

Family Leadership Training Institute of Colorado

State-Wide Colorado



COLORADO
Department of Education

The Family Leadership Training Institute (FLTI) of Colorado is a program created with families for families. The curriculum equips parents with the knowledge and skills to support their engagement with the school district, schools, and community systems at the individual, community, school, and policy level. FLTI is a free 20-week training that integrates personal and child development, leadership skill development, civic literacy, and civic engagement. The curriculum features five components:

- A community building retreat,
- Phase One – 10 sessions that focus on personal leadership development,
- Phase Two – 10 sessions that focus on the civic process and change,
- A Day at the Capitol for on-site learning, and
- A personally developed civic project.

Since inception in Colorado, FLTI has been successful in recruiting diverse participants across race, age, educational backgrounds, and income levels:

- FLTI attracts diversity in race and culture. Across the 10 sites currently reporting pre-post data, 11% of participants were Black/African American, 35% were Hispanic/Latino, 3% Asian/Pacific Islander, 2% Native American, 1% of mixed races, and 47% White. Three percent considered themselves as other or of mixed race/ethnic groups.
- Education backgrounds vary: 6% received an education of less than high school; 35% were high school or GED graduates; 3% had completed two-year associate college programs; 21% were graduates of four-year college programs; 22% had a master's, doctoral or professional degree; 14% achieved post-graduate work; and 4% were still in high school.
- FLTI draws family leaders who report annual household incomes representing a broad range; 53% reported incomes of less than \$40,000, 15% between \$40,000 and \$59,999, 7% between \$60,000 and \$84,999, and 24% over \$85,000.

The Family Leadership Training Institute of Colorado relates to student outcomes by providing parents with the skills necessary to be engaged in their student's schools, school districts, and community programs that serve families to create positive outcomes for children. Additionally, many of the personally developed civic projects created by families target school and student outcomes. Parents who graduate from this program are more likely to be proactive when they see a school or student need, and will often take on leadership roles when asked.