



## **EFAA Children's Program Fact Sheet**

### The Need

There are 1,386 homeless school children registered in Boulder County Schools.

13% percent of all children in Boulder County live in poverty.

Fifty percent of Boulder County's homeless are families with children, up from 42% last year.

EFAA helps one third of Boulder County children living in poverty.

### EFAA's Children's Program

EFAA's Children's Program works to minimize the destructive effects of homelessness on children, and create a sense of childhood normalcy through programs and resources for children and their parents. This includes homework help, focused activities, experiential play, outdoor activities and field trips.

By addressing the issues of poverty and toxic stress in children, EFAA increase a child's chances for life-long academic, economic and social success. By supporting those children most at-risk, EFAA can have the biggest impact on future generations by hopefully breaking the cycle of poverty.

The Children's Program is primarily focused on families in EFAA's Housing Program, serving about 300 children each year through 53 short-term and transitional housing units throughout Boulder County.

Additionally, EFAA provides services to about 2,000 children each year with things like food, rent and utility bill assistance and minor medical expenses through its Basic Needs Program.

Starting January 1, 2016, EFAA is expanding the Children's Program to include evidence-based programming structured to strengthen trauma management, socio-emotional support, school readiness, communication skills and life skills. The program will focus on providing more robust resources for parents and their children, addressing behaviors, reducing chaos, addressing trauma, providing opportunity in the long term, and providing after-school and summer programming with a trauma-informed curriculum.

The expansion of EFAA's Children's Program is a key part of EFAA's 2015-2109 Strategic Plan, targeted at creating conditions for income mobility for the next generation and focused on a longer-term, whole-family approach to addresses issues that contribute to intergenerational poverty.

Evaluation of the Children's Program expansion will focus on identifying Program contributions toward attainment of community-wide goals in the domains of: Ready Community; Ready Early Care and Education; Ready Families and Ready Children, with outcomes in the areas of: Early Learning; Family Support and Education; Social, Emotional and Mental Health; and Health.