

**MISSION:** Our mission is to proactively promote and support successful integration of immigrant and local community members in Northwest Colorado through education, intercultural exchange, and collaboration to build a more united community where its members can communicate, participate and contribute. Our clients are not only the non and limited-English speakers, they are all of the providers or services and businesses wanting to better communicate and learn the cultural competencies.

## School Readiness Initiatives

In addition to running our youth tutoring program, Study Friends, Integrated Community has been working hard to address the needs of younger immigrant children, ages 0 to 5. These first years are crucial to children's development towards "school readiness"—an indicator of how well a child might thrive as she enters school.

Many immigrant children are not school ready, mostly as a result of language barriers, but also due to poverty and lack of exposure to books and reading. Current statistics show that the number of ELL children in Steamboat schools is high and climbing each year. Thanks to a generous grant from the Craig-Scheckman Family Foundation, we've been able to implement several new initiatives in order to better serve the increasing number of immigrant kids in our community.

First, we hosted a literacy program at Bud Werner Memorial Library over the summer. Parents brought their small children to participate in the library's weekly story-time, then stayed for a literacy activity conducted in Spanish. We also have partnered with Colorado Mountain

College's English as a Second Language program to provide childcare and literacy activities to the children of adult students. We currently work with the kids twice weekly during evening classes, reading and writing stories, practicing phonics, playing games, and working on homework.

In order to improve school readiness in any community, it is vital to educate parents around the importance of early childhood education. It is also important that families have good access to parenting resources in their native language. To meet this need, we are now providing home visits to clients with babies or toddlers up to age 3, through an organization called Colorado Bright Beginnings (CBB) and in partnership with Routt County's Newborn Network.

During a CBB home visit, an Integrated Community staff member goes over a guide to child development with parents in Spanish, and leaves behind a package of bilingual educational tools, books, and games. Home visits and materials are completely free.

We're excited to continue working with parents and children on the issue of school-readiness. If you'd like to

get involved in a volunteer capacity, let us know!

Contact Laura Riley, English Program Coordinator 970-819-3720



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Our Showcase Fundraising Event was a highlight of our year. Sept 6th was a fiesta for the community. A time to celebrate, integrate, dance and enjoy. We wish to thank Caliente for their wonderful music and entertainment, La Fiesta Grill for fabulous food. Our Sponsors for the prizes that we had for the Bean Count fundraising contest: Steamboat Ski and Resort Corp, Anonymous Donors, Sheraton Steamboat, Steamboat FlyFisher, Harwigs/L'apogee.

**We celebrate**

- 10-years as the go-to agency advocating for immigrant children and families in Northwest Colorado.
- Two years as an independent agency with 501(c)(3) status
- Our energetic and dedicated Board of Directors
- Increasing our strong team of passionate, devoted professionals to full-time
- Our success in breathing fresh life into CIIC.
- Our success in cultivating strong community-wide collaborations.
- Our phenomenal executive director for being one of the top leaders within the non-profit community.
- The many organizations and individuals who have recognized our efforts, opened their hearts, offered their time, and helped us to fund our efforts.

**Board of Directors**

- |                             |                |
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Integrated Community  
 PO Box 880587  
 Steamboat Springs, CO 80487  
[www.ciiccolorado.org](http://www.ciiccolorado.org)  
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**Staff:** Sheila Henderson, Executive Director, 970-871-4599  
 Roddy Beall, Interpretation/Translation Director 970-620-1513  
 Laura Riley, English Tutoring Coordinator 970-819-3720



**Colorado Gives Day is December 9, 2014** Integrated Community is affiliated with Community First Foundation to receive donor gifts online. <https://www.coloradogives.org/IntegratedCommunity> On December 9th, Colorado Gives Day, “Give Where You Live”! State and local Incentive Funds boost the value of every dollar donated on Dec 9th.