



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Early Childhood Council

20250212-004: Budget Recommendation Regarding Family Stabilization and Equity Office

WHEREAS, in the City of Austin, 32% of children under age 6 live in households with low income; and

WHEREAS, 94% of the children in households with low income under age 6 are children of color; and

WHEREAS, decades of research prove that disadvantages begin the moment children come into the world because children born into poverty and children of color are disproportionately born early, at low weight, or with chronic illnesses, and are less likely than their peers to be ready for, or successful at school; and

WHEREAS, UpTogether has had proven social and economic outcomes from their recent City of Austin work; and

WHEREAS, most families supported by the UpTogether project are families with young children; and

WHEREAS, the Equity Office has managed and supported ongoing investment with UpTogether.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Early Childhood Council recommends that the City of Austin make the \$1.3 million investment in the Family Stabilization Grant permanent and create a clear path to expanding the investment to \$3 million annually.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Early Childhood Council encourages the Austin City Council to sustain investment in the Office of Equity and Inclusion, Equity Division as a vital City of Austin function.

Date of Approval: February 12, 2025

Record of the vote: The recommendation was approved unanimously on Member Hedrick's motion, Member Menard's second, on a 9-0 vote.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

*Caitlin Oliver, staff liaison*