



**EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Wednesday, April 16, 2013**

The Early Childhood Council (ECC) convened for a Special Called meeting on Wednesday, April 16, 2013, at City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Board Members in attendance were: Kyle Holder, Jacquie Porter, Albert Black, Dustin Breithaupt, Aletha Huston, Laura Koenig, and Cindy Rodriguez. Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) staff in attendance were Rosamaria Murillo and Ron Hubbard.

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Holder at 9:08 AM. The purpose of the meeting, stated on the Agenda, was: *To discuss, consider, and make recommendations to City Council regarding the funding and operation of the Bridge Child Care Voucher Program.*

1. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None
2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: Cheri Hicks, Director of Finance at LifeWorks, discussed why LifeWorks was not going to renew the contract at October 1, 2013, for another 12 month period, and discussed the current situation with the Program.
3. STAFF BRIEFING AND– Ron Hubbard, Early Childhood Coordinator, provided a background report about the purpose, history, clients, and need for the Bridge Program.
4. POSSIBLE ACTIONS
 - a. A discussion of possible recommendations was held.
 - b. Recommendation:

The Early Childhood Council recommendation to the City Council that the City undertake efforts to find ways to make the Bridge Child Care Voucher Program services available to families by:

 - 1) Recruiting a new provider;
 - 2) Finding ways to reduce the complexity of operating the Program;
 - 3) Addressing the short and long-term viability of the Program.

was approved on Council Member Huston's motion, Vice-Chair Porter's second on a 7-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Holder adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 9:55 AM.