

# Public Meeting

*July 16, 2021*



T E X A S  
**EARLY LEARNING**  
C O U N C I L

Welcome!

Thank you for joining this meeting. We will begin shortly.

All attendees are muted upon entry.

If you are having any connectivity issues, you can call into the meeting instead.

Number: 346-248-7799

Access Code: 87620123851#

# Agenda

---

1. Call to order
2. Approval of draft meeting minutes: May 2021
3. Public Comment
4. TELC Membership
5. Strategic Plan
6. Federal Stimulus Funding Overview
7. Legislative Updates
8. Upcoming Early Childhood Events
9. Updates from TELC Members
10. Adjourn

# TELC Membership (1 of 2)

Constituency	Member
Higher Education	Katherine Abba, Ph.D., Faculty and Program Coordinator, Child Development Program for Houston Community College
State Agency	Sarah Abrahams, Deputy Associate Commissioner for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
Local Education Agency	Travis Armstrong, Ed.D., Director of Early Learning for Wichita Falls Independent School District
Head Start	Weldon Beard, Director of Head Start and Early Head Start for the Greater East Texas Community Action Program
State Agency	Terri Breeden, Section 619 Lead Coordinator for the Texas Education Agency
Research	April Crawford Ph.D., Co-Director for The UT Health Science Center at Houston Children's Learning Institute
State Agency	Rachelle Daniel, Director of Daycare Regional Operations for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission
Head Start	Alferma Giles, Ph.D., Dir. of the Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office at The UT Health Science Center at Houston CLI
Child Care Provider	Melissa Hoisington, Franchise owner with Primrose Schools and President of the Texas Licensed Child Care Association
Higher Education	Becky Huss-Keeler, Ph.D., Professor of Early Childhood Education at the University of Houston-Clear Lake
Advocate	Kim Kofron, Director of Early Childhood for Children at Risk
State Agency	Dana McGrath, Director of Early Childhood Intervention Program for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission
Child Care Provider	Jerletha McDonald, Licensed home child care center provider and the owner and director of Kiddie Corner Learning Center
State Agency	Reagan Miller, Director of the Child Care and Early Learning Division at the Texas Workforce Commission
Higher Education	Teresa Robledo, Early childhood teacher at San Antonio College Early Childhood Center

# TELC Membership (2 of 2)

Constituency	Member
Advocate	Stephanie Rubin, CEO of Texans Care for Children
Business	Amber Scanlan, Senior Vice President and Director of Client and Community Relations for PNC
Advocate	Kiersten Schwab, Executive Director of the Texas Public Broadcasting Association
Higher Education / Early Learning Workforce	June Yeatman, Lead teacher at the Austin Community College Children's Lab School
State Agency	Audrey Young, Child and Adolescent Health Branch Manager and the Title V Children with Special Health Care Needs Director in the Maternal and Child Unit at the Texas Department of State Health Services)

# Strategic Plan

*All TELC members*



Are there certain areas of the PDG Strategic Plan that your organization / constituency is actively working to advance?



## [Texas Early Learning Strategic Plan:](#)

**Vision:** All Texas children are ready for school and ready to learn.

**Goal 1:** Early childhood programs in Texas are aligned to ensure children are ready to learn by kindergarten.

**Goal 2:** All families have access to a variety of high-quality programs and the information needed to discern which programs are the best fit for their child.

**Goal 3:** Families are equipped with knowledge and tools they need to be their child's primary caregiver.

**Goal 4:** Early childhood professionals are well-qualified and have access to the supports and training needed to improve kindergarten readiness and the resources to ensure they have a successful career serving children.

**Goal 5:** Each community has a plan for a coordinated system of early childhood services.

**Goal 6:** Texas has strong coordination across its early childhood system and the underlying data system to support a high degree of collaboration.

