FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Megan Bock joins Denver’s Early Childhood Council as Chief Program Officer

Denver, CO - February 4, 2020 - Denver’s Early Childhood Council, a Denver-based non-profit that works to elevate the early childhood field through innovative and inclusive leadership, services, and solutions, is proud to welcome Megan Bock as Chief Program Officer (CPO). As CPO, Megan has strategic and operational responsibility for all program areas, which include Quality Initiatives, Career Pathways/Professional Practices, and Data Initiatives, and development/marketing activities.

A Colorado native, Megan grew up in the Lakewood area and attended Colorado College as a Boettcher Scholar. After graduation, Megan began her career in early childhood education through joining Teach For America, where she taught preschool at Southwest Human Development, a Head Start program in Phoenix. After a couple of years in Phoenix, Megan returned home to Colorado to teach at Clayton Early Learning, a nationally recognized Educare program in Denver. At Clayton, Megan honed her teaching skills and earned classroom evaluation scores in the top 10% of the national average. She also organized a community of practice for educators to learn from each other and improve quality in their classrooms.

In the summer of 2013, Megan accepted a summer fellowship at the Governor’s Office of Early Childhood Development in Illinois, where she contributed to multiple projects including a cost model that analyzed a Quality Ratings and Improvement System (QRIS), research that examined how vocabulary is used differently in early education and K-12 systems, and a conference that supported leaders to determine next steps with the state’s Race to the Top agenda. After completing her fellowship, Megan transitioned to Illinois Action for Children where she worked as a Partner Coordinator and supported early childhood funders to share data and coordinate quality improvement services within the City of Chicago.

When her project ended in Chicago, Megan returned to Denver to become a Senior Consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton where she joined Head Start’s regional training and technical assistance team. As a consultant, Megan supported Head Start programs across Colorado and Wyoming to improve their quality and build coaching capacity. In the fall of 2018, Megan accepted the Zaentz Fellowship at
Harvard’s Graduate School of Education and completed her master’s degree in human development and psychology. After graduation, Megan joined the Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative where she led the design and implementation of the Certificate in Early Education Leadership and directed the Zaentz Fellowship program.

“Megan brings a unique set of skills and breadth of experience to this position,” said Emily Bustos, CEO of Denver’s Early Childhood Council. “Her practical knowledge from the perspective of being an early childhood teacher early in her career, to working on systems, research, and policy will be a tremendous asset to the organization.”

“I’m thrilled to join the Council and embark on this next chapter of my career,” said Ms. Bock. “It’s great to be back in Colorado, and I look forward to working with the talented staff at the Council to develop innovative and inclusive programs that enhance the early childhood system.”

Megan has a B.A. in religion from Colorado College, an M.Ed. in early childhood education from Arizona State University, and an Ed.M. in human development and psychology from Harvard’s Graduate School of Education.

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About Denver’s Early Childhood Council

**Mission** - Denver’s Early Childhood Council elevates the early childhood field through innovative and inclusive leadership, services, and solutions.

**Vision** - Denver is a community where the diverse needs of all young children and their families are supported.

**History** - Denver’s Early Childhood Council or “Joint Council” was created in 1992 by then Denver Public Schools Superintendent Evie Dennis and Mayor Wellington Webb to address a systemic need to coordinate and manage quality improvements in Denver’s early childhood education (ECE) centers. Since that time, the Council’s role in coordinating early childhood services and partners has grown, and today is inclusive of three early childhood domains: Learning and Development, Health and Well-Being, and Family Support and Education.

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