



A community-driven effort to ensure **all children in five East Denver neighborhoods are valued, healthy and thriving** by removing health disparities before they start school.

We know that every young child and family in East Denver has the potential to thrive, but not every family has the same starting place. East5ide Unified is committed to establishing a community-driven, community-led effort to develop an **East5ide Unified Action Plan** designed to level the playing field for young children before they start school. We are focused on children in five neighborhoods in East Denver:



These five neighborhoods have deep community roots, strong social ties, and valuable assets to support children. Issues of racism, economic and educational inequalities, and other challenges cannot be allowed to overshadow potential or sell our children short. **Every child deserves an even playing field by the time they start school.** Every child and family should be able to trust their community to be their partners in achieving this goal.

East5ide Unified is bold and unique because the effort is **anchored in family and community leaders** who determine the direction, needs, and action of the initiative. The Leadership Team made up of family leaders and community partners guides the planning of the effort. East5ide Unified launched in July 2015 and includes a year-long planning effort of shared learning and collaboration to develop an action plan. That plan could be submitted to apply for a second round of funding which would support its implementation.

For more information on East5ide Unified contact Benzel Jimmerson at 720.277.4168 or DiversityDynamicsDenver@gmail.com

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