Access to Quality Child Care in Amarillo, TX
October 2017
Presentation Outline

Why Quality Child Care Matters

Subsidized Child Care Overview

Problems Facing Child Care in Texas

The Status of Amarillo

Policy Solutions
Why Quality Child Care Matters

Quality child care is quality early education, and leads to...

- Improved School-Readiness and 3rd Grade Reading Levels
- Higher Graduation Rates and a Better Prepared Workforce
- More Working Families

...especially for low-income children.
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Subsidized Child Care in Texas

Funding from federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)

Subsidies administered by Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) through local workforce boards

Licensed centers, licensed homes, and registered homes eligible to receive subsidies
Qualifications to Receive Subsidies

• Generally, children may receive childcare subsidies if they meet the following criteria:

1. Their families are low income, they are receiving or needing protective services, or their parents are receiving or transitioning off of public assistance

2. They are under the age of 13

3. Their parent(s) require child care to work or to attend job training or an education program
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Problems Facing Child Care in Texas

- Low participation in Texas Rising Star (TRS) quality program
- Little coordination among key stakeholders
- Limited access to quality providers
Texas Rising Star Participation by TWC Board

Texas Rising Star certifications among subsidy providers vary across TWC board regions

1. Panhandle: 29%
2. South Plains: 6%
3. North Texas: 22%
4. North Central Texas: 10%
5. Tarrant County: 19%
6. Greater Dallas: 16%
7. Northeast Texas: 32%
8. East Texas: 31%
9. West Central Texas: 31%
10. Borderplex: 19%
11. Permian Basin: 9%
12. Concho Valley: 5%
13. The Heart of Texas: 22%
14. Capital Area: 24%
15. Rural Capital Area: 20%
16. Brazos Valley: 23%
17. Deep East Texas: 19%
18. Southeast Texas: 6%
19. Golden Crescent: 14%
20. Alamo: 13%
21. South Texas: 12%
22. Coastal Bend: 17%
23. Lower Rio Grande Valley: 9%
24. Cameron: 21%
25. Texoma: 9%
26. Central Texas: 14%
27. Middle Rio Grande: 28%
28. Gulf Coast: 13%
### Subsidy and Texas Rising Star Participation by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Providers Not Accepting Child Care Subsidies</th>
<th>Providers Accepting Subsidies but Are Not TRS Certified</th>
<th>TRS Certified Providers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EL PASO (n=455)</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POTTER/RANDALL (n=112)</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMERON (n=246)</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAVIS (n=734)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALLAS (n=1286)</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TARRANT (n=1236)</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEXAS (n=15340)</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUBBOCK (n=189)</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIDALGO (n=511)</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEXAR (n=904)</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARRIS (n=2895)</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n=Total number of licensed child care providers in each region
Texas Rising Star Level Comparison by Region

n=Total number of TRS providers in each region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>TRS Level 2</th>
<th>TRS Level 3</th>
<th>TRS Level 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIDALGO (n=37)</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL PASO (n=64)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALLAS (n=111)</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAVIS (n=90)</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEXAR (n=61)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEXAS (n=1188)</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TARRANT (n=100)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUBBOCK (n=14)</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARRIS (n=172)</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMERON (n=32)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POTTER/RANDALL (n=15)</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Texas Rising Star Participation: Potter and Randall Counties

- Providers Not Accepting Subsidies: 49%
- Non-TRS Certified Providers Accepting Subsidies: 38%
- TRS Level 2: 7%
- TRS Level 3: 4%
- TRS Level 4: 2%
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Policy Solutions
How we calculated the supply and demand for child care

For more information on our methodology, please visit: [http://childrenatrisk.org/texas-child-care-desert-methodology/](http://childrenatrisk.org/texas-child-care-desert-methodology/)

**Supply**

- **All providers**
  - Includes supply of all child care seats based on licensed capacity*

- **Subsidy providers**
  - Includes estimated supply of subsidy seats* based on each TWC board region’s subsidy target

- **Texas Rising Star**

**Demand**

- **All children**
  - Includes demand among all children under 6 with working parents

- **Low-income children**
  - Only includes demand among low-income children under 6 with working parents

*Does not currently include providers on military bases. We will include this data in future updates.
There are **2,300 more** low-income children than subsidized child care seats (67% lack access)

There are **3,200 more** low-income children than TRS-certified seats (92% lack access)

**Statewide**, 71% of low-income children lack access to a subsidized seat

94% lack access to a TRS-certified seat
Key Findings for Potter and Randall Counties

Lack of quality care: 10 ZIP codes have 0 TRS-certified seats per thousand low-income children with working parents.

High subsidy access: Only half of low-income children with working parents live in a subsidy child care desert, vs. 75% statewide.
How we calculated child care deserts

Is this ZIP code a child care desert?

Are there at least 30 children age 0-5 with working parents?

NO → Not a child care desert

YES → Is there at least one child care center/registered home?

NO → Not a child care desert

YES → What is the ratio of children 0-5 to the cumulative child care capacity?

Less than 3-to-1 → Not a child care desert

More than 3-to-1 → Child care desert

Subsidized and TRS deserts only include low-income children and providers that accept subsidy/are TRS-certified

Source: Graphic and methodology adapted from Center for American Progress (http://ampr.gs/2eQvPsu)
Potter/Randall Counties Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Care Seats</th>
<th>Subsidized Child Care Seats</th>
<th>Texas Rising Star Seats</th>
<th>TRS 4-star Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>690 per thousand</td>
<td>328 per thousand</td>
<td>83 per thousand</td>
<td>6 per thousand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only includes child care demand among low-income children
Undersupply & Oversupply: Amarillo’s Subsidized Seats

ZIP Code

Subsidy Capacity per 1000 Low-Income Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZIP Code</th>
<th>1000 Low-Income Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79036</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79118</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79124</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of surplus subsidy seats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZIP Code</th>
<th>Number of surplus subsidy seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79102</td>
<td>+71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Undersupply & Oversupply: Amarillo’s TRS Seats

TRS seats: over- and under-supply of child care seats for low-income kids

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZIP Code</th>
<th>TRS Seats per 1000 Low-Income Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79015</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79036</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79103</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79108</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>79109</td>
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<tr>
<td>79110</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79111</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79118</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79119</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79124</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79106</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of surplus TRS seats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZIP Code</th>
<th>Number of surplus TRS seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79102</td>
<td>+69</td>
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</table>
Child Care Deserts in Austin

http://childrenatrisk.org/childcaredesertmap/
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Policy Solutions
Policy Solutions?

What could work in Lubbock?

What could work in Texas?
Ecosystem for Quality Child Care

Factors Aimed at Enabling Demand

Family Information about Quality Care Options in Their Area
Incentives For Parents to Choose Quality Options
Local School Districts Understanding Impacts of Quality
Cost Enables Parents to Choose Quality Options

Factors Aimed at Enabling Supply

Teacher Certification and Credentialing
Staff Salary Incentives and Retention
Government Structures That Regulate and Ensure Quality
Information for Providers about Quality and Certification
2.9 million children live in 58 counties devastated by Hurricane Harvey

Number of children

1k 25k 50k 100k 1 mil.

Governor Abbott made a disaster proclamation for these 58 counties on 8/27/17
Who represents the 2.9m Texas children affected by Hurricane Harvey?

44% of TX House reps
38 Republicans
27 Democrats

58% of TX Senators
9 Republicans
9 Democrats

Source: CHILDREN AT RISK analysis of data on legislative representation in the 58 counties declared disaster areas by Governor Abbott