

Child Care Services Committee Meeting

February 11, 2025 3:00 pm

Mission Career Center 4981 Ayers Street Mission Training Room Corpus Christi, TX

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86890026433?pwd=QaDMTIs85UiMdQbcksqYDM8tzr5mUY.1

> Toll-Free Call In 888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 868 9002 6433 Passcode: 771911

www.workforcesolutionscb.org

Strategic Goals

- Establish and Strengthen Partnerships
- Effectively/Efficiently Target Rural Area Services
- Increase Workforce Awareness
- Expand Innovative Services to Business
- Explore New Revenue Opportunities
- Improve Internal Efficiencies
- Refine Board Culture

Mission Statement

At Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, we invest in our regional economic success through access to jobs, training, and employer services.

Value Statement

Accountability – We address our customers and co-workers in a positive manner that elevates their spirit and creates a professional, supportive workplace for staff, job seekers, and employers.

Teamwork – We combine our individual talents for the benefit of the mission and common goals leveraging our unique abilities and contributions.

Trust – We consistently deliver on our commitments to our customers and co-workers to establish strong, sustainable relationships.

Integrity – We are honest, supportive, candid in addressing difficult issues, and willing to share success to demonstrate respect and consideration for our customers and co-workers.

Tenacity – We resist giving up when the going gets tough and support our customers and co-workers in seeing that issues are resolved and the job gets done.

Understanding - We are serious and passionate about delivering our services with compassion and empathy.

Dignity – We interact with customers and co-workers professionally regardless of their backgrounds, experience, and circumstances to reflect our commitment as public servants.

Enthusiasm – We recognize the importance and value of our work and know that every day we have the opportunity to help build the economic success of our regional economy.

Disclosure and Declaration of a Conflict of Interest

Conflicts of Interest and the appearance of Conflicts of Interest shall be reported according to Board Administrative Policies #1.0.101.00 - Standards of Conduct and Conflict of Interest; and #1.0.105.00 - Reporting Conflict of Interest, Fraud, and Abuse, which were adopted by the Board of Directors on April 26, 2007.

Conflict of Interest – A circumstance in which a Board Member, Board employee, Contracted Provider, or Contracted Provider's employee is in a decision-making position and has a direct or indirect interest, particularly a financial interest, that influences the individual's ability to perform job duties and fulfill responsibilities.

Appearance of a Conflict of Interest – A circumstance in which a Board Member, Board employee, Contracted Provider, or Contracted Provider's employee's action appears to be:

- influenced by considerations of one or more of the following: gain to the person, entity, or organization for which the person has an employment interest, substantial financial interest, or other interest, whether direct or indirect (other than those consistent with the terms of the contract), or;
- motivated by design to gain improper influence over the Commission, the Agency, the Board, or the Board's Chief Elected Officials.

Code of Ethics

The Workforce Solutions Code of Ethics is a guide for dealing with ethical matters in the workplace and in our relationship with our clients and members of the community.

- We believe in respect for the individual.
- We believe all persons are entitled to be treated with respect, compassion and dignity.
- We believe in openness and honesty in dealing with the general public, the people we serve, and our peers.
- We believe in striving for excellence.
- We believe in conducting ourselves in a way that will avoid even the appearance of favoritism, undue influence or impropriety, so as to preserve public confidence in our efforts.



Child Care Services Committee Meeting

Mission Career Center – 4981 Ayers St. – Mission Training Room Corpus Christi, Texas 78415

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86890026433?pwd=QaDMTIs85UiMdQbcksqYDM8tzr5mUY.1

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Meeting ID: 868 9002 6433 Passcode: 771911

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 – 3:00 pm

AGENDA

Page

- I. Call to Order: Victor M. Gonzalez, Jr., Chair
- II. TOMA Rules: Janet Neely

IV. Announcement on Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Any Conflicts of Interest or Appearance of a Conflict of Interest with items on this agenda shall be declared at this time. Members with conflicts will refrain from voting and are asked to refrain from discussion on such items. Conflicts discovered later in the meeting shall be disclosed at that time. Note: Information on open meetings is included at the end of this agenda.

