



Austin-Travis County Family Child Care Educator Network

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025

EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL

CAITLIN OLIVER, AUSTIN PUBLIC HEALTH



Planning grant

\$25,000 grant from Home Grown, called the “Building Comprehensive Networks (BCN)” grant

In 2024, we planned a comprehensive support network for home-based/family child care providers in Austin-Travis County.

The **Austin-Travis County Family Child Care Educator Network** will include supports for all types of home-based providers:

- Licensed
- Registered
- Listed
- Family, Friend, & Neighbor (FFN)

Target Population

- All home-based providers (Licensed, registered, listed, FFN)
- Geographic Region: City of Austin and Travis County

Outputs

- Year 1: 50 home-based providers are network members
- Year 2: 70 home-based providers are network members

Long-term Outcomes/Impacts

- Improved provider well-being
- Improved economic well-being and sustainability
- Improved home-based child care (HBCC) quality
- Improved child health and development and family well-being

Comprehensive Network Strategy

- Funding:**
- City of Austin program funds
 - Home Grown implementation grant
 - Affordable Child Care Now initiative

Public Policy and Funding

Public investment in networks as durable infrastructure. May be supplemented by Private Investments

- Public Policy & Funding
- Capacity Building
- Tools & Programs

Network Hub

Staffing:

- City of Austin staff (including in-kind staffing)
- Staff person with FCC experience

- Quality
- Business & Sustainability
- Comprehensive Services
- Provider Well-Being
- System Governance



- Provider Voice:**
- Provider advisory committee
 - Other opportunities as they arise (e.g., feedback at trainings)

- Materials:**
- Business tools (e.g., Texas Child Care Tools)

- Physical space:**
- Space for network meetings

- Existing infrastructure:**
- Collaboration with United Way, GAVA, AVANCE

Main activities in Year 1

Strengthening systems of support

Peer mentor program

Monthly meetings

Trainings

Financial relief grant program for eligible registered and licensed providers

Resource sharing

National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) membership

Connecting providers and families to resources

2025 (Year 1) Budget

\$75,000 implementation grant from Home Grown

\$75,000 from the City of Austin in matching funds, approved in fiscal year 2025 budget

City of Austin in-kind staffing to support implementation of the network

Majority of Year 1 funding will be used to hire a person to run the network and for the financial relief grant program.

Additional funds are needed to fully fund the network in 2025 and expand the network in future years.

Next steps

- Execute contract with Home Grown for the \$75K implementation grant
- Economic Development Depart to hire a network staff person
- Roll out financial relief grants for eligible home-based providers
- Form the Provider Advisory Committee
- Recruit network members

Questions

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