

PRESS RELEASE

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Mile High Early Learning is Honored to Earn the CDA Gold StandardSM

Mile High Early Learning has been awarded the Child Development Associate (CDA) Gold Standard following a quality review of their training and student services by the Council for Professional Recognition. The CDA Gold StandardSM is part of the Council's early childhood education effort to help CDA students find the high-quality training and student services they need in preparation for a career in early childhood education.

As a participant in the CDA Gold Standard pilot, Mile High Early Learning successfully demonstrated that its early childhood education training is based on the Council's three industry-leading principles:

1. Alignment with CDA formal education coursework found in the CDA's Eight Subject Areas.
2. Sound business policies and practices.
3. Quality student services that meet their educational and professional needs.

Mile High Early Learning's CDA program focuses on those who are beginning their profession as an early childhood educator including teaching assistants, staff aides, and teachers without previous early childhood education experience. In 2017 a total of 43 individuals participated in Mile High Early Learning's CDA program.

According to Mile High Early Learning's President and CEO Dr. Pamela Harris, "the CDA Gold StandardSM demonstrates that Mile High Early Learning is committed to advancing high-quality professional development for emerging early childhood professionals in and around Denver and is a testament to the work we are doing to help solve one of our field's most intractable problems – the shortage of qualified teachers and assistant teachers."

In addition to offering high-quality training, CDA Gold Standard applicants must provide evidence that they serve the CDA student community with excellence, which includes professional development that prepares students for successful completion of their training.

"As CDA participants complete their training, they can move directly into the workforce – whether at Mile High Early Learning or at other early childhood organizations and programs. It's exciting to think about the many young children, families, and communities that will benefit from the high-quality education and training students will receive from Mile High Early Learning's nationally recognized CDA program," Harris notes.

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ABOUT THE COUNCIL FOR PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

For more than 30 years, the [Council for Professional Recognition](http://www.cdacouncil.org) has been the leader in promoting improved performance and recognition of professionals in the early childhood education of children ages zero to 5 years old. The Council recognizes and credentials professionals who work in all types of early care and education settings – Head Start, pre-k, infant-toddler, family child care, and home visitor programs. As a non-profit agency, the Council sets policies and procedures for assessment and credentialing, including the CDA® and the new CDA Gold StandardSM; publishes the industry leading training books and workbooks, including its *CDA Competency Standards* and *Essentials* textbook and workbook (2nd edition). Visit: www.cdacouncil.org

ABOUT MILE HIGH EARLY LEARNING

Mile High Early Learning's mission is to enable all children in Denver to succeed in school by providing resources and education that inspire a lifetime of learning and self-sufficiency. For more than 45 years, Mile High Early Learning has provided a high-quality early education experience in formal and informal classroom settings to serve vulnerable children from families living in poverty who lack access to quality early care and education. Mile High Early Learning serves over 9,000 children and families across Denver each year through its seven early learning centers, two drop-in centers, and community outreach and education programs such as Babies Ready for College. Through the organization's Professional Learning Center, early childhood teachers and professionals receive training, professional development, and coaching. Mile High Early Learning has been closing the achievement gap for more than 45 years. Ensuring that Denver's most vulnerable children have access to quality early care and education remains our unwavering commitment. Visit: www.milehighearlylearning.org