



DECISION INFORMATION
RESOURCES, INC.

Quality of Life Study for Austin's Families with Young Children

November 2024 Update

*Providing High Quality Research, Evaluation, & Technical
Assistance for Making Informed & Equitable Decisions*

Agenda

- Introductions
- History of Study
- DIR Updates:
 - Update on research activities
 - Theoretical Framework & Revised research questions
 - Recruitment update
 - Wrap-up/Timeline Review
- Collaboration Across Three Quality of Life Studies – Early Childhood Council, Commission for Women, and Commission on Aging (also see PDF from Oct 23rd Meeting)
- Commissioner Questions

History

- Joint Inclusion Committee requested funding for the five Quality of Life Commissions who had not conducted a study in 2022. \$1.2 million was included in the 2023 City Budget.
- Purpose: :Quality of life is living in a community that supports and empowers parents and other caregivers to raise healthy children in the best possible ways to thrive in childhood and adulthood and congruent with their own goals for their children.
- Goals
 - Public policies/services that help or impede raising children
 - Produce actionable, specific recommendations
 - Provide a strength-based assessment of resources
 - Identify relevant city and county resources in power analysis

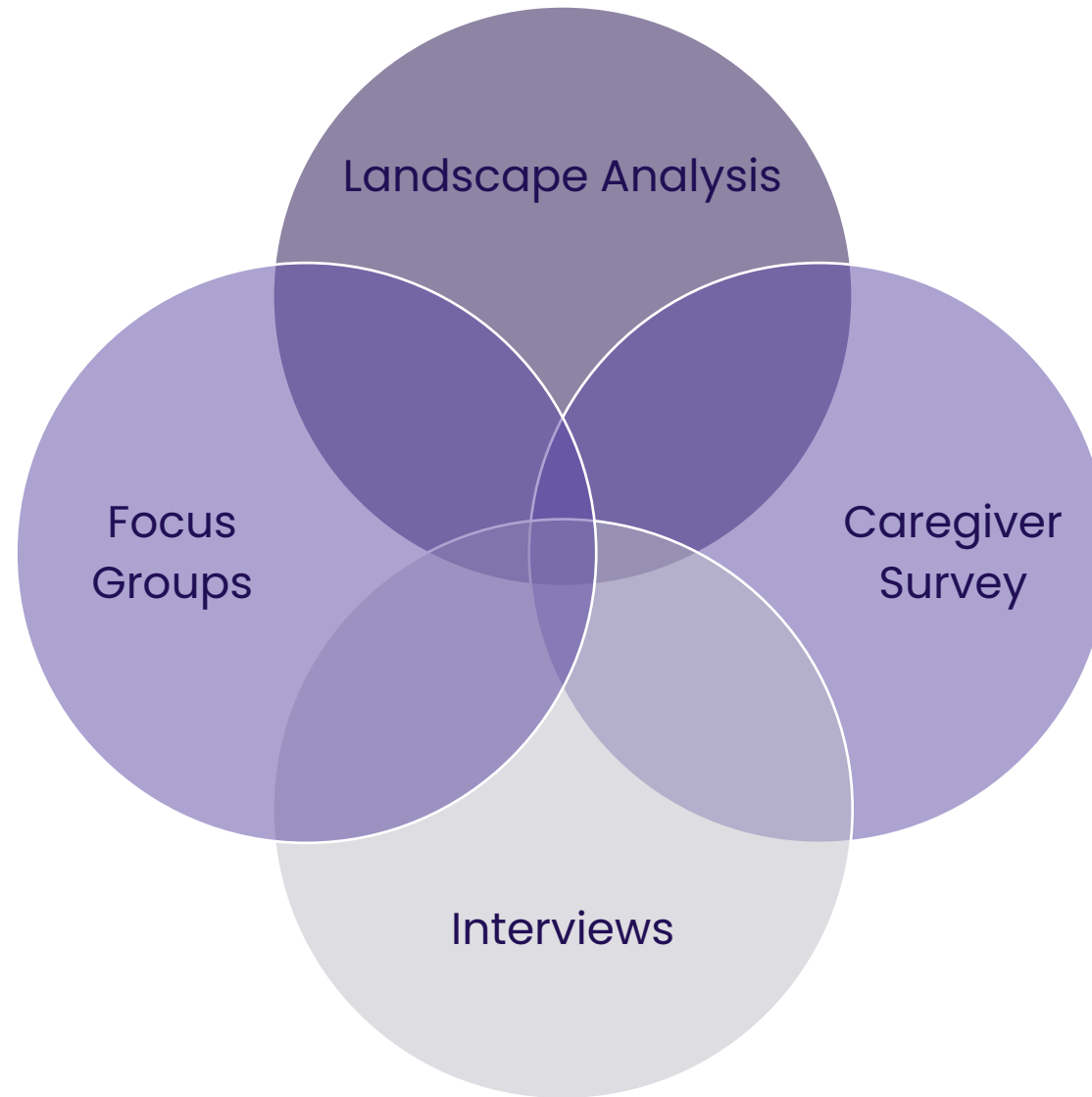
Recent Activities

- Study Design
 - Re-reviewed literature to develop current framework
 - Revised research questions
- Recruitment
 - Reviewed local organizational contacts given by ECC workgroup members
 - Began drafting recruitment materials
- Caregiver survey
 - Started matrix of constructs and questions to include in survey
- Other activities
 - Collaborated with other QoL study teams
 - Attended Undoing Racism workshop

Revised Research Questions

1. What are the key social and economic challenges and needs affecting quality of life for families with young children?
2. How do socioeconomic needs relate to caregiver resources such as mental health and perceived social support?
3. How do the needs and resources of families differ by demographic characteristics and geography?
4. How do families perceive and experience the impact of institutional policies, practices, and resource allocation on their quality of life?
5. What do families perceive as the power dynamics and differentials in Austin?

Mixed-Methods Approach



Project Timeline

Study Planning & Design Phase

- Working group and stakeholder interviews
- Landscape analysis and lit review
- Develop data collection plan

Data Collection Phase

- Survey fielding
- Conduct rolling interviews and focus groups

October 2024 – January 2025

April – August 2025

July – October 2024

January – April 2025

Data Collection Planning

- Develop, program, and pilot parent survey
- Develop recruitment plan
- Create protocol, consent forms, and outreach materials
- Draft and test qualitative data collection instruments

Analysis and Reporting

- Analyze survey, focus group, and interview data
- Synthesize results to develop final report





✦

AREAS OF COLLABORATION

- **Base Demographic Data Questions**
- **Communication with Organization Partners**
- **Attending/Hosting Organization Events**
- **Adaptive to Ensure Alignment**

Next Meeting Dates

| ECC | WOMEN | AGING | COLLABORATION |
|--|--|-----------------------------|---|
| TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19 TH 10 A.M. | TENTATIVE: NOVEMBER 18 TH | EVERY THURSDAY 9 A.M. | THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14 TH 10:30 A.M. |



Questions?

