



# American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Investments for Early Childhood & Family Supports

Joint Inclusion Committee May 2022

CATHY MCHORSE, VICE PRESIDENT, SUCCESS BY SIX COALITION UNITED WAY FOR GREATER AUSTIN



#### ADDRESS GAPS IN CHILD CARE FOR FAMILIES

### **Workforce Solutions Capital Area**

# **Continuity of Care Expansion**

**City:** \$1,965,104 - *Underway* 

County: \$906,399 - in

process

**Goal:** Prevent childcare disruptions and move children off waitlist and into care



### Family & Community Engagement Navigator Staff

**City:** \$533,832 - *Underway* 

**County:** \$168,233 - in process

Goal: Move children off scholarship waitlist and into care through childcare scholarships, Head Start, Early Head Start, or public Pre-K



### STABILIZING THE CHILD CARE WORKFORCE

Workforce Solutions Capital Area – Child Care Essential Worker Premium Pay

**City:** \$765,945 - *Underway* 

**County:** \$385,785 - in process

**Goal:** Incentivize retention of childcare staff who have performed in-person throughout the pandemic at heightened risk to themselves





### STABILIZING THE CHILD CARE WORKFORCE

Texas Association for the Education of Young Children -T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Texas Scholarship Program

City: \$157,000 - pending administrative contract (April/May 2022 start)

County: N/A

**Goal:** Support early childhood educators to further their education in the field of early childhood to improve their qualifications and impact the quality of care provided to the children they serve





### STABILIZE PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN



Any Baby Can – Ready Families Collaborative

City: \$177,083 - pending administrative contract (April/May 2022 start)

**County:** (included in City amount)

**Goal:** Retain staff who are providing direct faceto-face services and reduce turnover rates



### EXPAND ACCESS TO FULL-DAY PRE-K

# Austin ISD – Full-day Pre-K 3

City: \$902,075, pending Council

Approval May 19th

County: N/A

Goal: Expand full day Pre-K3 to 5

classrooms



### Del Valle ISD -

### Dual-language Full-day Pre-K 4

City: \$750K -Underway

**County:** \$250K - Pending contract

approvals

**Goal:** Expand access for children of families that do not qualify based on state income eligibility guidelines but cannot afford tuition-based Pre-K



### ENSURE HEALTHIEST START POSSIBLE FOR CHILDREN

### **APH – Family Connects Expansion**

**City:** \$2,000,000; *Underway* 

County: N/A

**Goal:** Expand services to another hospital system –

**Ascension Seton** 



# United Way For Greater Austin – Family Connects Evaluation

City: \$325K - Underway

County: N/A

**Goal:** Evaluation focused on local outcomes, with emphasis on ROI

for health care payer



# INCREASE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE QUALITY CHILD CARE TO MEET NEEDS OF ALL FAMILIES

### **United Way for Greater Austin** – Pre-K Partnerships Hub



City: \$713K - Council approved February 3rd, *Underway* 

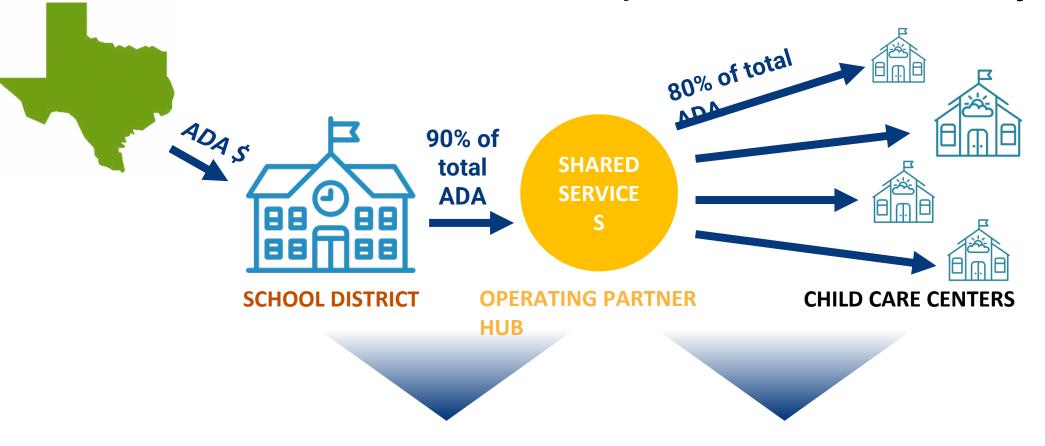
**County:** \$300K anticipated - Competitive Procurement Pending