V. Public Comments

VI.	Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of the September 10, 2024 Child Care Services Committee Meeting4-6
VII.	Review of Committee Charter, Initiatives, and Strategic Board Goals for BCY 20257
VIII.	 Information Only: Performance Update BCY 2025 (Q1 Oct. – Dec.) (Q2 Jan March) (Q3 April - June) (Q4 July – Sept.) a. First Quarter (Q1) Performance: <i>Denise Woodson</i>

(cont. page 2)

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	b.	Second Quarter (Q2) January Outcomes & Action Plan for Remainder of Q2: Denise Woodson
		TWC Analysis of Coastal Bend Child Care as of October 2024: <i>Denise Woodson</i>
2.		erations & Management of Child Care Services BakerRipley Update: <i>Kenia Dimas</i> 15
3.	a.	ild Care Quality Services (CCQS) Texas Rising Star (TRS) Program Update: <i>Valerie Ann De La Cruz</i> 16 Preview of CCQS Second Quarter (Q2): <i>Denise Woodson</i> 17

IX. Adjournment

Note: Except for expressly authorized closed sessions, meetings, discussions, and deliberations of the Board or Committees will be open to the public. Voting in all cases will be open to the public. Board members are advised that using personal communication devices to discuss Committee and Board business during the meeting may be a violation of the Texas Open Meetings Act. Such communications also may be subject to the Texas Public Information Act.

Closed Session Notice. PUBLIC NOTICE is given that the Board may elect to go into executive session at any time during the meeting in order to discuss matters listed on the agenda, when authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. In the event the Board elects to go into executive session regarding an agenda item, the section or sections of the Open Meetings Act authorizing the executive session will be publicly announced by the presiding officer.

Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA). All public meetings are required to follow all parts of the Texas Open Meetings Act. Therefore, we will be holding this meeting both in-person at our **Mission Career Center, Mission Training Room** and on **ZOOM**. With this format, comes some changes to what is required of board members and the public.

- The <u>presiding member</u> (Chair or designee) must be in-person at the meeting location, 4981 Ayers Street, Corpus Christi, Texas.
- Board members must be visible on camera in order to count toward the quorum and in order to vote.
- The public and all presenters will need to be visible while presenting information.

This hybrid meeting format will allow us to meet TOMA rules, while still ensuring the safety of those who must attend.

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Child Care Services Committee Roll Call Roster February 11, 2025 (4 = Quorum)

_____ Victor M. Gonzalez, Jr., Chair

- _____ Dr. Justin Hoggard, Vice Chair
- _____ Cynthia Alegria
- _____ Andrea Chavez
- Dr. Criselda Leal
- ____ Michelle Tobar
- Catrina Wilson

Signed

Printed Name

<u>MINUTES</u> Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend - Child Care Services Committee Meeting Mission Career Center – 4981 Ayers Street – Mission Training Room Corpus Christi, Texas

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85381166699?pwd=RXJQRIFsRDNjcmRUSDBzQi9OSFk1dz09

Toll-Free Call In 888 475 4499 US Toll-Free

Meeting ID: 853 8116 6699 Passcode: 611027

September 10, 2024 - 3:00 pm

Committee Members

<u>Absent</u> Michelle Lozano

Present Marcia Keener, Chair Justin Hoggard, Vice Chair Andrea Chavez Criselda Leal Michelle Tobar Catrina Wilson

Other Board Members Present: Sandra Bowen

Others Present

Ken Trevino, Workforce Solutions Alba Silvas, Workforce Solutions Janet Neely, Workforce Solutions Allyson Riojas, Workforce Solutions Ruben Aceves, Workforce Solutions Ernest Everett, Workforce Solutions Denise Woodson, Workforce Solutions Valerie Ann De La Cruz, Workforce Solutions Vicki Stonum, Workforce Solutions Celina Leal, Workforce Solutions Rebecca Garza, Workforce Solutions Morgan Lovely, Workforce Solutions Miroslava Paiz, Workforce Solutions Angela Thomas, Workforce Solutions Valerie De La Cruz, Workforce Solutions Lorraine Munoz, Workforce Solutions Dorothy Guerrero, Workforce Solutions Katrina Baker, Workforce Solutions Esther Velazguez, Workforce Solutions Xena Mercado, Workforce Solutions Neil Hanson, BakerRipley Kenia Dimas, BakerRipley

I. Call to Order

Dr. Hoggard called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

II. TOMA Rules

Ms. Neely provided information on the Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA) Rules.

