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Tarrant County

Blue Ribbon Action Committee on Child Care

Where did the Blue Ribbon Action Committee come from??

March 2020

COVID-19 Pandemic shuts down North Texas.
Community leaders convene on rapid-response efforts & identify child care as an essential service to maintain.

February 2021

Historic levels of federal COVID Relief Funding are dispersed to states and localities via the American Rescue Plan Act.

August 2021

Child care identified by elected officials as a priority area.
Significant public investments *for child care across City of Fort Worth, City of Arlington & Tarrant County.*

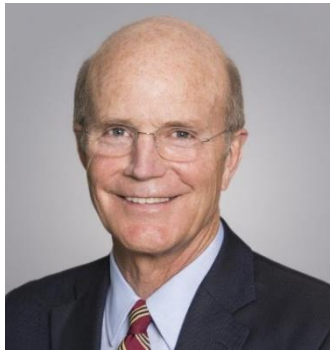
January 2022

Blue Ribbon Action Committee on Child Care formed
by elected officials to guide new public investments & shepherd community-wide vision & progress for child care.

*Alfreda Norman**
Retired, former Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

*Rose Bradshaw**
North Texas Community Foundation

Jay Chapa
Jay Chapa Strategic Solutions



Pete Geren
Sid Richardson Foundation

Jessica Gomez
The Momentous Institute

Brooke Goggans
Mosaic Strategy Partners

Ebony Jones
Girls, Inc.

Elva LeBlanc
Tarrant County College

Courtney Lewis
Bancorp South

Katy Magruder
PNC Bank

Jerletha McDonald
Arlington DFW Child Care

Carolyn Mentesana
Arlington Tomorrow Foundation

Drexel Owusu
(former) Dallas Foundation

Jeremy Smith
Rainwater Foundation

Terese Stevenson
Rees-Jones Foundation

Winjie Tang Miao
Texas Health Resources

Blue Ribbon Action Committee on Child Care

Call to Action

To dramatically improve outcomes for young children 0-5, working parents and child care educators by identifying ***bold, innovative, cross-sector solutions that improve access to and quality of child care*** *at scale in Tarrant County.*

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North Star Priorities

The Blue Ribbon Action Committee is charged with envisioning and connecting bold ideas to action in support the following North Star Priorities:

Places and Spaces

Expanding and improving quality early education infrastructure and classrooms.

Early Educator Workforce

Advancing approaches that design and sustainably rebuild a strong pipeline for a corps of quality early educators.

Sustainable Cost Model

Advancing cost modeling and layered funding to cover the true costs of quality child care (towards building a comprehensive 0-5 system)

