

Paulette "Polly" Doering
9262 Pacific Crest Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80927

Project Statement:

The city of Colorado Springs is in great need of licensed childcare facilities to provide for the needs of its residents as they are returning to work and school from the pandemic. It has become apparent in my community alone that more childcare facilities are needed due to the increased demand and waitlists in centers, yet parents are finding themselves in difficult positions to find quality childcare at a price they can afford. I would like to obtain a large home daycare license at 9262 Pacific Crest Drive, which would allow me to care for 7 to 12 children per City Code Section 7.3.105(B)(2). This would allow me to assist with meeting the needs of my community and better equip families with the care they need for their children. My sister, Rachel Hollis, lives with my family and will work with me full time to help meet the needs of the kids and to provide more individualized learning at our center, Polly's Preschool.

Our hours of operation will be from 7:00am to 6:00pm, Monday through Friday, and we will be closed on weekends, with the exception of giving tours to new families by appointment only. Drop Off and Pick Up times are staggered, and parents can park in the driveway or in front of the house, so as to not cause any inconvenience or disruptions to our neighbors. We are conveniently located across the street from Inspiration View Elementary School (IVES), so we could also provide after school care for those currently on a waitlist at Base 49, the after school program for IVES students. This would provide more convenience for parents in our neighborhood, as well as the surrounding neighborhoods.

I would like to get the basement of our house finished by April 2022 to provide for more learning spaces in our house. This area will be completely devoted to Polly's Preschool and, once finished, will provide approximately 850 square feet for the kids to learn and play. This would exceed the required 35 square feet of indoor space per State Code 7.707.921(A) for the maximum number of children (12) under a large home daycare license. Additionally, the first and second floor of the house will be shared spaces between Polly's Preschool and my family. This will create more areas and opportunities for learning, even once the basement is finished, so the kids are able to have multiple areas to explore throughout the house.

Our backyard is fenced in with Split Rail Fencing and has approximately 1485 square feet of space for the kids to play. According to State Code 7.707.931(A), there is a requirement of 75 square feet of outdoor space per child. With the maximum number of children for a large home daycare license (12), our backyard has more than enough space to meet the required 900 square feet of outdoor space for a large home daycare. Additionally, I have added wire fencing along the backyard fence as well to ensure safety and security for the kids while outside. There is one gate on the side of the house that can be used as an exit in case of emergency. We also have an enlarged deck to protect from the sun and provide shade for the kids during the summer months.

With the area being primarily residential, offering another licensed childcare facility would better meet the needs of those living here, would equip those interested in moving to the area, and would empower them to provide for their families. Polly's Preschool will be a small, home-based

center, so as to limit exposure to sicknesses and allow kids to receive the proper care they need, while ensuring the city and state standards are met.

If approved for a large home daycare license, I believe Polly's Preschool would be a great asset to the families in our city. I truly appreciate your time and consideration in this matter, and look forward to working together to meet the needs of our community. Please contact me for any questions or concerns.

Polly Doering
(210) 501-7428
polly@pollyspreschool.com