY

ELSA HOLGUÍN, PRESIDENT AND CEO

DENVER PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

VISION

Every child in Denver enters kindergarten ready to reach their full potential.

MISSION

Denver Preschool Program helps Denver fulfill its commitment to its youngest learners. We champion, fund and increase access to quality preschool across our community.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

4-YEAR-OLDS

FAMILIES

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

POLICY/ STRATEGY
LEADERS

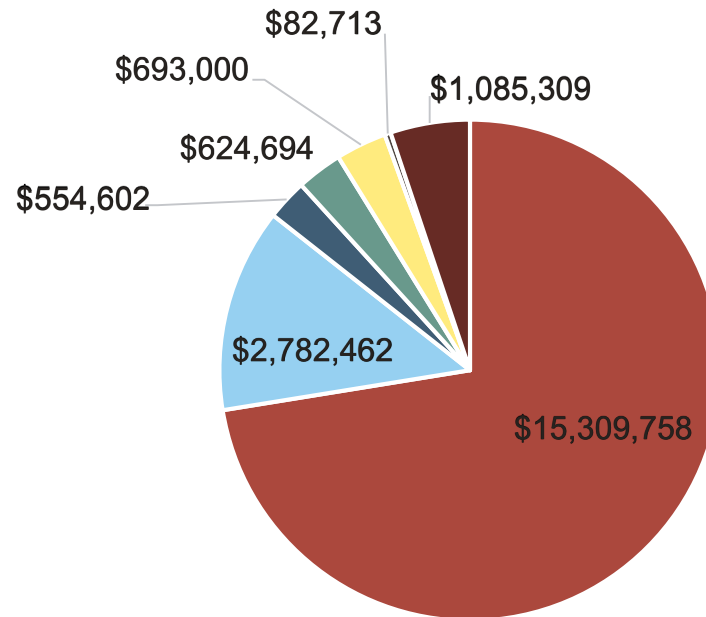
PRESCHOOL TEACHERS

DPP BOARD AND STAFF



DENVER'S COMMITMENT – BY THE NUMBERS

2020 AUDITED FINANCIALS



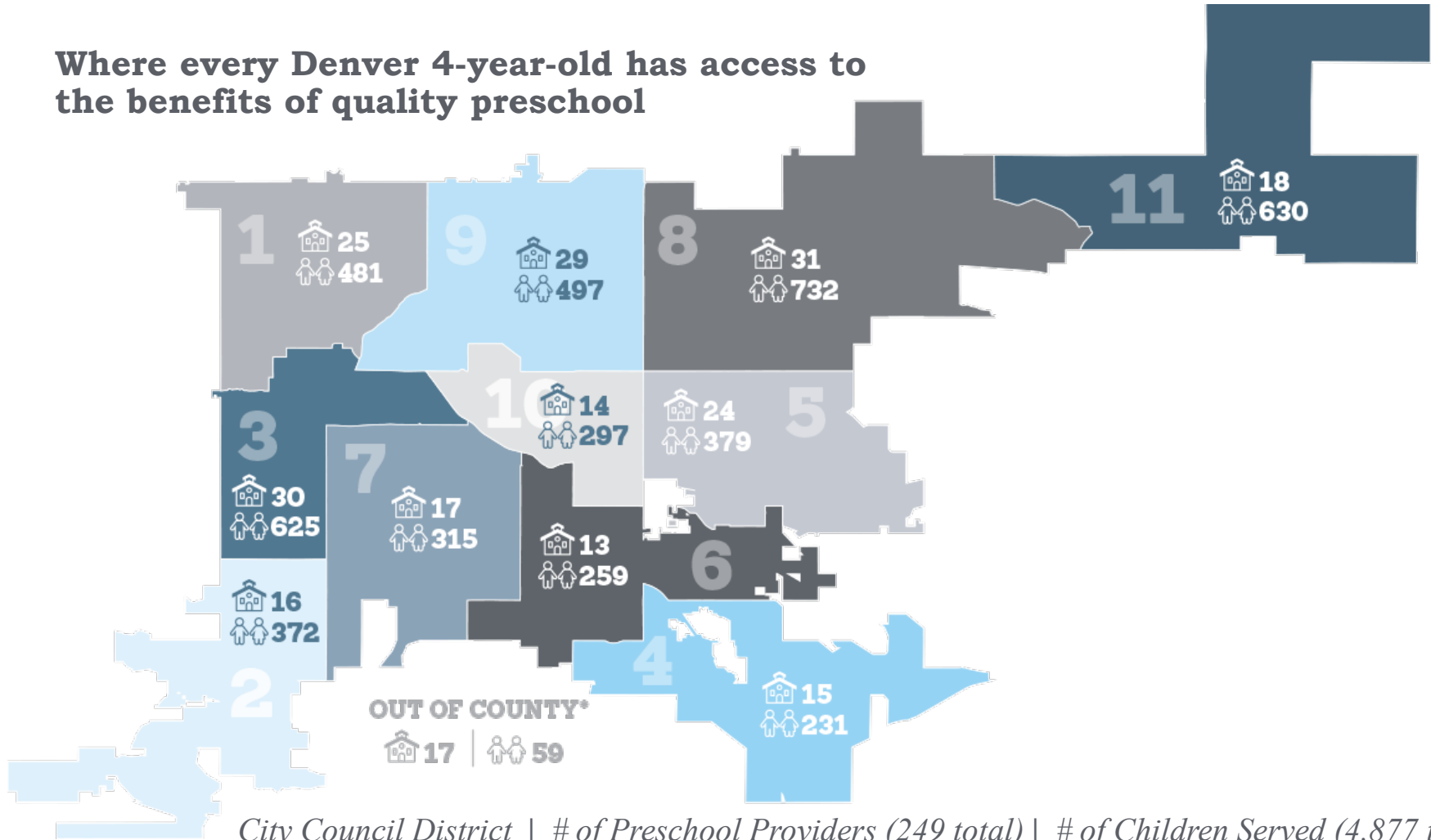
- Tuition Credits
- Evaluation
- Administrative

