



Child
Friendly
Cities
Initiative

unicef 
for every child



MAKING BOULDER A CHILD FRIENDLY CITY

When we make our communities better places for children and youth, we make them better places for all.

The City of Boulder is partnering with UNICEF USA and Growing Up Boulder to work towards formal recognition as a Child Friendly City. In Boulder, this effort will be co-designed with young people, including historically underrepresented children and youth. The initiative's goal is to develop new partnerships and mobilize the community to improve young people's health and well-being. The outcome will be a safe, equitable, just, inclusive and child-responsive community in Boulder.

What is a child-friendly city?

- A place where children are safe and protected from exploitation, violence and abuse
- A place to have a good start in life and grow up healthy and cared for; a place to have access to essential services
- A place to experience quality, inclusive and participatory education and skills development
- A place to express their opinions and influence decisions that affect them
- A place to participate in family, cultural, community and social life
- A clean, unpolluted and safe environment with equitable access to the outdoors
- A place to meet friends and have places to play and recreate
- A place to have a fair chance at life regardless of their ethnic origin, religion, income, gender or ability

WHAT IS CFCI?

UNICEF Child Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI) is a framework that helps local governments and community prioritize the needs and voices of young people. United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) launched CFCI in 1996 to protect children's rights in an increasingly urbanized and decentralized world. This framework identifies areas of success and growth and creates a common vision for all.

WHY BOULDER?

While Growing Up Boulder has been supporting youth engagement for 13 years, and the city's Youth Opportunities Advisory Board (YOAB) brings teen voices to city planning, the structural support from the UNICEF CFCI Framework of Action offers a new way to bring together city departments to align efforts and further reach populations that experience structural and systemic inequities. Becoming an official UNICEF Child Friendly City would allow Boulder to be formally recognized for our work and elevate our impact to the next level.

Our Process

The Child Friendly Cities Initiative is a multi-year, collaborative process that starts with analysis. City staff, partners, young people and adult allies will weigh in about what is and is not going well for Boulder's children and youth. Based on this feedback, we will then craft a local action plan that builds on past success and inspires further improvements.

The city is in the fortunate position of having approximately \$2 million in seed money for its action plan from the sale of the Broncos stadium. Our goal is to let young people guide our decisions in how to spend it. Other funding will be identified once the action plan has been developed.

After implementing and measuring progress, Boulder will then work with UNICEF USA to achieve recognition as a UNICEF Child Friendly City.

THE CFCI PROGRAM

City government leadership is crucial to every step of the CFCI program. Here's how we see your office leading the way:

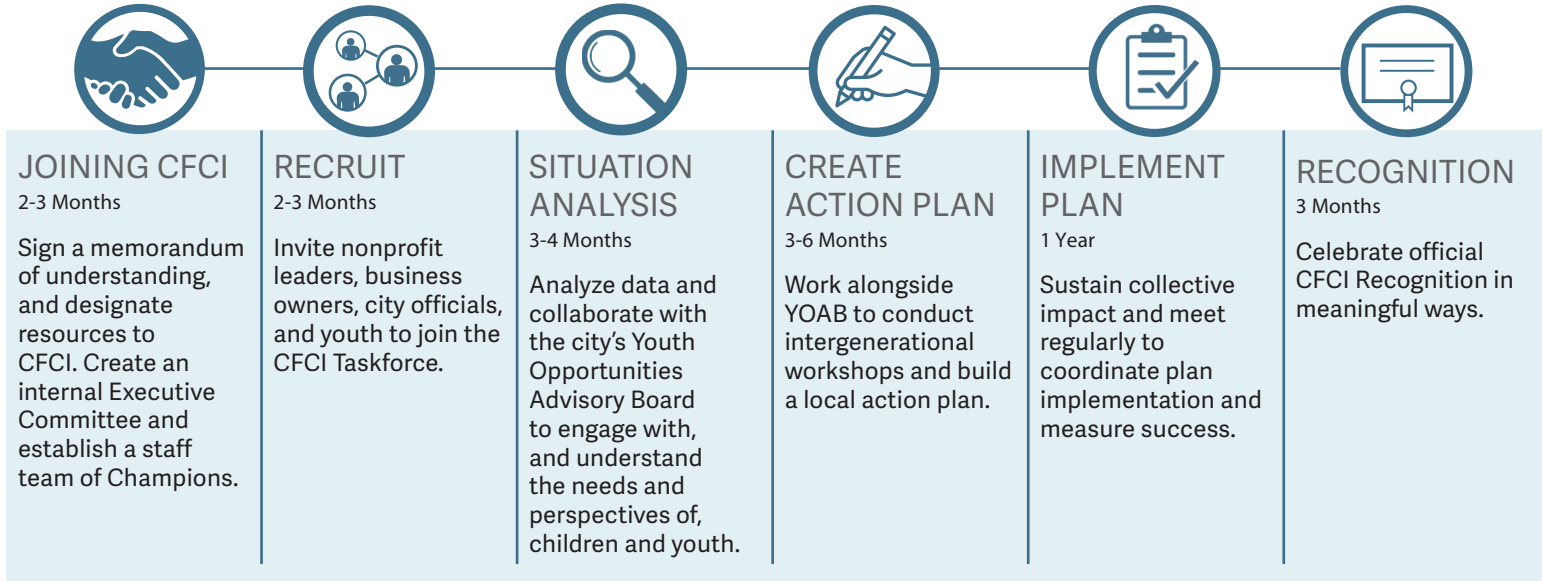


Photo by Darcy Kitching

WHO IS UNICEF USA?

For over eight decades, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has built an unprecedented global support system for the world's children. UNICEF relentlessly works to deliver the essentials that give every child an equitable chance in life: health care and immunizations, safe water and sanitation, nutrition, education, emergency relief and more. UNICEF USA advances the global mission of UNICEF in the U.S. to empower policies, practices, and programs at the federal, state and local levels to improve the lives of children, starting with our country's most vulnerable and excluded communities.



Want to learn more or get involved?

Visit bouldercolorado.gov/projects/unicef-child-friendly-cities-initiative