

Travis County HHS Childcare Investments Overview

Prepared for the Joint Subcommittee, January 2023

The following tables list Travis County Health and Human Services' (HHS) current social service investments that support, enhance, and expand childcare services. These investments are delivered through contracts and interlocal agreements with nonprofit and governmental agencies.

It's important to note that Travis County, through HHS and other departments, also provide direct services that support families with young children. Those services are not included here.

Current Social Service Contracts (Travis County general funds, option to renew annually)					
#	Program Name	Description	Agency	FY22 Amount	# of children served
1	Continuity of Child Care System Services	Temporary "bridge" funding for children in subsidized childcare who would otherwise be terminated or not enrolled due to federal funding rules.	Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board	\$744,499	343
2	Early Education and Care	Head Start and Early Head Start services for families with low income	Child, Inc	\$208,780	1278
3	Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Project	Provides assessment, interventions, mental health resources/treatment, consultation, and parent workshops/classes.	Austin Child Guidance Center	\$58,000	1586
4	Quality Child Care Collaborative (QC3)	Programming to increase childcare quality, including Director Mentoring, CLASS Training (observation and assessment), and the Jeannette Watson Wage Supplement Program.	Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board	\$193,000	162*
5	Teacher TRAC & Director TRAC	College-level courses in Child Development and faculty assistance to ensure success for ECE teachers.	Austin Community College District	\$52,000	738**

LFRF/ARPA Investments (Federal funds, one-time contracts)

Total Travis County funding = \$2,739,583

Notes:

Implemented in coordination with City of Austin funding.

#	Program Name	Proposed Description	Agency	Proposed Amount	# of children served
1	Del Valle Expanded PreK Services	Supplements and expands access to early education to children 4 years old who do not meet requirements for state funded Pre-K.	Del Valle ISD (8/1/21-09/30/22)	\$250,000 Travis County \$212,667 COA ARPA \$112,000 COA General Fund	625

3	Continuity of Child Care Services expansion	Temporary “bridge” funding for children in subsidized childcare who would otherwise be terminated or not enrolled due to federal funding rules.	Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board	\$1,510,416 Travis County	35
4	Childcare Subsidy Waitlist Navigators	Assist families on childcare subsidy waitlist with securing childcare.		\$3,264,881 COA	0
5	Childcare Essential Worker Premium Pay	Premium pay for childcare teachers and staff.			6143***
6	Training for Childcare Workforce	Increase the number of early care and education teachers in Travis County with Conscious Discipline training.			0
7	PreK Partnerships Hub	The recipient will operate an “Administrative Hub” that centralizes the administrative duties of qualified community-based pre-k classrooms.	United Way (10/1/22 – 9/30/23)		120
8	Family/Child Care Home Network Expansion	Recipient will implement a training curriculum, support licensing needs and other development for home-based childcare programs.		\$979,167 Travis County	N/A
9	Non-Traditional Hours Childcare Pilot	Recipient will conduct a local analysis and design a pilot program to address the supply of regulated childcare provided during “non-traditional” hours such as overnight, weekends and outside of traditional business hours.		\$1,031,530 COA ARPA	N/A
10	Shared Services Alliance Planning & Implementation	Recipient will design and implement a pilot program to create a “Shared Services Alliance” which enables childcare providers to share administrative costs related to operating a childcare program.			N/A

*Number of providers receiving mentoring services through the Quality Child Care Collaborative.

**Number of unduplicated children served by early childhood care and education teachers attending college courses through Teacher TRAC.

*** Number of children served at childcare centers where premium pay wage stipends were distributed.