

Community Foundation promotes early childhood education in Boulder County

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The Community Foundation is making a case for investing in early childhood education at two events in early March.

Both the Boulder Valley School District and the St. Vrain Valley School District have seen persistent achievement gaps between low-income students and middle- and higher-income students and between Latino students and non-Hispanic students. In response, the Community Foundation has set early childhood education as one of its top priorities. Foundation officials want every child to be ready to learn by the time school starts.

At "Ready.Set.Learn," the Community Foundation hopes to make the case that investing in early childhood education will yield results in long-term economic vitality for the region.

The Foundation is bringing Bill Millett, a nationally recognized expert on early childhood education with a background in both business and the public sector, to address the issue at a lunch in Longmont on March 4 and a breakfast in Boulder on March 5. Business and community leaders are invited to get involved in addressing the problem.

The lunch takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. March 4 at the LifeBridge Education Center, 10345 Ute Highway, in Longmont. Tickets are \$20 or \$160 for a table of eight. To register, visit www.regonline.com/longmontlunch.

The breakfast takes place from 7:30 to 9 a.m. March 5 at the Spice of Life Event Center, 5706 Arapahoe Ave. in Boulder. Tickets are \$15 each or \$120 for a table of eight. To register, visit www.regonline.com/boulderbreakfast.

The deadline to register is Feb. 24.

In addition to the Community Foundation, the event is sponsored by the Boulder Chamber of Commerce, Boulder Economic Council, Boulder Valley School District, St. Vrain Valley School District, Early Childhood Council of Boulder County, the Education Foundation for the St. Vrain Valley, Impact on Education and the Longmont Chamber of Commerce.

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