



## Provider Advisory Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2022

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Board and BakerRipley staff introductions.

Announcements: None

Gwen Snyder Gil from TWC reviewed how to update your information in the Child Care Availability Portal:

- See PowerPoint

Logan DeCleene with BakerRipley present:

- **Annual Updates**—all programs will be receiving an email from [ccsproviderservices@wfscapitalarea.com](mailto:ccsproviderservices@wfscapitalarea.com) over the coming months with information about annual closure day updates. Please make sure your contact information is up to date.
- **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://wfscapitalarea.com-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/providers\\_submit\\_excessive\\_absences](https://wfscapitalarea.com-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.
- **Continue Updating Child Care Availability Portal**—the Child Care Availability Portal is available and able to be updated by Early Learning Programs. Please take time to update your program's information with your latest enrollment availability.
- **New Child Care Services Rates effective 10/01/2022!** Should be reflected on your November 4<sup>th</sup> payment.
- **Welcome to the Texas Rising Star Program!** As of 10/03/2022 all Early Learning Programs contracted with Child Care Services must meet Texas Rising Star Entry Level Designation.
- **Child Care for Essential Workers (City of Austin)**— **\*NEW\* Families living in Travis County (outside of the COA full purpose boundary)**, meet the income guidelines, have child under the age of 5 and have at least one parent working in a category above (see slides). Families living in the COA full purpose boundary may enroll children under 13 years of age. Families must select a TRS quality rated center with this program. Providers are asked to provide true attendance for any child enrolled in this program. You will be asked to submit attendance on a monthly basis. Link to Interest Form: [https://wfscapitalarea.com-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/childcare\\_for\\_essential\\_workers](https://wfscapitalarea.com-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/childcare_for_essential_workers) interest. We have currently outreached all families that were affected by the change. Focus is on children 5 and under but will serve older siblings as well. Income guidelines changed and are effective June 15<sup>th</sup> (see slides).
- **TXAEYC Shared Services Alliance**—The TXAEYC-Alliance will cover a portion of each program's Medical, Dental, and Vision benefits. Assistance with enrolling staff into alliance benefits program. Member access to a shared-cost for a Payroll Processing Platform. Employer Services



Hotline for staff. Virtual HR Coaching and Business Coaching. Must be a TRS Three or Four-star program.

- **Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program Ending Soon**
- **Child Care Workforce Support Series**—TWC, in partnership with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and Civitas Strategies Early Start, has compiled a series of videos and resources for Early Learning Programs.
- **Free Texas Annual Training Available Now!**—in partnership with TWC, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension's Promoting Early Education Quality program is offering a suite of twelve online courses FREE.
- **Training Opportunities**—Check out our Eventbrite Page and never miss a training! 2021-2022 training calendar has been posted to [www.wfscapitalarea.com](http://www.wfscapitalarea.com). Upcoming Trainings posted through November for registration including: TRS Category Trainings (offered quarterly in English and Spanish), TRS Category 4 Training (Spanish) on November 29<sup>th</sup> and TRS Orientation on November 10<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. Our TRS Directors Meetings will continue in November. Next meeting will be Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 12pm and 6pm. Many more training opportunities will be scheduled in the coming months!
- **BakerRipley Child Care Services Team and Contacts**—Please see PowerPoint for contact information
- **Poll for December Meeting**—Do you prefer a meeting in December? December 8<sup>th</sup> or December 15<sup>th</sup>? Majority want a meeting and the date will be **December 8<sup>th</sup>**

**\*\*PowerPoint Presentation Attached\*\***

### **Open Discussion:**

Jemie V--24 hour care provider and raised rates recently but there isn't an established rate for that. We do have rates for evening and weekend, but we don't typically share them out because not a lot of providers offer that. Send information to Logan and someone will follow up with you to update those rates

Maria B—if have a contract with Rural, but are Capital Area. All boards have to update information and will be contacting you separately. Just don't assume since you gave information to one board that the other board has your updated information.

Maria B—if we have a child with disabilities can we get help? You can, but it has to be initiated by the parent. They need to contact CCS about our CWD program. You can also email Logan and he can get your in touch with the correct people

Cindy G—did the increase in the rates impact your performance for average number of children served? Performance target increased with TWC also.



Julia—New to this, do we have to increase our rates? We will never tell you that you have to raise your rates, but we just ask that you have any changes you let us know.

Maria M—Can I find out when was the last time rates were updated for our center? Yes, contact Provider Services.

Valerie J—when can we expect 2022-2023 training calendar? Actively working to get the calendar finalized in the next couple weeks.

**\*\*No November Meeting**

**Next Meeting: December 8, 2022**