Mixed Delivery 0-5 System

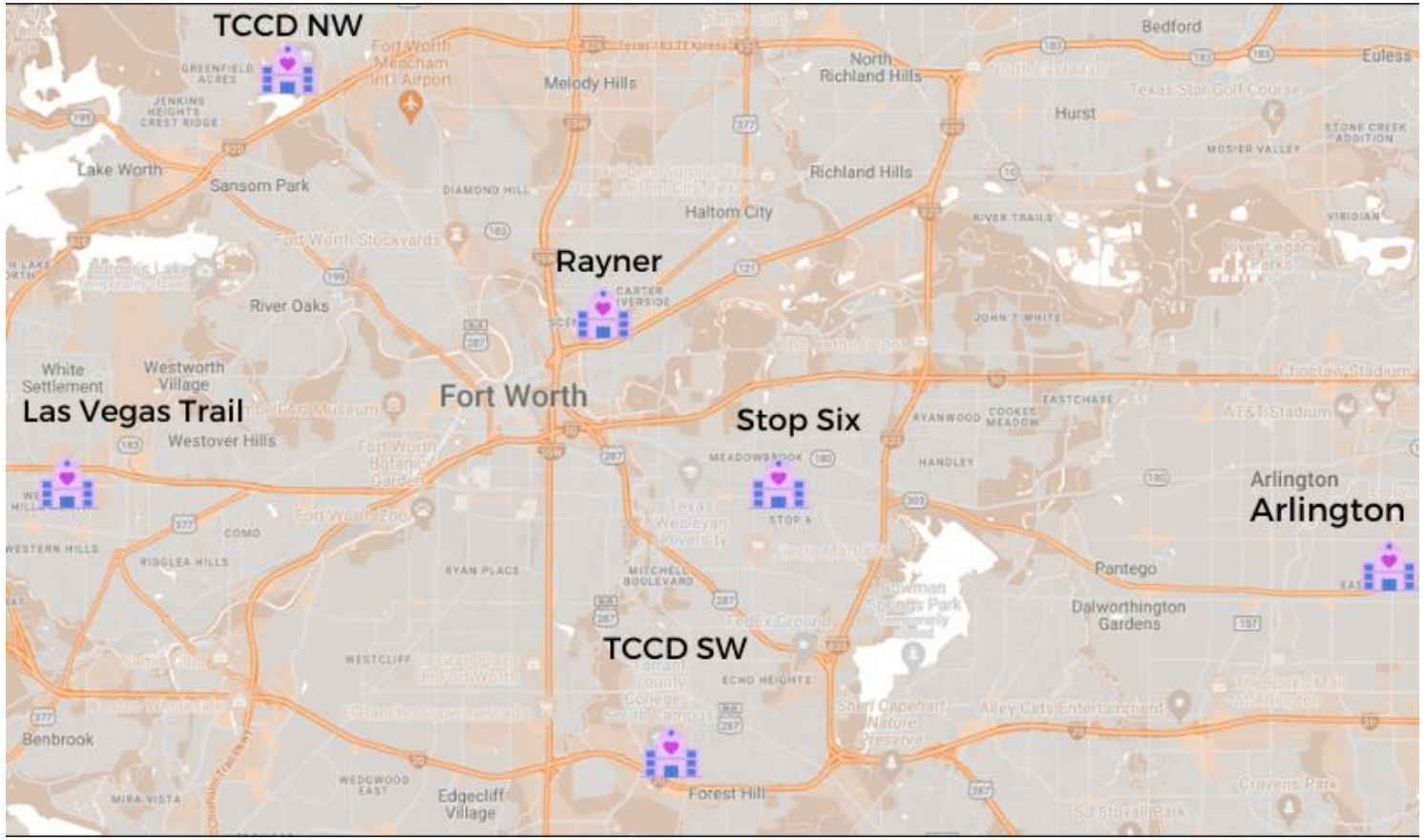
Advancing approaches that invest in our community-based child care and ensure pre-kindergarten can be delivered in community-based early learning centers in addition to elementary schools

Outcome #1: PLACES & SPACES - Expanded high-quality seats for infants & toddlers in high-need areas through 6 public-private partnerships.

6 Early Childhood Facilities

50 new classrooms
Total estimated licensed capacity of 928

- *Serving estimated 5,540 young children over 20 yrs.*
- *Drawing down well over $120M federal resources into the community (over 10+ yrs.)*



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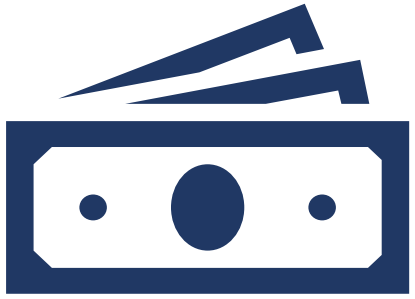
Outcome #2: SUSTAINABLE COST MODEL - Modeling innovative approach to financing child care via the Prime Early Learning Pilot

The Prime Early Learning Pilot provides foundational grant funding to a cohort of 19 TRS-4 star programs operating in high-need areas across Fort Worth & Tarrant County.

Fixed Cost Offset

Offsets building & utility costs

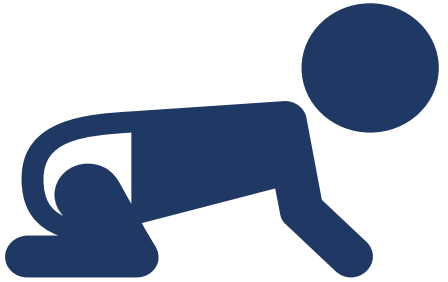
+



Compensation Offset

Increases teacher pay to a min. $18/hour

+



Funded Priorities Offset

Infants & toddlers
Children w/special needs
Children of child care educators

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Outcome #2: SUSTAINABLE COST MODEL - Modeling innovative approach to financing child care via the Prime Early Learning Pilot

Pilot Partners: Research & Thought Partners

BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER

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TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS ELEVENTH DISTRICT

TEXAS POLICY LAB

CLASP
The Center for Law and Social Policy

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS

TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS FOR TARRANT COUNTY

Center for Early Learning Funding Equity
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Outcome #3: EARLY EDUCATOR WORKFORCE - Quantify & project the workforce needs via an authoritative North Texas workforce study

