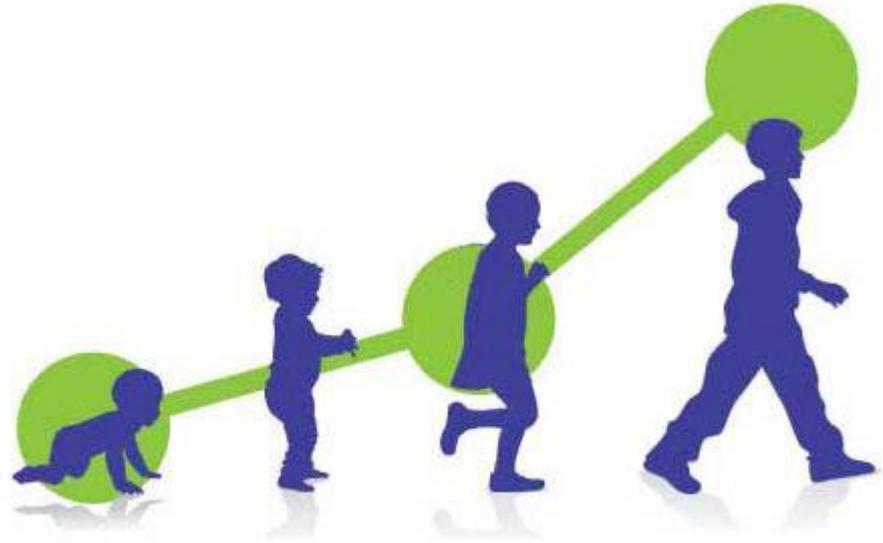




All youth ready for college, work & life.

Central Texas
Austin / Travis County Area

The Landscape of Children & Youth in Central Texas





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Our Vision



All youth in our community are prepared and supported to be:

- ★ Ready for higher education and learning
- ★ Ready for work and career advancement
- ★ Ready to lead healthy lives, and
- ★ Ready for positive social and civic connections and engagement.

*from Youth Issues Forum – May 2003
convened by Workforce Solutions and CAN





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Needs / Trends

- The Travis County Child Poverty Rate has grown 4.3x the Travis County child population growth
- 36% of children & youth ages 5-17 speak a language other than English in the home
- Population shifts have made access to services more of a challenge for families with children
- Positive community-wide outcomes are being achieved, but there is still much more to do





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What is being done?

- Over 200 organizations listed in Youth Services Mapping (YSM) system at www.ysm-austin.org
- More groups and agencies emphasizing comprehensive and holistic approaches to child & youth development
- More “collective impact” (system-building) efforts emerging to improve coordination of services





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Key Considerations

- System-building efforts can optimize coordination, create efficiencies for families, and leverage resources
- Commonalities and points for coordination across system-building groups should be explored (e.g., data-sharing, referrals, etc.)
- Whole-family, culturally competent approaches are critical to achievement of sustained community-wide outcomes

