



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Early Childhood Council

20211110-002aii: Recommendation about Child Care Scholarship System

WHEREAS the Early Childhood Council is charged with developing, for recommendation to City Council, programs and activities that contribute to the continued development of a system of high-quality early care and education and after school programs for Austin's children; and developing, for recommendation to city council, strategies encouraging individuals and agencies to continually improve the quality of their services for young children; and

WHEREAS In April and May of 2021, the Early Childhood Council (ECC) of the City of Austin heard from parents, child care providers, and community members about challenges they have faced successfully navigating the child care subsidy system; and

WHEREAS the Early Childhood Council shared these concerns with Workforce Solutions (WFS) Capital Area Child Care Program Staff, and WFS staff graciously led a presentation and discussion at the August 2021 and September 2021 ECC meetings; and

WHEREAS the Early Childhood Council is interested in collaborating with Workforce Solutions Capital Area to support efforts to engage with community members and to create systemic improvements in the administrative processes that establish eligibility, initial enrollment, and recertification as well as addressing client/provider questions; an

WHEREAS the Early Childhood Council has shared the attached memo with the Executive Leadership at Workforce Solutions Capital Area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Early Childhood Council encourages the Austin City Council explore mechanisms for tracking these concerns and potential resolutions through City contracts with Workforce Solutions Capital Area. These could include as an example, establishing performance measures for customer service metrics and/or staff participation in training.

Date of Approval: November 10, 2021

Record of the vote: Unanimous on a 7-0 vote with 1 abstaining (Raul Alvarez)

Attest: 