Research Partner

prenatal-to-3 policy IMPACT CENTER
RESEARCH FOR ACTION AND OUTCOMES

Philanthropic Partners

THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION of TEXAS

North Texas Early Educator Workforce Study:

1. Quantify the existing early educator workforce in North Texas
2. Quantify today's regional need for early educators
3. Develop 5- and 10-year projected workforce needs for early educators
4. Develop regional recommendations to inform near-term regional strategies

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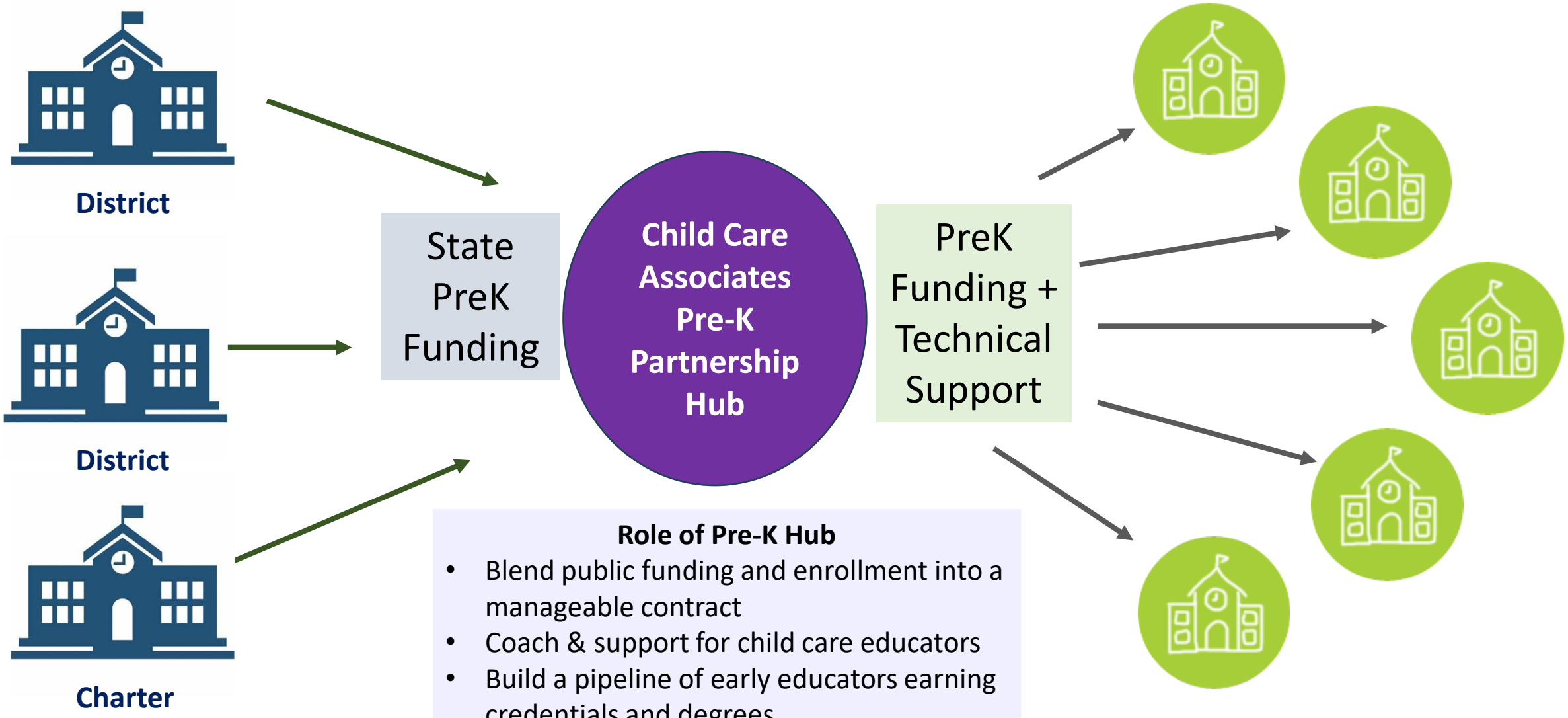
Outcome #4: MIXED DELIVERY PRE-K: Improving access to public pre-k for working families who need full-day child care.



