Presentation Outline

Why Quality Child Care Matters

Subsidized Child Care Overview

Problems Facing Child Care in Texas

The Status of the Rio Grande Valley

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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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

Map of Local Workforce Development Boards (Local Boards)

1. Workforce Solutions Panhandle
2. Workforce Solutions South Plains
3. Workforce Solutions North Texas
4. Workforce Solutions for North Central Texas
5. Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County
6. Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas
7. Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas
8. Workforce Solutions East Texas
9. Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas
10. Workforce Solutions Borderplex
11. Workforce Solutions Permian Basin
12. Workforce Solutions Concho Valley
13. Workforce Solutions for the Heart of Texas
14. Workforce Solutions Capital Area
15. Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area
16. Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley
17. Workforce Solutions Deep East Texas
18. Workforce Solutions Southeast Texas
19. Workforce Solutions Golden Crescent
20. Workforce Solutions Alamo
21. Workforce Solutions for South Texas
22. Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend
23. Workforce Solutions Lower Rio Grande Valley
24. Workforce Solutions Cameron
25. Workforce Solutions Texoma
26. Workforce Solutions of Central Texas
27. Workforce Solutions Middle Rio Grande
28. Workforce Solutions Gulf Coast

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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- 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%

Source: Texas Workforce Commission (as of 9/2017)
<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>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>
<tr>
<td>LUBBOCK (n=189)</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>4%</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>27%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL PASO (n=64)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>74%</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>27%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TARRANT (n=100)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUBBOCK (n=8)</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>38%</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 Levels as Share of All Providers: Hidalgo County

- 21% Providers Not Accepting Subsidies
- 72% Non-TRS Certified Providers Accepting Subsidies
- 6% TRS Level 2
- 1% TRS Level 3
- 0% TRS Level 4

children atRisk
Texas Rising Star Levels as Share of All Providers: Cameron County

- Providers Not Accepting Subsidies: 37%
- Non-TRS Certified Providers Accepting Subsidies: 50%
- TRS Level 2: 7%
- TRS Level 3: 3%
- TRS Level 4: 3%
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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/

Supply

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

- **All providers**

  - Includes demand among all children under 6 with working parents

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

  - **Subsidy providers**

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

  - **Texas Rising Star**

Demand

*Does not currently include providers on military bases. We will include this data in future updates.
Key Findings for Hidalgo County

There are **5,000 more** low-income children than subsidized child care seats (41% lack access)

There are **11,000 more** low-income children than TRS-certified seats (91% lack access)

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

94% lack access to a TRS-certified seat
There are **900 more** low-income children than subsidized child care seats (19% lack access)

There are **3,400 more** low-income children than TRS-certified seats (76% 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 Cameron and Hidalgo Counties

Focus on quality: Hidalgo County has **highest** proportion TRS level-4 certification and Cameron County has **among the highest** TRS participation in Texas

Subsidy availability: Hidalgo and Cameron Counties both exceed the statewide average in subsidy availability
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?  →  YES  →  Is there at least one child care center/registered home?  →  YES  →  What is the ratio of children 0-5 to the cumulative child care capacity?

- NO  →  Not a child care desert
- YES  →  Child care desert

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)
Hidalgo County 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>1124 per thousand</td>
<td>591 per thousand</td>
<td>89 per thousand</td>
<td>83 per thousand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only includes child care demand among low-income children
## Cameron County 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>1149 per thousand</td>
<td>805 per thousand</td>
<td>243 per thousand</td>
<td>65 per thousand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only includes child care demand among low-income children.
Child Care Deserts in the Rio Grande Valley

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

What could work in the Rio Grande Valley?

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.
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