

# PROJECT STATEMENT

August 8, 2016

To whom it may concern,

My name is Heidi Clearo and I have lived at 2115 N 7<sup>th</sup> street since 2004. I have been operating a family child care home from this address since 2005. I began with a 6+2 license and in 2013 was granted an experienced license by Colorado Department of Human Services. I can now serve 8 children full time. I am applying for a large license so that I will be able to serve an additional four children. In total I have been providing high quality care for at risk children for over 10 years.

I have a Bachelor of Arts degree from Fort Lewis College and am director qualified by Pikes Peak community college. I am currently accredited by the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), and have a 3 diamond rating with Colorado shines. I am involved in many programs including Head Start, Home Network of the Pikes Peak Region and The Pikes Peak Regional Family Child Care Association. My program offers wrap around services in which the children's and family's needs are met. Families who participate in my program have access to a family advocate, nurse on call, and a behavioral health specialist. It is a model that meets the needs of the whole child. I Receive calls on a weekly basis and cannot accommodate children because I am at capacity.

Being able to accept more children into my program would increase my ability to affect the community positively. I am certain that my space meets all the guidelines in terms indoor and outdoor square footage required. In the future I hope to renovate my detached two car garage into the child care space. For the time being the child care will continue to operate in the lower level of my home. I am excited to grow my program and help more families in need.

Sincerely,

Heidi Clearo

719-213-69

Dear Neighbor,

As many of you already know I have been operating a Family Childcare Home since 2005 from 2115 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street. I have built up a successful business over the last 10 years and am now looking to expand. I plan to move the childcare from its current location in my basement into my detached garage at the same address. I will serve no more than 12 children. I do not wish to inconvenience you or your family, I thought I would take the time to explain the nature of my business.

**How do Family Child Care Homes operate?**

Although I will determine my own hours program services, hours and parent fees Etc. most programs operate from 7am to 6pm Monday through Friday. Since parents work schedules differ, children usually arrive over a period of two or more hours in the morning and leave during a similar period late in the afternoon. With arrival and departure staggered this reduces the number of vehicles likely to stop at the home at any one time. Parents will escort children safely to and from cars to the facility. I currently serve 8 children so on any given day it would bring no more than four cars into the neighborhood. I know that some of my close neighbors appreciate having someone who is at home during the day and can keep an eye on things. I also know that families with young children appreciate having someone in their neighborhood who they can trust with their children. I have provided care for several neighborhood children but I have also had to turn people away because I do not have the capacity to serve them. Child Care particularly on the West side is very limited and I believe that this community needs more options closer to home.

**For more information**

If you have questions or concerns, or if you would like to me consider other impacts to our neighborhood, please contact me. Gathering your input now will help me to better plan my program and prevent issues that might arise in the future. Feel free to contact me to arrange a visit of my home to familiarize yourself with my program.

If you need further information or assistance, please contact:

Colorado Springs Land Use & Zoning 30 S. Nevada Ave. #105 (719) 385 5905

Child Care Connections-Pikes Peak United Way (719) 955-0733