III. Roll Call

The roll was called and a quorum was present. Ms. Bowen was also in attendance.

IV. Announcement on Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Attention was called to the Disclosure and Declaration of Conflict of Interest and disclosures were requested by the chair at this time. None were made.

Child Care Services Committee Meeting Minutes September 10, 2024 Page 2 of 3

V. Public Comments

Due to the new TOMA rules we do have a laptop setup at 4981 Ayers Street, and it is listed on the zoom call as Public. The laptop is available and open to the public.

Mr. Trevino asked the new Child Care team members to introduce themselves at the Child Care Services Committee Meeting.

Ms. Miroslava Paiz, Texas Rising Star (TRS) Mentor for Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend introduced herself and stated she has been with the organization for the past seven months. Ms. Paiz has a degree in early childhood education and worked in childcare for 23 years with the head start program.

Ms. Morgan Lovely, Texas Rising Star (TRS) Mentor for Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend introduced herself and stated she has been with the organization for the past seven months. Ms. Lovely has a degree in special education and has been with childcare for 10 years.

Ms. Dorothy Guerrero, Texas Rising Star (TRS) Mentor for Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend introduced herself and stated she has been with the organization for the past two years. Ms. Guerreo has been working in childcare for 14 years in the head start program.

Ms. Angela Thomas, Texas Rising Star (TRS) Mentor for Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend introduced herself and stated she has been with the organization for the past seven months. Ms. Thomas has a degree in education and psychology. Ms. Thomas has been in early childhood education for about 10 years.

Ms. Lorraine Munoz, Texas Rising Star (TRS) Mentor for Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend introduced herself and stated she has been with the organization for the past nine months. Ms. Munoz has a degree in child development and business administration. Ms. Munoz has been in early childcare for 28 years.

Ms. Valerie De La Cruz, Texas Rising Star (TRS) Mentor for Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend introduced herself and stated she has been with the organization for the past five years. Ms. De La Cruz stated one year out of the five years she was with our contractor BakerRipley. Ms. De La Cruz has an associate's degree in early childhood and has previously worked in our childcare centers that we currently deal with now.

Ms. Rebecca Garza, Texas Rising Star (TRS) Mentor for Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend introduced herself and stated she has been with the organization for the past seven months. Ms. Munoz has a degree in early childhood education. Ms. Garza has been in early childhood for 6 years.

Ms. Katrina Baker, Texas Rising Star (TRS) Mentor for Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend introduced herself and stated she has been with the organization for the past seven months. Ms. Baker has been in childcare for 16 years.

Ms. Baker thanked the Child Care Services Committee for having the Texas Rising Star Mentors in attendance.

Ms. Woodson stated we were fortunate we received funding from the Texas Workforce Commission that allowed us to hire all of the individuals as a result of the State mandating that all of our workforce providers have to be TRS Certified by September 30, 2024. Ms. Woodson mentioned that is the reason we have hired all of these ladies to get that large group of providers, TRS, ready by September 30th.

Dr. Hoggard thanked all the TRS Mentors for attending the Child Care Services Committee.

Child Care Services Committee Meeting Minutes September 10, 2024 Page 3 of 3

VI. Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of the May 7, 2024 Child Care Services Committee Meeting Dr. Leal moved to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2024 Child Care Services Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bowen and passed.