Role of Pre-K Hub

- Blend public funding and enrollment into a manageable contract
- Coach & support for child care educators
- Build a pipeline of early educators earning credentials and degrees

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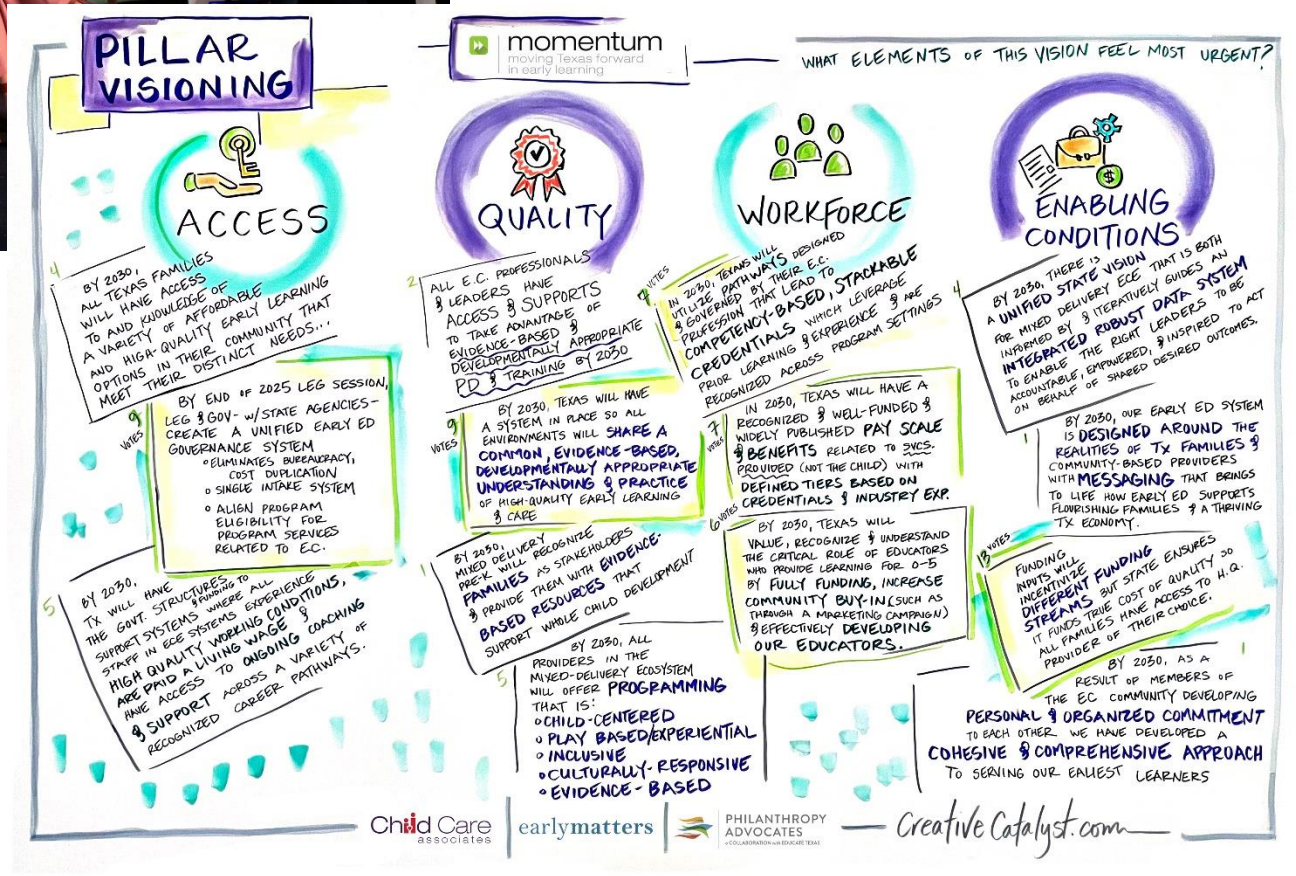
momentum