# Federal Stimulus Funding Overview (1 of 2)

*Reagan Miller, Texas Workforce Commission*

State Agency	Funding Source	Federal Funding (CRRSA or ARP)	Texas Amount	Planned Uses	Obligated by	Expended by
<b>Texas Workforce Commission</b>	Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)	CRRSA	\$1.1B	<a href="#">Relief payments to child care providers;</a> <a href="#">Technical assistance and business coaching</a>	9/30/2022	9/30/2023
<b>Texas Workforce Commission</b>	Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)	ARP – Discretionary	\$1.7B	<a href="#">Service Industry Recovery Child Care;</a> <a href="#">Texas Rising Star Supports;</a> <a href="#">Texas Rising Star Contracted Slots;</a> <a href="#">Early Childhood Apprenticeship Programs</a> (program funding also includes some CRRSA resources)	9/30/2023	9/30/2024
<b>Texas Workforce Commission</b>	Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)	ARP – Child care stabilization funds	\$2.7B	Support stability of sector	9/30/2022	9/30/2023
<b>Health and Human Services – Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)</b>	Part C of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)	ARP	\$19.8M	Most funding planned to be passed on to contractors	9/30/2023	1/28/2024

# Federal Stimulus Funding Overview (2 of 2)

*Reagan Miller, Texas Workforce Commission*

State Agency	Funding Source	Federal Funding (CRRSA or ARP)	Texas Amount	Planned Uses	Obligated by	Expended by
<b>Department of Family and Protective Services</b>	Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP)	ARP	\$24M	Expand prevention services (mostly CYD, HOPES and NFP*), family resource centers, kinship navigation, and parent and youth leadership	9/30/2025	12/30/2025
<b>Department of Family and Protective Services</b>	Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECVH)	ARP	\$2.4M	Passed on to grantees through a formula	9/30/2023	12/30/2023
<b>Texas Education Agency</b>	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)	CRRSA (ESSER II)	\$5.0B	Passed on to LEAs through Title I formula	9/30/2022**	9/30/2023
<b>Texas Education Agency</b>	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER)	ARP (ESSER III)	\$11.2B	Passed on to LEAs through Title I formula	9/30/2023**	9/30/2024

\*CYD = Community Youth Development; NFP = Nurse Family Partnership; HOPES = Healthy Outcomes through Prevention & Early Support

\*\*This is the date for local educational agencies (LEAs) to obligate their funds after they receive a notice of grant award.

# Federal Stimulus Funding Overview

*All TELC members*



What questions about federal stimulus funding are you hearing from your organization / constituency?



# Legislative Updates

*Monica Martinez, Texas Education Agency*

## **SB 1697**

- Allows parents and guardians to elect for a student to repeat or retake a course or grade
- A parent or guardian may to elect for a student to do any of the following:
  - Repeat prekindergarten
  - Enroll in prekindergarten, if the student would have been eligible to enroll in prekindergarten during the previous school year and the student has not yet enrolled in kindergarten
  - Repeat kindergarten
  - Enroll in kindergarten, if the student would have been eligible to enroll in kindergarten in the previous school year and has not yet enrolled in first grade
  - For grades one through three, repeat the grade in which the student was enrolled during the previous school year

### Implementation Plan:

- Create a [parent-facing website about the potential benefits and downsides of holding a student back](#)



# Early Childhood Events & TELC Updates

# Events

## [Congressional Briefing: Understanding America's Child Care Crisis](#)

(Shared by Jerletha McDonald, who will be speaking on the panel)

July 22, 2021

## [Region VI Head Start Annual Conference](#)

August 2, 3 and 4, 2021

## [Who is Keeping Our Children Safe? Protecting Children in Child Care Settings](#)

Unregulated Operations Unit of Child Care Regulation

Offered monthly from July 31 through December 28, 2021

Children's Learning Institute:

[Engage Data Conference](#) – September 2021

[Infant-Toddler Specialist Network \(ITSN\) Specialist Summit](#) – September 14-15, 2021

# Updates – TXR3 Dashboard

*April Crawford, Children's Learning Institute & Allison Wilson, Texas Workforce Commission*

 Ready *Communities*

 Ready *Schools*

 Ready *Students*

TXR3 is an **analytic tool** that allows users to generate custom reports that combine cross-agency data to visualize children's school readiness and the readiness of communities and schools to meet children's early learning needs.

