



Provider Advisory Meeting Minutes

July 29, 2021

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Board staff introductions and Baker Ripley staff introductions.

No announcements at this time.

Nicole Robinson with WFS present:

- Outreach and Enrollment Update—We are currently fully enrolled and are not outreaching new families for CCDF childcare. There are new programs coming soon to help support our families so be on the lookout soon. New Service Recovery (SIR) Program will be launching soon.
- Reporting Absences—All providers are asked to report each time that a child has 5 consecutive absences. This is done online, link to report: https://wfscapitalareacom-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/providers_submit_excessive_absences
- Childcare Relief Funding—The grant process began June 11 with providers receiving an email and the deadline to complete the application is July 31. If you need assistance completing the application, please email Texas@ECEBizCoach.org
After you successfully apply and your status is marked “approved,” you can request your funds. Once the funds are requested, TWC will review the request and update your account to show when the paper check has been mailed to the mailing address listed in the application. No checks have been mailed yet. TWC is still reviewing all requests. We know this is longer than first anticipated and reflects the strong response we’ve had from thousands of providers, combined with the need to follow state and federal requirements. Please allow up to 21 days from the “date mailed” shown in your account (not the date you requested funds) to receive the check. Please keep checking your account for the status of your application or requested funds. Visit <https://childcare.texas.gov> for more information or contact a business coach at Texas@ECEBizCoach.org with any questions you may have.
- DOSS Addendum—Thank you to all of our providers that have signed the DOSS addendum in the past few weeks. If you have not had a chance, please sign and return today. We truly appreciate you!
- Childcare for Essential Workers—Workforce Solutions recently received funding to provide childcare for children of Essential Workers in the following categories: childcare industry, education, pharmacy and healthcare workers, first responders, critical infrastructure, and other infrastructure (see PowerPoint for more in depth description of workers). Families must live in the city of Austin, meet the income guidelines, and have at least one parent working in the categories mentioned above. Note that true attendance will be collected and tracked so if any children are enrolled at your center with this funding you will be asked to submit attendance most likely on a monthly basis. Please share the interest form with any families or staff that



may be interested. Link to the interest form - https://wfscapitalareacom-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/childcare_for_essential_workers_interest

- Quality Initiatives Update—training opportunities are posted and live. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/workforce-solutions-capital-area-17751711191> TRS Directors Meeting every month. Next meeting will be held on August 5. Category trainings are being offered quarterly. Back to School Symposium will be held in August 16-21, The keynote speaker is Diane Goyette and she will be speaking on the first day. The registration is on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-back-to-school-virtual-symposium-tickets-164510741055> on Thursday and Friday morning there will be an APH supply distribution and you can sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ppe-supply-distribution-w-austin-public-health-tickets-164534955481> Cost for the symposium is FREE

****PowerPoint Presentation attached**

- Poll: thoughts on having a childcare worker job fair for providers?
Yes or No? (Mostly yes)

****Reminder** complete the Shared Services Survey!**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TechSharedServices2021>

Open Discussion:

- Chuck—when will families start to hear about their essential worker childcare? Outreach email with eligibility packet went out last Thursday and should they have received it via email and have the 10 days to fill out the packet and return it. Can we get a copy of the email or a list of the families that the email were sent out to? Nicole—not sure, the way it is being tracked it has the center listed to determine which families are with which center. Will get with Quinton to see if there's a way to find out or you can reach out to your parents to find out if they applied and then contact WFS to ask about the email.
- Caren—relief fund question—have reduced our capacity from 270 to 35 due to having to close so the award amount is less than it should be. Any way I can speak to anyone else to appeal this? Nicole will ask about an appeal process. Will get back to you on that.
- Davida—service industry program...any center or TRS? Any center that is with WFS. The provider does not have to be TRS.
- Chuck—who is the email from? Our general email from WFS
- Stacy Jo—have centers begun to get the relief grant? Will we get an email? Yes, payments have started to go out. Email was sent out to providers from TWC explaining the process and Nicole will send if you didn't get it.



- Elaine— Is the grant taxable? Get with business coach to find out more information.
- Scott—yesterday in the provider forum there was confusion about how the money could be spent going forward. How do we contact someone to get clarification? You can send questions to Nicole and she can forward to TWC for you.

Next Meeting: August 26th