- Quality Improvement
- Parent Eligibility

- Community Outreach
- Outside Contract Services

ACCESS FOR ALL | INTENTIONAL INCLUSIVITY

Where every Denver 4-year-old has access to the benefits of quality preschool



City Council District | # of Preschool Providers (249 total) | # of Children Served (4,877 total)

DEEP DIVE: CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT

PROGRAM YEAR TUITION SUPPORT 2017-2018

\$1,208,912.81

MOST COMMON TUITION CREDIT*

\$617.00

SCHOOL YEAR TUITION SUPPORT

\$1,175,889.42

SUMMER TUITION SUPPORT

\$33,023.39

TOTAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

\$105,694.18

AVG. COLORADO SHINES RATING

3.9/5.0

9%

**Of DPP's Program Year
Tuition Support**

**Higher tuition credit illustrates lower family income; lower tuition credit illustrates higher family income*

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2



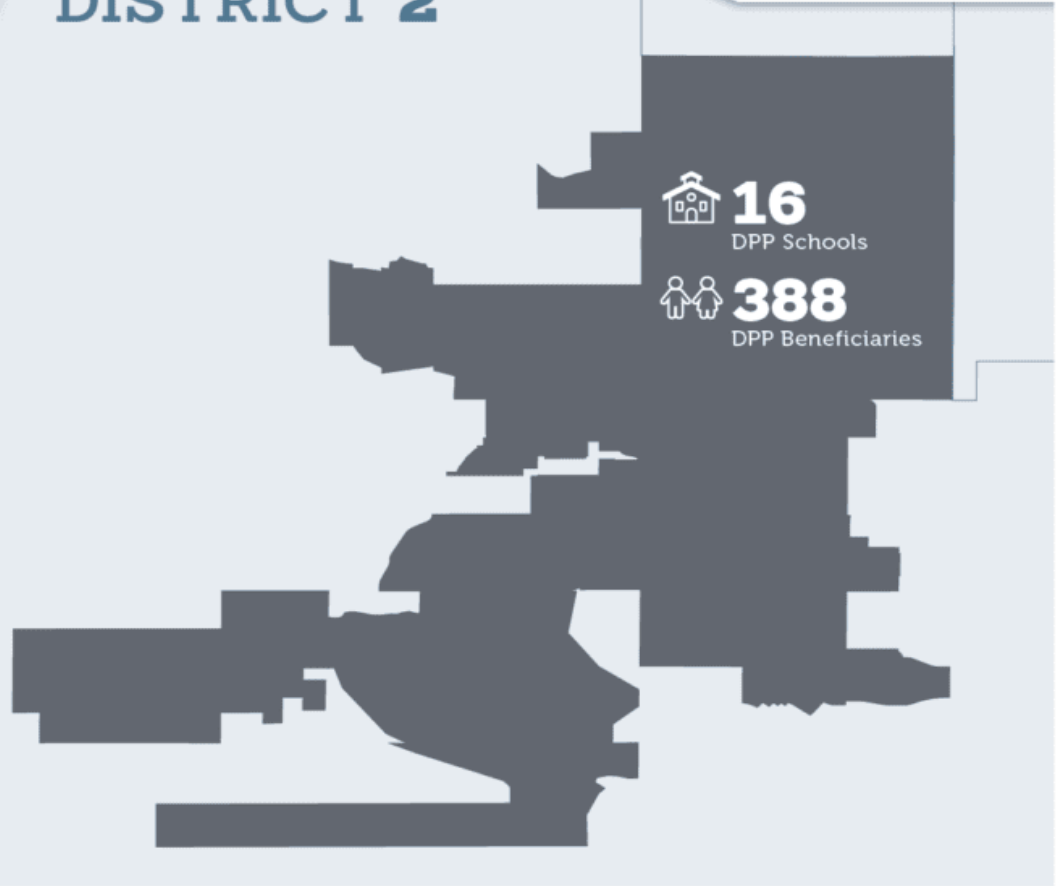
DENVER
PRESCHOOL
PROGRAM



16
DPP Schools



388
DPP Beneficiaries



TUITION CREDIT SCALE

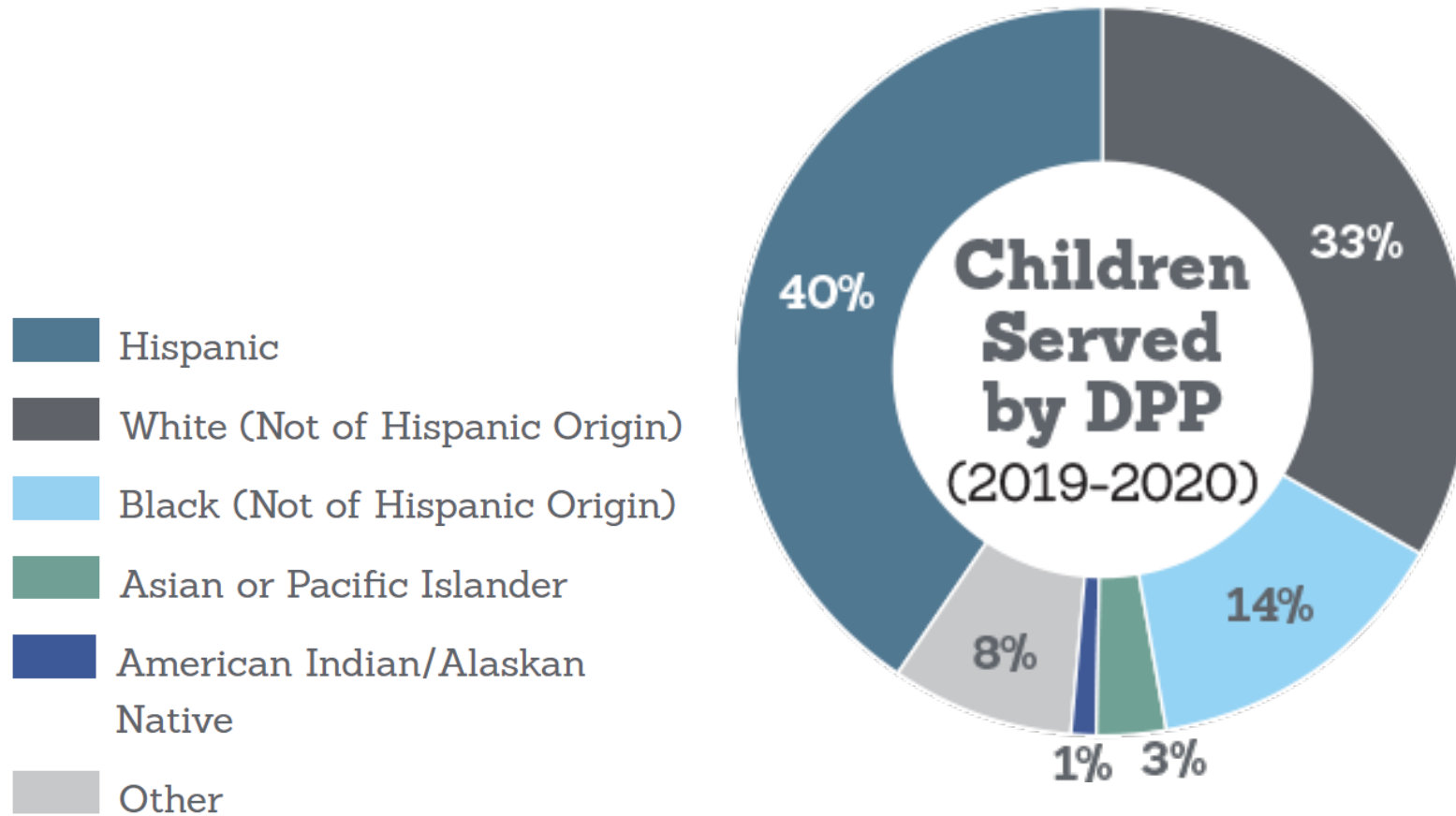
The scale is designed so that the families with the greatest financial need and who have a child attending the highest quality preschool will receive the most tuition support

