

Austin's low-income children zero through 5 years old

Low-income children ages 0-5 (living at or below 200% FPL)

40K+

THE PROBLEM

Only half of our community's children are entering kindergarten prepared for school success – and children growing up in low-income families are especially at-risk for poor school achievement. Children who start behind tend to stay behind – and supporting healthy brain development in the early years is far more effective than treating problems at a later age.

Percentage of Kindergarteners who are not ready for school

46%

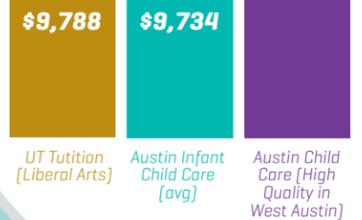


20,641
Children remain unserved
children zero to 4 years old

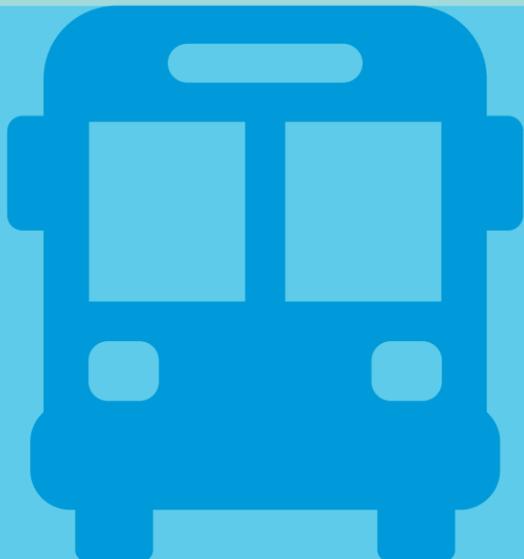
High return on investment!



Care & education in Austin are expensive



HOW SUCCESS BY 6 HELPS



Over the past seven years, United Way has led a strong coalition of early childhood advocates, experts, parents, service providers and business leaders to put together an ambitious plan to fundamentally change the landscape of care for our youngest community members.

It is our hope that this plan will inspire and guide community leaders, advocates, parents, service providers and educators to participate in a movement that will allow Travis County to be the best place to thrive and raise a family for decades to come.

A KINDERGARTEN READY CHILD:

- Interacts positively with children and adults
- Is curious and loves learning new things
- Can focus and pay attention to adults, other children or tasks
- Is generally happy and can manage his or her emotions
- Has age-appropriate language, thinking and physical skills

WHAT WE'VE DONE SO FAR



5,000+

More than 5,000 families now receive information through free videos, text messages and printed guides about how to help their children become school ready.



160 total bilingual storytimes

The Austin Public Library more than doubled the number of bilingual storytimes in low-income communities as a response to community advocacy.



\$1 million

The City of Austin increased their Health and Human Services funding for early childhood by nearly \$1 million over the three-year period.



100% more slots for 3-year-olds

Child Inc. shifted its delivery model to serve more 3-year-olds in Head Start.



2,287

The number of vulnerable families receiving home visiting services in our county nearly tripled — improving health outcomes and dramatically reducing the likelihood of child abuse in these homes.

WHAT WE WILL DO IN 2015-2018

READY FAMILIES + READY EARLY EDUCATION + READY HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH + READY COMMUNITIES = READY CHILDREN

Ready Families

Families are financially secure. Families have access to and use the resources that provide them with the knowledge, skills, confidence and social supports to positively nurture the health, safety and development of their children.

Ready Services: Preventive Health and Mental Health Services

Children receive early and regular developmental screenings and immunizations and are linked to accessible, coordinated, integrated and responsive basic needs, physical, dental and mental health services, including services for children with developmental delays.

Ready Communities

Public and private sectors in Austin/Travis County work together to ensure that the community has the resources and infrastructure to deliver services to children and their families, and to provide a safe and healthy environment in which to raise children.

Ready Services: Early Childhood Education

Children and families are informed and able to access high-quality early learning environments that demonstrate positive developmental outcomes for all children (including children with unique developmental and cultural needs) through competent, responsive and caring relationships.

Ready Children

Travis County children ages 0-5 are healthy, happy and prepared for school success. These are some of the priority activities that will help us achieve these goals:

- Improving child care and early education programs
- Increasing the availability of two-generation programs for parents and children
- Increasing the number of 3-year-olds enrolled in Pre-K programs in school and community settings
- Screening young children for developmental delays
- Promoting children's social and emotional health through special programming and services
- Helping families access basic needs supports
- Engaging business and civic leaders to advance early childhood awareness and support for services.

Endorsements

City of Austin Mayor and Travis County Judge
The City of Austin Early Childhood Council
The Children and Youth Mental Health Planning Partnership
Central Texas Literacy Coalition
Austin Association for the Education of Young Children
Community Advancement Network

Partners - Members of the SRAP Leadership Team

Austin Community College
Austin Independent School District
Child Inc.
Children's Optimal Health
City of Austin
Community Advancement Network
E3 Alliance
KLRU
Literacy Coalition of Central Texas
Travis County HHS&VA
United Way for Greater Austin
Workforce Solutions Capital Area

LEARN MORE
www.uwatx.org/srap