



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20, 2019

Contact: David Olson
Phone: 512.597.7119
Email: david.olson@wfscapitalarea.com

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Receives Grant to Support Youth Employment from the Schultz Family Foundation

AUSTIN – Workforce Solutions Capital Area has received a \$20,000 grant from the National Philanthropic Trust, as recommended by the Schultz Family Foundation. These funds will support the Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative’s (AOYC) ongoing work to engage Opportunity Youth in meaningful employment pathways. Selected on the basis of our commitment and progress toward creating employment pathways, Workforce Solutions Capital Area was one of only 10 communities across the country to receive this grant.

The Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative is a consortium of Travis County/Austin-area community groups, who together represent a long history of providing coordinated services to youth ages 16 to 24 who are not sufficiently engaged in education and employment. This is typically due to systemic barriers that the collaborative is identifying and addressing.

“The support of this grant will increase the effectiveness of AOYC’s efforts to create the positive systems-level changes necessary to create success for Opportunity Youth in our community,” said Tamara Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer at Workforce Solutions Capital Area. “With this opportunity, we and our AOYC partners will accelerate employment pathway growth and success for youth, amplify data collection and analysis, and create new intervention opportunities.”

The Schultz Family Foundation recommended this award – along with awards to support similar work in nine other communities around the country – through a competitive application and review process.

“We believe that it is critical for communities to develop robust employment pathways for young people who are not enrolled in education,” said Ellen Gardner, Senior Program Officer at the Schultz Family Foundation. “We are impressed with the work the Austin/Travis County Area is doing to better connect young people to employment opportunities.”

Each of the selected communities will learn from other leading cities around the country in an effort to boost what they are doing to connect young people to meaningful employment pathways.

About Workforce Solutions Capital Area

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board is the publicly-funded workforce board for Travis County. Through strong partnerships and strategic collaborations, Workforce Solutions is leading the region’s workforce system in the development of a world-class workforce. For more information, visit www.wfscapitalarea.com.

-more-

A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](http://www.americanjobcenter.com)® network

Workforce Solutions Capital Area is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available, upon request, to persons with disabilities. **Relay Texas:** 1.800.735.2989 (TDD) / 711 (Voice) www.wfscapitalarea.com

About Schultz Family Foundation

The Schultz Family Foundation, established in 1996 by Sheri and Howard Schultz, aims to unlock America's potential, one individual and one community at a time. It creates opportunities for populations facing barriers to success to ensure that their place in life isn't determined by zip code, race, religion, gender, or sexual identity. Investing in innovative, scalable solutions, and partnerships, the Foundation focuses its efforts on two groups with enormous promise: the 4.6 million youth and young adults aged between 16 and 24 who are out of school and out of work, and the 3.8 million post-9/11 veterans and approximately 250,000 service members who transition from active, National Guard, or Reserve duty to civilian life each year. Visit www.schultzfamilyfoundation.org for more information.

About National Philanthropic Trust

Founded in 1996, NPT is the largest, national, independent donor-advised fund sponsor and has raised nearly \$13 billion in charitable contributions. NPT currently manages \$7.4 billion in charitable assets and has made more than 246,000 grants totaling \$5.9 billion to charities around the world. NPT ranks among the 25 largest grantmaking institutions in the United States. More at NPTrust.org.

###

A proud partner of the  **americanjobcenter** network

Workforce Solutions Capital Area is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available, upon request, to persons with disabilities. **Relay Texas:** 1.800.735.2989 (TDD) / 711 (Voice) www.wfscapitalarea.com