- The total amount of tuition credits for the 2019-2020 program year was **\$16.44 million**, distributed to 4,877 students
 - \$8.99 million to DPS (60.9% of students)
 - \$7.44 million to community sites (39.1% of students)
- The typical child received \$788/month, up from \$715/month during the 2018-2019 school year



2019-2020 STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

SERVING 67 PERCENT CHILDREN OF COLOR



INCOME TIERS DISTRIBUTIONS

By Income Tier Based on Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Percentages

Children Served by DPP
(2019-2020)



DPP funds for quality preschool are available for all Denver families. 55% of DPP families have the greatest economic need (living at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level – equivalent to a family of 4 making less than \$49,025/year).

HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMS

Where pursuing excellence in all aspects of DPP's work increases positive outcomes for children

INVESTING IN HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMS:

- Leadership, Management and Administration Supports
- Developmentally-Appropriate Curriculum and Authentic Child Assessment Tools
- Directors' Professional Learning Community
- Classroom Materials
- Program Achievement Awards
- Enrollment Incentive Program



HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS

INVESTING IN HIGH-QUALITY TEACHERS:

- Child Development Associate™ Scholarship
- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® College Scholarships
- Teacher and Director Achievement Awards
- DPP's Preschool Forum
- Professional Development Opportunities
- Coaching on Positive Teacher-Child Interactions



MEASURING HIGH QUALITY

Research shows that high-quality preschool produces lasting, positive impacts for children. DPP measures the quality of programs through Colorado Shines:

COLORADO SHINES QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM (QRIS)

- Colorado's Statewide QRIS
- Workforce Qualifications and Professional Development
- Family Partnerships
- Leadership, Management and Administration
- Learning Environment
- Child Health

INTENTIONAL INCLUSIVITY

2019-2020 PARTICIPATION LEVELS (%)

Though the vast majority of our children are in school for a full or extended day (mirroring a school and work day), DPP offers families a part-time option as well to allow families to choose the participation level that best works for them.



INFORMED CHOICE

Where parents and caregivers are well-informed about preschool options and can make the best choice for their child.

COMMUNICATIONS GOALS

- Increase Enrollment
- Target outreach to hard-to-reach populations
- Strengthen relationship with preschools
- Showcase DPP as a successful model
- Utilize data to affect strategy for the enrollment campaign



INFORMED CHOICE

OUTREACH EFFORTS

- Grassroots Outreach to communities with the highest need
- Presentations to train partners who work directly with families on how to share DPP's benefits with their families
- Partnership with Denver Public Library's storytimes, Bookmobiles, Little Universities, LENA program, etc. to share DPP information directly with families
- Pivoting during the pandemic to distribute DPP information via COVID-19 testing sites and food distribution sites



LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Where DPP champions early childhood education, ensuring the community realizes the benefits of its investment in young children

KINDERGARTEN READINESS EVALUATION

- 10 years of data show that DPP students are:
 - More likely to read at grade level
 - Missed fewer days of school
 - Progressed to higher grade levels without having to repeat a year

DPP'S RESPONSE DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

- Helping the pandemic's hidden heroes stay afloat
 - \$100,000 in Emergency Grants to providers
 - \$250,000 in Sustainability Grants to providers
 - \$785,000 in Strengthening Grants to providers
 - \$300,000 approved in Educator Stipends to ECE staff
 - Provided funding to cover family child care homes' insurance costs
- Adapting attendance policies to public health needs
- Increasing the availability of quality Distance Learning opportunities
- Administering state funds for essential workers' families
 - Creating partnerships around crisis supports

2021 - 2022 STRATEGIC PLAN REFRESH PRIORITIES

- Increase the number of Denver's young children in preschool
- Improve and measure the quality of early childhood education (ECE) programs
- Respond to community needs to advance ECE policies and strategies
- Strengthen Denver's ECE workforce by supporting preschool professionals
- Reach and engage families of young children to better serve them
- Strengthen internal operations and governance

LOOKING FORWARD – DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION

2021-2022 PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS

- Focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion both internally and externally to:
 - provide equitable access to preschool
 - be inclusive of all students
 - have outcomes that show educational benefits that are equally distributed among students
- Extension and Expansion of our Preschool for 3s pilot program serving families of 3-year-olds with the highest financial need



QUESTIONS?

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