VII. Information Only:

- 1. Performance Update BCY2024 (Q1 Oct.-Dec.) (Q2 Jan.-March) (Q3 April-June) (Q4 July-Sept.)
 - a. Third Quarter (Q3) Performance

Ms. Woodson provided a summary of Child Care performance for the third quarter of BCY 2024 (included on pages 7-9 of the September 10 agenda packet).

b. Fourth Quarter (Q4) July Outcomes & Action Plan for Remainder of Q4

Ms. Woodson provided information on the fourth quarter July Outcomes and action plan for Child Care performance for remainder of fourth quarter BCY 2024 (included on pages 10-11 of the September 10 agenda packet).

c. TWC Analysis Coastal Bend Child Care as of June 2024

Ms. Woodson provided an Analysis of Coastal Bend Child Care for the month of June 2024 (included on pages 12-13 of the September 10 agenda packet).

2. Operations & Management of Child Care Services

a. BakerRipley Update

Ms. Dimas provided updates on BakerRipley Operations and Management of Child Care Services for the fourth quarter (included on page 14 of the September 10 agenda packet).

3. Child Care Quality Services (CCQS)

a. Texas Rising Star (TRS) Program Update

Ms. De La Cruz provided an update on the Texas Rising Star (TRS) Program (included on page 15 of the September 10 agenda packet).

Ms. Silvas recognized Ms. Dimas and Ms. Woodson for making in person visits to the providers to make sure what Workforce Solutions needs to do. Ms. Silvas expressed her appreciation for the team building a relationship to *Establish and Strengthen Partnerships*, which is one of our Board Strategic Goals.

b. Preview of CCQS Fourth Quarter (Q4)

Ms. Woodson provided information on the Preview of Child Care Quality Services Program for the fourth quarter (included on page 16 of the September 10 agenda packet).

Mr. Trevino attended the 10th Annual Back to School Teachers Fair on August 17, 2024. Mr. Trevino stated the energy was amazing.

Ms. Tobar stated they always have a wonderful time at the event. Ms. Tobar mentioned the event was busy and there were new presenters in attendance.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 pm.

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

VII. Review of Committee Charter, Initiatives, and Strategic Board Goals of BCY 2025

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Child Care Services Committee Charter:

CHILD CARE SERVICES

Responsible for all issues dealing with the management and delivery of child care services. Responsible for monitoring the child care vendor activity, the child care contractor, recommending the allocation of child care dollars to the Board and to the Contractor, reviewing child care training, development issues, and monitoring the reports and enrollments from the contractor. Review issues related to quarterly child care services and school readiness program.

Strategic Board Goals

- 1. Establish and Strengthen Partnerships
- 2. Effectively/Efficiently Target Rural Area Services
- 3. Increase Workforce Awareness
- 4. Expand Innovative Services to Business
- 5. Explore New Revenue Opportunities
- 6. Improve Internal Efficiencies
- 7. Refine Board Culture

RECOMMENDATION

The Child Care Services Committee consider the initiatives for 2025 and take appropriate action on the information presented.

VIII – 1a. Performance Update BCY 2025 – First Quarter (Q1) Performance

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During the Child Care Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2024, we reported on the Board's child care performance for the third quarter of BCY2024. Below are some pertinent reminders regarding Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend's (WFSCB's) child care performance during the fourth quarter of BCY2024.

- TWC conducted a mid-year review of all Workforce Boards' performance measure targets at the end of the second quarter of BCY2024. As a result of this review, the performance measure target for the Coastal Bend Board increased from **3,214** average number of children served per day to **3,242** average number of children served per day. This is an increase of **28** children.
- The Board made the decision to continue enrolling children beyond our performance target because we had local match funding that we needed to exhaust during BCY2024. The Board's adjusted performance target measure for the remainder of BCY2024 is 4,176 average number of children served per day.
- At the end of the fourth quarter (September 30, 2024) of BCY2024, there were 3,901 children enrolled in the Child Care Services (CCS) Program. This enrollment places our performance at 120.33% of TWC's performance target (3,242) and at 93.41% of the Board's adjusted performance measure target (4,176).

TWC released the BCY2025 child care performance targets on 09-30-2024. Coastal Bend's child care performance measure target is **3,312** average number of children served per day. This is an increase of **70** children. Enrollment for the Child Care Services (CCS) Program was "closed" effective October 1, 2024 due to the current enrollment **(3,901)** exceeding the BCY2025 child care performance measure target.

