The Gunnison Hinsdale Early Childhood Council will focus this year’s Nurturing the Young Child Conference on S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) in the classroom. The conference provides continuing education training hours to Early Childhood Educators, caregivers and informative sessions to anyone who is interested. Local and statewide professionals will present on Friday evening and Saturday; November 7 & 8, 2014 at the WSCU Center. Through grant funds we keep the cost affordable; $40 for both days, $15 student/ parent/pyramid plus participant, just Friday $20, just Saturday $30. This year we are also offering a WSCU Graduate Credit for an additional $80.

The Gunnison Hinsdale Early Childhood Council strives to improve and expand quality early childhood services and education in an effort to help our children succeed in life. The Council builds collaborative efforts and support in our four domain areas of Early Learning, Social Emotional and Mental Health, Family Support & Parent Education and Health. The goal of our Early Learning domain is to increase local resources and training opportunities for providing quality early education. Our educational opportunities for early childhood professionals are intended to increase quality in the workforce. We meet this goal by annually assessing the needs of local educators and providing the training they need or are interested in.

This year topics covered will include; Pyramid Plus Trainings on Supportive Environments, Teachers and Parents as Partners in Education, Children and Technology, Math and Infants: Curriculum Development in the Infant Classroom, Creating Kid Friendly Literacy Rich Environments on a Budget, Bringing Astrology into the Classroom, Observational Skills and Blending Constructivist, Hawkins, and Reggio Emilia Approaches into Curriculum Development and Colorado Shines: The New Early Childhood Quality Rating and Professional Development System in Colorado.

Our partner Western State College University Extended Studies provides registration online through their website at western.edu/nurturing, or for more information contact Coordinator Margaret Wacker at mwacker@gunnisoncounty.org, 970-641-7913.