WELCOME
TO MOMENTUM
Moving Texas forward in early learning


PILLAR VISIONING
momentum
moving Texas forward in early learning
WHAT ELEMENTS OF THIS VISION FEEL MOST URGENT?
ACCESS
QUALITY
WORKFORCE
ENABLING CONDITIONS
BY 2030, ALL TEXAS FAMILIES WILL HAVE ACCESS TO AND KNOWLEDGE OF A VARIETY OF AFFORDABLE AND HIGH-QUALITY EARLY LEARNING OPTIONS IN THEIR COMMUNITY THAT MEET THEIR DISTINCT NEEDS...
BY END OF 2025 LEG SESSION, LEG & GOV- W/STATE AGENCIES- CREATE A UNIFIED EARLY ED GOVERNANCE SYSTEM
ELIMINATES BUREAUCRACY, COST DUPLICATION
SINGLE INTAKE SYSTEM
ALIGN PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY FOR PROGRAM SERVICES RELATED TO EC.
BY 2030, TX WILL HAVE THE GOVT. STRUCTURES & FUNDING TO SUPPORT SYSTEMS WHERE ALL STAFF IN ECE SYSTEMS EXPERIENCE HIGH QUALITY WORKING CONDITIONS, ARE PAID A LIVING WAGE & HAVE ACCESS TO ONGOING COACHING & SUPPORT ACROSS A VARIETY OF RECOGNIZED CAREER PATHWAYS.
ALL E.C. PROFESSIONALS & LEADERS HAVE ACCESS & SUPPORTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EVIDENCE-BASED & DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE PD & TRAINING BY 2030
BY 2030, TEXAS WILL HAVE A SYSTEM IN PLACE SO ALL ENVIRONMENTS WILL SHARE A COMMON, EVIDENCE-BASED, DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE UNDERSTANDING & PRACTICE OF HIGH-QUALITY EARLY LEARNING & CARE
BY 2030, MIXED DELIVERY PRE-K WILL RECOGNIZE FAMILIES AS STAKEHOLDERS & PROVIDE THEM WITH EVIDENCE-BASED RESOURCES THAT SUPPORT WHOLE CHILD DEVELOPMENT
BY 2030, ALL PROVIDERS IN THE MIXED-DELIVERY ECOSYSTEM WILL OFFER PROGRAMMING THAT IS:
CHILD-CENTERED
PLAY BASED/EXPERIENTIAL
INCLUSIVE
CULTURALLY-RESPONSIVE
EVIDENCE-BASED
IN 2030, TEXANS WILL UTILIZE PATHWAYS DESIGNED & GOVERNED BY THEIR E.C. PROFESSION THAT LEAD TO COMPETENCY-BASED, STACKABLE CREDENTIALS WHICH LEVERAGE & ARE RECOGNIZED ACROSS PROGRAM SETTINGS PRIOR LEARNING & EXPERIENCE
IN 2030, TEXAS WILL HAVE A RECOGNIZED & WELL-FUNDED & WIDELY PUBLISHED PAY SCALE & BENEFITS RELATED TO SVCS. PROVIDED (NOT THE CHILD) WITH DEFINED TIERS BASED ON CREDENTIALS & INDUSTRY EXP.
BY 2030, TEXAS WILL VALUE, RECOGNIZE & UNDERSTAND THE CRITICAL ROLE OF EDUCATORS WHO PROVIDE LEARNING FOR 0-5 BY FULLY FUNDING, INCREASE COMMUNITY BUY-IN (SUCH AS THROUGH A MARKETING CAMPAIGN) & EFFECTIVELY DEVELOPING OUR EDUCATORS.
BY 2030, THERE IS A UNIFIED STATE VISION FOR MIXED DELIVERY ECE THAT IS BOTH INFORMED BY & ITERATIVELY GUIDES AN INTEGRATED ROBUST DATA SYSTEM TO ENABLE THE RIGHT LEADERS TO BE ACCOUNTABLE, EMPOWERED & INSPIRED TO ACT ON BEHALF OF SHARED DESIRED OUTCOMES.
BY 2030, OUR EARLY ED SYSTEM IS DESIGNED AROUND THE REALITIES OF TX FAMILIES & COMMUNITY-BASED PROVIDERS WITH MESSAGING THAT BRINGS TO LIFE HOW EARLY ED SUPPORTS FLOURISHING FAMILIES & A THRIVING TX ECONOMY.
FUNDING INPUTS WILL INCENTIVIZE DIFFERENT FUNDING STREAMS BUT STATE ENSURES IT FUNDS TRUE COST OF QUALITY SO ALL FAMILIES HAVE ACCESS TO H.Q. PROVIDER OF THEIR CHOICE.
BY 2030, AS A RESULT OF MEMBERS OF THE EC COMMUNITY DEVELOPING PERSONAL & ORGANIZED COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER WE HAVE DEVELOPED A COHESIVE & COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO SERVING OUR EARLIEST LEARNERS
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earlymatters
PHILANTHROPY ADVOCATES
Creative Catalyst.com