Enrollment must drop below the TWC performance target of **3,312** before we can begin enrolling children for this contract year. As of October 1, 2024, **589** children needed to attrition out of the CCS Program before children/families can be outreached from the child care waitlist.

Child Care Enrollment and Performance Targets for the first quarter of BCY2025 are listed below.

October 2024	3,900	117.78%
November 2024	3,822	115.40%
December 2024	3,824	115.46%

Attached is a chart indicating the actual enrollments for the first quarter of BCY2025.

FY2025 - Direct Child Care Forecast January 2025 as of January 02, 2025

DESCRIPTION	CONTRACT	Start Date	End Date	BUD	GET AMOUNT	EXPI	AMOUNT ENDED As of 01- 02-2025	s of 01-		PROJECTED UNPAID CLAIMS	SUF	RPLUS / DEFICIT	Annual Performance Potential	Assumptions		
														Budget - Updated Dec report to funds in contract. Cost - Assumed Sept cost (\$26) plus \$1.25 increase for max rate increase. Oct costs projected accurately.		
ccc	2225CCC001	10/1/2024	10/31/2025	\$	6,844,744	\$	127,126	\$	6,717,618	\$ 21,275,973	\$	(4,563,059)	3,444	Enrollment - Assumed current enrollment and remained flat.		
CCF	2225CCF001	10/1/2024	10/31/2025	\$	14,694,360	\$	4,699,063	\$	9,995,297							
CCF		#N/A	#N/A	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-							
Sub Total - Formula Funds				\$ 2	21,539,104	\$	4,826,189	\$	16,712,915	\$ 21,275,973	\$	(4,563,059)	3,444			
				1												
Local Match	25CCM	10/1/2022	9/30/2023	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-							
Coastal Bend College	2225C04	#N/A	#N/A	\$	-	\$ \$	-	\$ \$	-							
Del Mar College Texas A&M University-Kingsville	2225C06 2225C07	#N/A #N/A	#N/A #N/A	\$ \$	-	\$ \$	-	\$ \$	-							
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	2225C07 2225C08	#N/A #N/A	#N/A #N/A	\$ \$		э \$		۰ ۶	-							
City of Corpus Christi	2225C05	#N/A #N/A	#N/A	\$		\$	-	\$	-							
Fy24 Local Match	2225CCX001	#N/A	#N/A	\$	1,865,656	\$	-	\$	1,865,656							
				\$	-	\$	-	\$	-							
				\$	-	\$	-	\$	-							
				\$	-	\$	-	\$	-							
				\$	-	\$	-	\$	-							
				\$	-	\$	-	\$	-							
Sub Total - Local Match Funds				\$	1,865,656	\$		\$	1,865,656	\$ -	\$	1,865,656				
Sub Total - CCDF Performance Funds				\$ 2	23,404,760	\$	4,826,189	\$	18,578,571	\$ 21,275,973	\$	(2,697,403)	3,444			
											_					
DFPS				\$	790,000	\$	180,929	\$	609,071	\$ 622,803	\$	(13,731)	101			
Total All Funds				\$ 3	24,194,760	\$	5,007,118	\$	19,187,642	\$ 21,898,776	\$	(2,711,134)	3,545			
Percentage					_ ,,,	Ť	20.70%		79.30%	90.51%	_	-11.21%	-,			
													3,312	Performance Target (Discretionary & Mandatory)		
Reconciliation to Contract:													103 99%	% of TWC Performance Target		
Total Funds Management Budget				\$ 3	24,194,760								105.35 /6	, or the renormance ranger		
CCP Funds in Contract				\$,											
Other Funds in Contract				\$	-											
Total Budgets in reports				\$ 2	24,194,760											
Contract Amount				\$ 2	24,194,760											
Variance and Explanation				\$	-											

			Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected									
		Enrollment As Of Jan 02	Average Enrollment												
	Eligibility Characteristic	1/2/2025	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Difference Over/(Under) to current month
	3 - Transitional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	10 - Income Eligible	3,689	3,824	3,779	3,741	3,629	3,529	3,429	3,329	3,229	3,129	3,079	2,979	2,929	(52)
DS	16 - Homeless	22	33	25	23	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	(1)
FUNDS	1 - Choices	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	21	19	20	19	19	0
CCDF	2 - Tanf Applicant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ខ	4 - SNAP E&T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15 - Former DFPS	84	63	73	78	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	6
	Sub Total	3,814	3,939	3,896	3,861	3,742	3,642	3,542	3,442	3,344	3,242	3,193	3,092	3,042	(47)
				-43	-35	-119	-100	-100	-100	-98	-102	-49	-101	-50	
	11 - General Protective	65	75	70	71	54	54	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	(6)
ŝ	12 - Foster Care IV-E	11	10	10	11	3	4	6	6	6	6	10	10	10	0
DFPS	13 - Foster Care not IV-E	16	16	18	16	23	25	22	22	27	19	17	18	12	0
-	14 - Relative/Other Caregiver	17	16	15	16	24	24	20	20	23	23	20	20	20	1
	Sub Total	109	117	113	114	104	107	87	87	95	87	86	87	81	(5)
	Total All Funds	3.923	4.056	4.009	3,975	3.846	3.749	3,629	3,529	3,439	3.329	3.279	3,179	3,123	(52)

Fiscal Year 2025 - Enrollment Targets

VIII – 1b. Performance Update BCY 2025 – Second Quarter (Q2) January Outcomes & Action Plan for Remainder of Q2

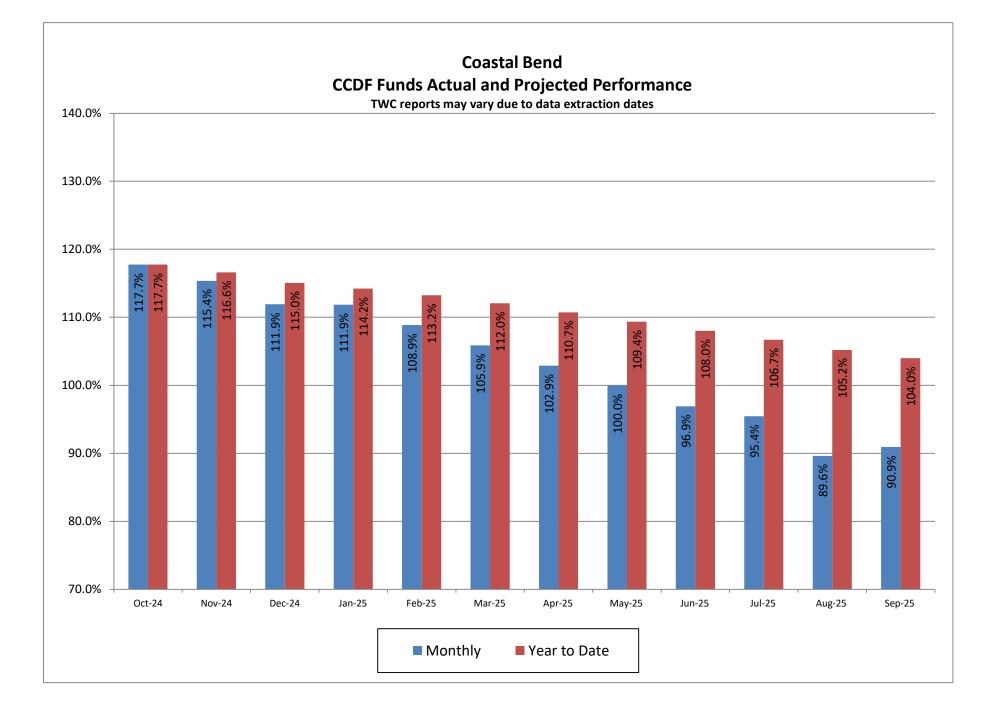
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As of January 24, 2025, there were **3,671** children enrolled in the Child Care Services (CCS) Program. Currently, enrollment remains closed. **359** children must attrition out of the CCS Program before we begin outreaching children/families from the child care waitlist.

The anticipated TWC performance measure for January 2025 is expected to be somewhere between 111.9% and 114.0%.

