

Success By 6

Getting infants and preschoolers ready

Success By 6 works to make sure every child is ready for kindergarten by improving the complex networks of child care services, parent education, public and private funding and public policy in the Central Texas community.

Why invest in young children

As Austin's population continues to grow, too many of our children are entering school without the skills they need to learn and succeed.

Children who start school behind tend to stay behind. They need more remedial education services, are more likely to drop out of school, earn lower wages and are more likely to be incarcerated. This represents a financial loss – and a loss of human potential.

For every dollar invested in early childhood education, we see a return of \$4.20 to \$9.20 in savings.

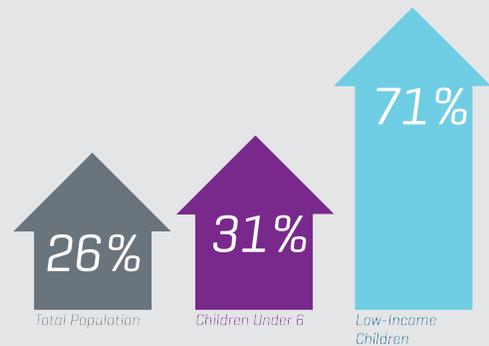
Our Approach

Success By 6 gives working poor families access to high-quality child care, parent education services and mental health care. Every Success By 6 strategy has been proven effective through extensive research.

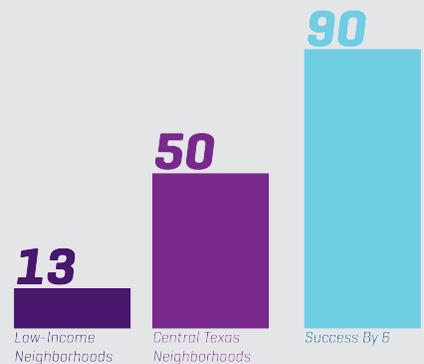
Results that make a difference

- › Last year alone, Success By 6 reached more than **9,900 children, parents, and teachers.**
- › Every year, Success By 6 invests **more than one million dollars in our community through strategic grants.** We build on these investments by leading volunteer projects, providing trainings, coordinating community-wide efforts and bringing research-based best practices and expertise to Greater Austin's early childhood community.
- › **90% of the children who complete Success By 6 programs are ready for kindergarten** - ready to learn and succeed.

Low-income children are our fastest growing population.



Too few of our children are ready for school.



Invest in Success By 6 to make a difference and see your gift doubled.

*Thanks to a generous grant from the Buena Vista Foundation, your gift to Success By 6 will be matched dollar-for-dollar - **invest in young children today.***

School Readiness Action Plan

United Way has led a strong coalition of hundreds of early childhood advocates, experts, parents, service providers and business leaders to put together an ambitious 3-year plan to change the landscape of care for young children. This Action Plan is a strategic effort to invest in the future of our community by increasing the total percent of ready children to 70 percent by 2015.

300+
Number of organizations led by UWATX in this community-wide plan.

UWATX continues to lead this coalition, track and report on progress and manage our own initiative to further our community's goals. The Action Plan won a 2012 Butler Award for Plans with Promise.

Quality Centers

UWATX works with early care and education centers to increase the quality of care for low-income communities through a variety of strategies:

- › **Center Mentoring:** UWATX was a catalyst in bringing nationally-recognized one-on-one center mentoring programs to Central Texas and continues to financially support these efforts.
- › **Mental Health Care:** Success By 6 provides mental health services to support early care staff as well as the children and families they serve through our Social Emotional Learning Collaborative. UWATX coordinates a variety of services, tailored to meet specific needs.
- › **Health Care:** UWATX partners with White Glove Health to bring low- or no-cost health care to centers. Thanks to the partnership, **more than 240 children, parents and early childhood educators received more than \$41,000 of medical care** over the past year.

Thanks to this work, we have increased the number of centers serving low-income communities who meet state or national standards five fold.



Play To Learn

To support children in need who are not enrolled in child care or Head Start, UWATX launched Play To Learn: an 8-week course that helps parents learn how fun activities, like reading and games, can foster their child's brain development. In its current version, the course incorporates Samsung Galaxy tablets pre-loaded with children's educational apps, bookmarked websites and parenting videos to supplement classroom instruction.

UWATX developed the curriculum, engaged local libraries to provide space and continues to manage the ongoing project. We are also partnering with KLRU-TV to facilitate classes and The University of Texas at Austin to evaluate the program.

We will serve 200 families this year with Play To Learn.

I want to do everything I can to prepare my daughter for school - that's why I bring her to United Way's program. I'm glad we can make school a positive experience for her.

Jessica, mother of 2-year-old Arianna