



## Provider Advisory Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2022

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

**No announcements at this time.**

**Logan DeCleene with BakerRipley present:**

- Capital Area Highlights—PPE and Cleaning supplies to early learning programs over 120 early learning programs received needed supplies. 24 pallets of PPE and cleaning supplies were given out.
- COVID Closures—if you have to close even if it's just a classroom please be sure to let us know that. Please send your license number, the closure as well as your reopening date and who was affecting by the close.
- 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](https://wfscapitalareacom-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/providers_submit_excessive_absences) Please connect with parents and encourage regular attendance. Complete the form for each family you are reporting (looking at a better way to streamline this).
- Program Rate Changes—submit rates to us on company letterhead as well by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Childcare for Service Industry Recovery—TWC recently approved funding to provide 12 months of childcare for Service Industry Recovery (please see PowerPoint for details on eligibility requirements). Link to SIR Application: [https://wfscapitalareacom-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/sir\\_child\\_care\\_enrollment](https://wfscapitalareacom-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/sir_child_care_enrollment)
- Child Care for Essential Workers (City of Austin)—Workforce Solutions recently received funding from the City of Austin and CDBG to provide child care for children of Essential Workers (please see PowerPoint for details on eligibility requirements). True attendance will be collected and tracked, so if any children are enrolled at your centers with this funding you will be asked to submit attendance on a monthly basis. Link to Interest Form: [https://wfscapitalareacom-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/childcare\\_for\\_essential\\_workers\\_interest](https://wfscapitalareacom-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/childcare_for_essential_workers_interest)
- Business Coaching Available—The Texas Workforce Commission has launched a FREE business coaching program in partnership with AVANCE, Curantis Group, and Civitas Strategies Early Start to support child care providers with strategies to stabilize and strengthen your business. The Texas Child Care Coaching Team is providing free assistance to any child care provider in the state (please see PowerPoint and attached flyers). To sign up for free business coaching, please complete this form: <https://share.hsforms.com/1aBnjeB1DQsOjT7apLSSkUAbwisx>
- Child Care Relief Fund 2022—should be right around the corner. Even more funding available than the first round. Issues with coaches and things the first round and TWC assured everyone that they heard our feedback and they will be ramping up and being ready for extra assistance to help with programs with applying. TWC did recommend that programs update your



information on the CCR portal. You can update your information here:

[https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child\\_Care/Search\\_Texas\\_Child\\_Care/ppFacilityLogin.asp](https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Care/Search_Texas_Child_Care/ppFacilityLogin.asp)

TWC put together a document about how you can prepare for the upcoming Child Care Relief Fund. You can view the document here:

<https://www.childcare.texas.gov/preparing-for-the-child-care-relief-fund?hsLang=en>

Instead of one lump sum the funding will be spread out over a number of months. A few more guidelines this go around. Use the technical assistance team.

- Quality Initiatives Update—training opportunities are posted and live. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/workforce-solutions-capital-area-17751711191>. Upcoming trainings include TRS Category Trainings (offered quarterly), Emergency Preparedness (February 15<sup>th</sup>). TRS Directors Meeting first Thursday of every month. TRS Assessments will resume in the next few weeks. We are continuing to plan to ensure staff and programs remain safe. You will hear from your assessor prior to your visit to collect required paperwork.
- BakerRipley Child Care Services Team and Contacts—Please see PowerPoint for contact information

**\*\*PowerPoint Presentation attached**

#### Open Discussion:

- Chuck C—essential worker...family that lives in Del Valle and wouldn't qualify but there is part of Del Valle that was in the qualifying area (address might not be Austin, but are in Austin City Limits)
- Chuck C—when should we receive the 20% supplemental payment? Adam will call Chuck Nicole says our fiscal team has received all information needed to process those payments and they should be sending them out soon.
- Colin S—do not need to report for SIR but essential workers you do and we reach out the first business day after the absence and we reach out to your program via phone to get the attendance.
- Tessa F—Chuck said he applied for it and if you are a provider and you haven't applied for it yet you still can and you absolutely should apply for it. If you use ADP as your payroll provider you should give them a call or reach out to your CPA or business resources to ask.
- Chuck C—PPE distribution, asked to talk to Senator Cornyn about the build back better bill. They asked about WFS board doing distributions and thank you for doing an awesome PPE distribution. For us right now the gloves are expensive and would recommend including them in the future distribution.
- Colin S—questions about the authorization list distribution and about the google form submission process. Get a PNG file, but can't actually use that. Can it be distributed in a different format like excel or something? Logan said they looked into that possibility—the old CCAA system used to show who was at the center, but currently not best system in place so the only way we can pull that information has to be that PNG file and if you have a need for an excel



we can provide that for you on a case by case basis so please reach out and we can help. TWC has new system being procured for the future.

- Stacy Jo S—are teen parents having to go on a waiting list or do they have priority? Nicole says teen parents are still part of priority group 2. Continue to send referrals for the LOCAL match

\*Fill out vaccine survey for parents—please send to parents and have them fill out

**Next Meeting: February 24, 2022**