#### Goals:

- Support community-based child care and Head Start centers to leverage state funding for eligible Pre-K students based on average daily attendance (aka Mixed Delivery System)
- Increase number of children with access to public Pre-K
- Increase number of families receiving full-day, high quality care
- Increase the quality of early learning services provided at participating centers



### PreK Partnerships – Mixed Delivery



Full-Day Child Care Subsidy

80% ADA
per eligible
student
passed
through

ISD passes through 90% of total ADA & SB 1882 per student

Hub passes through 80% of total ADA & SB 1882 per student



# INCREASE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE QUALITY CHILD CARE TO MEET NEEDS OF ALL FAMILIES

**United Way for Greater Austin** – Family-Based Child Care Networks

**Sub-grantee: AVANCE, Inc.** 

City: \$500K - - Underway

County: \$208K anticipated - Competitive

**Procurement Pending** 

**Goal:** Strengthen and scale efforts that increase the supply and quality of home-based child care in Austin-Travis County





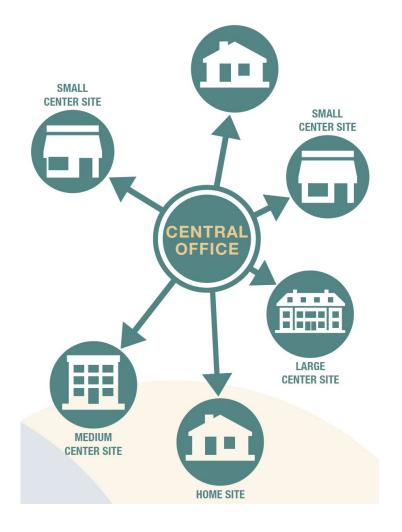
# PLAN & IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED GAPS & STRENGTHEN THE CHILD CARE SYSTEM

### United Way for Greater Austin – Shared Services Alliance

City: \$750K - Underway

County: \$312K anticipated - Competitive Procurement pending

Goal: Create a Tech-enabled Shared Services Alliance in Austin/Travis County serving 40 child care providers in order to strengthen the child care sector's capacity, and ultimately, the quality of their early learning services. The focus is on the business side of child care programs





# PLAN & IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED GAPS & STRENGTHEN THE CHILD CARE SYSTEM

### United Way for Greater Austin – Nontraditional Hour Care - Study & Pilots

City: \$500K - Underway

County: \$208K anticipated - Competitive Procurement pending

#### Goals:

- Analyze the community need for child care during non-traditional hours
- · Develop policy and program recommendations to address the need identified
- Implement policy and program recommendations, including potential pilot programs, to incentivize building the supply of quality non-traditional hour child care options and help connect families seeking non-traditional hour care with quality options



# ONE-STOP SHOP FOR INDIVIDUALS NAVIGATING SOCIAL SERVICES & ACCESSING BENEFITS

**United Way for Greater Austin –** ConnectATX and 2-1-1

City: \$275,000; *Underway* 

County: N/A

**Goal:** Increase access to basic needs services through enhanced 211 and ConnectATX services





# INCREASE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS LEADING TO LIVING WAGE & BENEFITS

### **United Way for Greater Austin –**

Job Training/Parent Support Program

**City:** \$150,000; *Underway* 

County: N/A

**Goal:** Expand 2-Gen United Way workforce development program for young parents with low income in middle skill job training to increase retention and persistence





### ONGOING CHALLENGES IN THE ATX EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM

- Child care scholarships waitlist
- Child care staffing
- Rising costs for child care facilities through property values and/or rent
- Travis County funding allocations for 2nd tranche of ARPA investments



### Potential Next Steps

### **Studies:**

- Ready Nation: Want to Strengthen the Texas Economy? Fix the Child Care Crisis
- US Chamber of Commerce Foundation: Building Strong Foundations for the Future

\*Texas loses an estimated \$9.39 billion annually from its economy due to breakdowns in childcare

### **Business Opportunities (Econ Dev/Chambers)**

- **Child Care Industry Partnerships**: This is a partnership fund at TWC that will leverage MATCHING state funds.
- TWC Capacity-Building Grants
  - TWC has allocated \$75 Million to support "Capacity-Building Grants for Child Care Deserts, Infants Capacity, and Employer Site Based Child Care

### **City of Austin**

- Fiscal Modeling, Cost Analysis to develop a local dedicated children's funding project (like PreK4SA in San Antonio)
- Austin Economic Development Corporation: effort similar to Cultural Trust



# Questions

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Thank you to United Way for Greater Austin for the photos in this presentation!

### SUCCESS BY 6

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