# Updates – TXR3 Dashboard

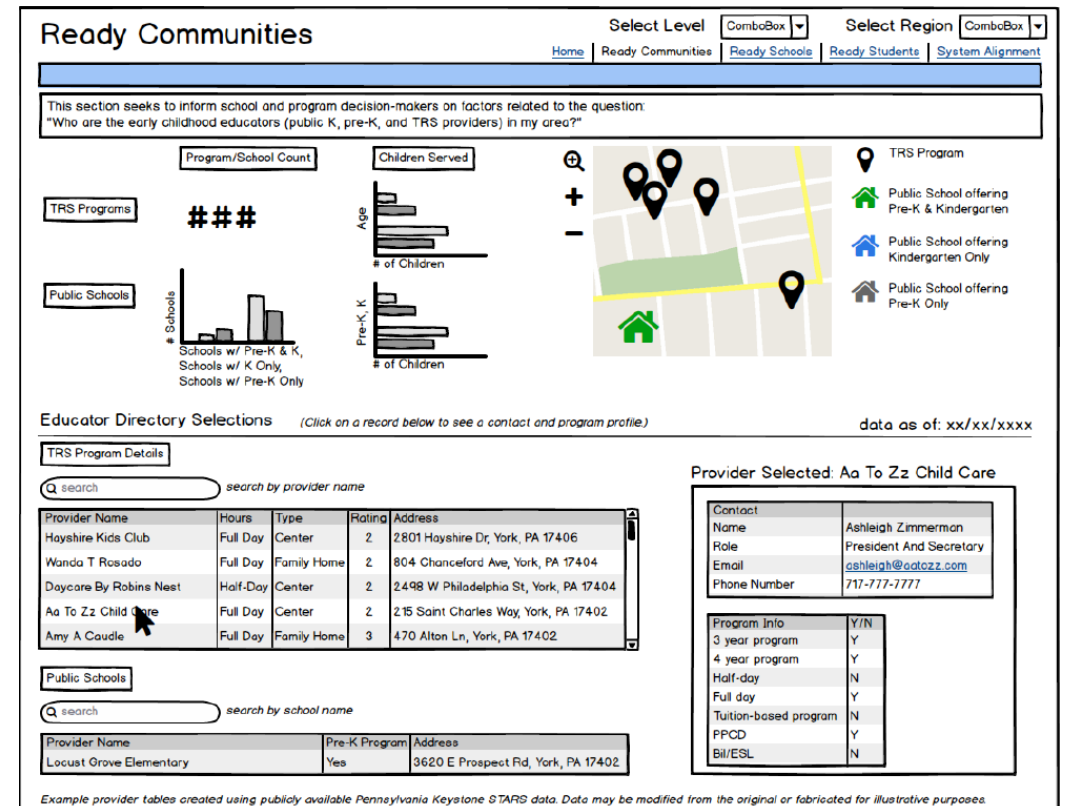
April Crawford, Children's Learning Institute & Allison Wilson, Texas Workforce Commission



## What data sources does TXR3 use?

- Public PreK to K Early Childhood Data
- Quality-Rated Child Care Program Data
- Early Childhood Education Workforce Registry Data

## Sample Dashboard



# Updates – TXR3 Dashboard

*April Crawford, Children's Learning Institute & Allison Wilson, Texas Workforce Commission*

## How does TXR3 Help?

Expands the focus of school readiness beyond the child to include schools and communities

Provides early childhood programs with greater insight into the specific strengths and needs of the incoming Kindergarten cohort

Provides relevant aggregated data on school systems and supports

Assists in identifying collaborative partnerships across community-level programs and schools

## Example Uses

**Texas Rising Star** – identify other TRS providers and LEAs to partner with to develop collaborations, supporting shared services and cost models.

**ESCs** – visualize school readiness needs in the region to create professional development and partnership opportunities

**LEAs** – leverage professional development resources across the region and identify needs of educators.

# Updates – Guide to Early Transitions

*Terrie Breeden, Texas Education Agency*

[A Guide to Early Transitions in Texas \(texastransition.org\)](http://texastransition.org) available on the [Texas Transition](#) website.



