Presentation Outline

- Why Quality Child Care Matters
- Subsidized Child Care Overview
- Problems Facing Child Care in Texas
- The Status of El Paso
- 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%

Source: Texas Workforce Commission (as of 9/2017)
## 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>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
<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>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Paso (n=64)</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>46%</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>

n=Total number of TRS providers in each region
Texas Rising Star Participation: El Paso County

- Providers Not Accepting Subsidies: 27%
- Non-TRS Certified Providers Accepting Subsidies: 59%
- TRS Level 2: 1%
- TRS Level 3: 10%
- TRS Level 4: 3%

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Presentation Outline

Why Quality Child Care Matters

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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

- Includes supply of **all** child care seats based on licensed capacity*
- Includes estimated supply of subsidy seats* based on each TWC board region’s subsidy target
  - **All providers**
  - **Subsidy providers**
  - **Texas Rising Star**

Demand

- Includes demand among **all** children under 6 with working parents
- 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.
Key Findings for El Paso County

There are 6,900 more low-income children than subsidized child care seats (60% lack access)

There are 10,000 more low-income children than TRS-certified seats (88% 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 El Paso County

Lack of access: Though 73% of providers accept subsidies, 60% of low income children lack access to subsidized care

No income disparity: Little difference between average household incomes in subsidized and TRS deserts and the county overall
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 NO

Is there at least one child care center/registered home? YES NO

What is the ratio of children 0-5 to the cumulative child care capacity? Less than 3-to-1 More than 3-to-1

Not a child care desert Child care desert Not a child care desert 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)
El Paso County Characteristics

Only includes child care demand among **low income** children

<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>867 per thousand</td>
<td>400 per thousand</td>
<td>116 per thousand</td>
<td>80 per thousand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Texas Rising Star Seats*
Subsidized seats: over- and under-supply of child care seats for low-income kids

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZIP Code</th>
<th>Subsidy Seats per 1000 Low-Income Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79906</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79836</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79835</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79821</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79927</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZIP Code</th>
<th>Number of surplus subsidy seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79922</td>
<td>+54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79903</td>
<td>+74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Undersupply & Oversupply: El Paso’s TRS Seats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZIP Code</th>
<th>TRS Seats per 1000 Low-Income Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79821</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79836</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79849</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79906</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79932</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79934</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79938</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79927</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79904</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79928</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

There are no zip codes in El Paso with an oversupply of TRS seats.
Child Care Deserts in Houston

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

What could work in El Paso?

What could work in Texas?
Ecosystem for Quality Child Care

- **Factors Aimed at Enabling Demand**
  - Incentives for Parents to Choose Quality Options
  - Local School Districts Understanding Impacts of Quality
  - Cost Enables Parents to Choose Quality Options
  - Family Information about Quality Care Options in Their Area

- **Factors Aimed at Enabling Supply**
  - Staff Salary Incentives and Retention
  - Information for Providers about Quality and Certification
  - Teacher Certification and Credentialing
  - Government Structures That Regulate and Ensure Quality

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Cost Enables Parents to Choose Quality Options

Government Structures That Regulate and Ensure Quality

Teacher Certification and Credentialing

Staff Salary Incentives and Retention

Information for Providers about Quality and Certification

Family Information about Quality Care Options in Their Area

Incentives for Parents to Choose Quality Options

Local School Districts Understanding Impacts of Quality

Factors Aimed at Enabling Demand

Factors Aimed at Enabling Supply
2.9 million children live in 58 counties devastated by Hurricane Harvey

Number of children

1k  25k  50k  100k  1 mill.

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