# THE BEST PLACE FOR WORKING PARENTS<sup>™</sup> AUSTIN

#### **EMGA'S THREE PILLARS**





#### **Promoting Best Places for Working Parents**

Encouraging workplace policies that support working parents as a baseline for improving conditions for young children and families.

#### **Influencing Public Policy**

 Advocate for local and statewide policy and funding to increase access to high-quality early education.

#### **Advancing Innovation**

 Incubate, pilot and scale innovative solutions to challenges of access and affordability in the early-childhood sector.





In January, EMGA will be launching <u>Best Place for Working Parents</u> in Austin.

- Partnering with Ft. Worth, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio
- Implementing a first-of-its-kind business self-assessment
- Promoting research-backed policies that benefit working parents and business' bottom line



#### **Best Place for Working Parents (BP4WP)**

- The online self-assessment and built-in designation scoring technology
  - 3-minute, confidential online self-assessment for local businesses of all sizes and industries
- Real-time dashboard report-out of how each business is positioned against other local businesses of similar size & industry across all 10 family-friendly policies
- Real-time designation awarding to encourage and promote best practices amongst city businesses
- Access to an online EMGA's Toolkit for employees and employers





Promoting research backed policies that support working parents and businesses' bottom line.

CATEGORY	FAMILY-FRIENDLY POLICY
CORE BENEFITS	<ol> <li>Company-Paid Healthcare Coverage</li> <li>Paid Time Off</li> <li>Maternity/Paternity Leave</li> </ol>
FAMILY RESOURCES	<ul><li>4. Onsite Child Care</li><li>5. Child Care Assistance</li><li>6. Backup Child Care</li></ul>
FLEXIBILITY	7. Flexible Hours 8. Remote Work/Work from Home
COMPANY CULTURE	9. Nursing Benefits 10. "Best Place" Designation



#### WHY BEST PLACES FOR WORKING PARENTS?

## LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 60% OF ALL CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6 IN AUSTIN HAD ALL AVAILABLE PARENTS IN THE WORKFORCE.

- If parents don't have access to trusted, safe learning environments for their young children, they won't be able to return to the workforce now or after the COVID-19 pandemic subsides.
- Implementing family-friendly policies allows employees to be more productive and focused at work.
- Helps employers attract and retain employees.
- When childcare is inaccessible, businesses see serious economic impacts.





- 70% of non-working middle skilled parents cite child care as one of the top 5 reasons for not participating in the workforce.
- 83% of millennials say that they would leave their jobs for one with more family-friendly benefits.
- Turnover can cost an employer up to 150% of the base salary of the replaced employee.
- First-time mothers who use some form of paid leave are 32% less likely to quit their job before or after childbirth and are 19% more likely to return to the same employer after leave.
- When businesses provide child care for employees, absenteeism decrease by 30% and job turnover declines by as much as 60%.

#### **How BP4WP Benefits Austin**



#### Family Level: Help Grow our Future Economy

• Great Start for Young Kids – Increased Kindergarten Readiness, Improved Health and Family Supports



#### Firm Level: Make Your Company More Competitive

• Talent Attraction/Retention, Higher Productivity, Less Absenteeism, Better Culture



# Greater Austin Level: Support Our Immediate Economic Recovery and Growth

• Larger, Better Educated Workforce, Reduced Education Costs, Ability to Attract Businesses



# The Best Place for Working Parents™ 2021 Self-Assessment and Launch Calendar

#### December 2020

- ★ Finalize biz outreach list and local partners
- ★ Final test & approval of customized web page

#### January 2021

- ★ Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Webinar connect to review timeline & next steps
- ★ Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> LAUNCH assessment via email template release
- ★ Weekly Email content with reminders, case studies

#### February 2021

- ★ Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> CLOSE assessment entries online
- ★ Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> Innovator award selections (if applicable)
- ★ Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> Announcement of designees and awardee event

### How you can help?

- Spread the word about our launch
- Connect EMGA with business leaders





# Thank you! Welcome your questions and comments

Brooke Freeland, Consultant, UWATX
Brooke.freeland@uwatx.org