# Updates – PBS News Hour child care series

*Kierstan Schwab, Texas Public Broadcasting*



PBS NewsHour is broadcasting **“Raising the Future: America’s Child Care Dilemma,”** a five-part series that takes an extensive look at America’s child care crisis.

It began July 12 and aired over the course of this week. [All segments can be streamed on the PBS website.](#)

# Updates – Inter-agency website logos

*Reagan Miller, Texas Workforce Commission*

Currently, Texas parents must search online across dozens of websites to find information they need. The goal is to give parents of young children one place to get information from at least the following state agencies who participate in the Inter-Agency Team:

- Texas Workforce Commission,
- Texas Education Agency,
- Department of State Health Services,
- Department of Family and Protective Services
- Health and Human Services Commission

# Updates – Inter-agency website logos - 1

*Reagan Miller, Texas Workforce Commission*



- The kite graphic is created from 5 lines, representing the 5 agencies that have come together to create the site.
- The kite represents early childhood and the numerous conditions required of parents to raise children, just like the conditions required to fly a kite (wind, sunshine, etc.).
- The use of a tagline helps further articulate the goal of the site.
  - Program team to suggest possible options/themes for the tagline.

# Updates – Inter-agency website logos - 2

*Reagan Miller, Texas Workforce Commission*



- Research shows that Texas parents value inclusion and diversity. This graphic represents the many different families and backgrounds that fit together as a part of Early Childhood Texas.
- Including the domain in the logo design helps articulate this as a web-based resource and emphasizes searchability as a core focus for the site.

# Updates – Inter-agency website logos - 3

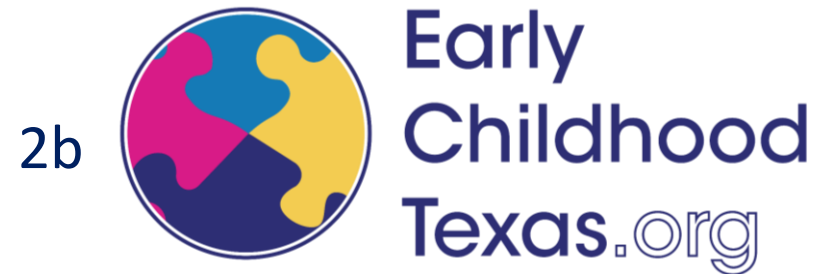
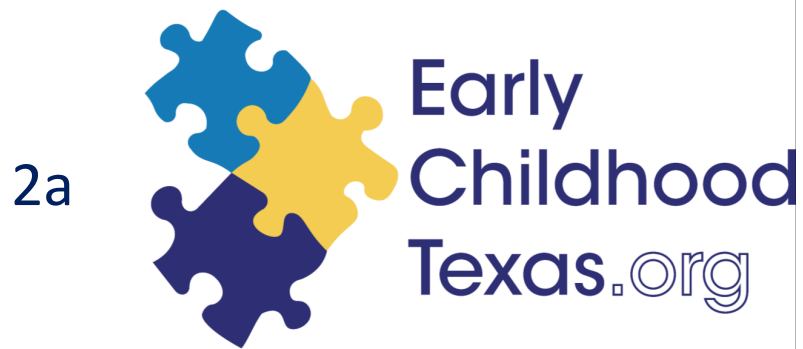
*Reagan Miller, Texas Workforce Commission*

Early  
Childhood  
Texas.org

- This streamlines the concept of the logo and recognizes that the logo cannot represent every parent, every family, and every child.
- It emphasizes simplicity and searchability.

# Updates – Inter-agency website logos

Reagan Miller, Texas Workforce Commission



# Updates – Early Childhood Educator Article

*April Crawford, Children's Learning Institute*

[“Doing What I can, but I got no Magic Wand:” A Snapshot of Early Childhood Educator Experiences and Efforts to Ensure Quality During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Article in Early Childhood Education Journal analyzing open-ended survey responses from Texas Early Childhood Professional Development System (TECPDS) users.

# Adjourn



T E X A S  
**EARLY LEARNING**  
C O U N C I L

Next meetings:

September 17, 2021

11am – 1pm

November 12, 2021

11am – 1pm