

Austin Public Health



Early Childhood Council

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Early Childhood Council Austin Public Health P. O. Box 1088 Austin, Texas 78767 Attn: Cindy Gamez (512) 972-6216 March 8, 2017

Mahsa Azadi Procurement Project Manager 1100 W 49th Street Austin, Texas 78756

Dear Ms. Azadi, The City of Austin Early Childhood Council is pleased to write a letter in support of the collaborative Travis County application for Texas Home Visiting MIECHV program funding (HHSC RFA No. 530180003).

The Early Childhood Council currently leads the "Ready Communities" work team of the School Readiness Action Plan for Austin/Travis County – and is committed to effectively addressing systems-level issues that impact the wellbeing of children and families in our community. The Early Childhood Council has a representative on the United Way School Readiness Action Plan Leadership Team, and several additional Early Childhood Council members also serve in on the Leadership Team because of their additional affiliations.

Funding under the MIECHV program would enable our local collaborative to greatly expand access to current early childhood interventions in the county, to fill critical gaps with new initiatives, and continue to develop the capacity of our collaborative to identify and address needs within our community.

We appreciate the opportunity for our community to apply for this support under the MIECHV program. The Early Childhood Council is committed to providing ongoing support and active engagement in this collaborative. We look forward to the Health and Human Services Commissions response to the application on behalf of our collaborative.

Yours Sincerely,

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Larry Elsner Chair of the Early Childhood Council