The action plan for child care performance for the remainder of the second quarter of BCY2025 is to continue with "closed" enrollment until the number of children in the CCS Program is under **3,312**. We anticipate that 200+ children will attrition out of the CCS Program by the end of the second quarter of BCY2025.

Attached is the CCDF Funds Actual and Projected Performance Graph which reflects child care performance on a monthly basis.



VIII – 1c. Performance Update BCY 2025 – TWC Analysis of Coastal Bend Child Care as of October 2024

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Board receives a monthly report from TWC that analyzes child care performance with respect to several factors. The most current monthly report regarding child care performance was received on January 3, 2025. Included in the report was a program analysis for the month of October 2024 that contained the following information:

- Average number of children in care 3,901
- Average cost per unit (Discretionary Care) \$28.48
- Average cost per unit (Mandatory Care) \$33.10
- Number of licensed centers -143
- Percentage of children in licensed centers 95.22%
- Number of licensed homes 24
- Percentage of children in licensed homes 3.81%
- Number of registered homes 9
- Percentage of children in registered homes 0.52%
- Total registered providers 176
- Number of listed relative homes 8
- Percentage of children in listed relative homes 0.45%
- Total relative providers 8
- Percentage of Choices Program 0.48%
- Percentage of Other Mandatory 1.60%
- Board Performance Discretionary 97.91%
- Percentage of Former DFPS Only 1.60%
- Number of children on wait list 824
- Enrollment is currently open

*Discretionary care is income based child care.

Mandatory care is referred by Department of Family Protective Services (DFPS) and Choices Program referrals.

VIII – 1d. Performance Update BCY 2025 – Implementation of the Texas Child Care Connection (TX3C) System Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Texas Child Care Connection (TX3C) System officially launched on January 13, 2025. Board Professionals would like to remind the Committee that the *Texas Child Care Connection (TX3C)* System is replacing the Child Care Services (CCS) case management functionality in The Workforce Information System of Texas (TWIST) with a modern, user-friendly application. The TX3C system will include the components listed below.

- 1. Child Care Case Management
 - Eligibility determination
 - Case management workflow
 - Document management
 - Waitlist management
- 2. Child Care Automated Attendance Tracking
 - Check-in that is mobile device based (tablet and mobile phone)
 - 3,000 tablets for providers and ability for providers to "bring your own" device
 - APIs that can connect to common provider management systems
- 3. Parent Portal
 - Online application for Child Care Services (CCS)
 - Application/case status
- 4. Child Care Provider Portal
 - Provider agreement and document storage
- 5. Availability Portal
 - Replacement of current Availability Portal
 - Will include enhancements for parents and providers

Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC's) Child Care and Early Learning staff are/have been conducting ongoing webinars with Board and contractor staff to provide updates on the system's functionality and to address issues that arise.

VIII - 2a. Operations & Management of Child Care Services - BakerRipley Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

BakerRipley Management will provide updates on the Operations & Management of Child Care Services for the First Quarter (Q1).

1. TX3C System Update

- Launch date was January 13, 2025.
- Prospective payments have been delayed until functionality issues are resolved.

2. Child Care Services Team Members Updates

- There is currently 1 vacancy: 1 Intake Eligibility Specialist.
- Child Care Services Team Members completed training related to their specific job position during the first of BCY2025.

3. Community Impact

- During the first quarter of BCY2025, 8 new providers were added, 5 providers withdrew from the program. A net total of 709 child care openings were created.
- o Total providers with agreements reached an all-time high of 187.
- Child Care Services Team Members attended 9 community events.

VIII – 3a. Child Care Quality Services (CCQS) – Texas Rising Star (TRS) Program Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals would like to remind the Committee that the Chapter 809 Child Care Services Rules, Subchapter G. Texas Rising Star Program §§809.130 – 809.136 was amended to implement House Bill (HB) 2607 which requires **all** regulated child care providers of TWC-funded Child Care Services (CCS) programs be included in the Texas Rising Star (TRS) program. This mandate went into effect on October 1, 2022. At that time, Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend had **122** registered child care centers and licensed child care homes who would need to become TRS certified by September 30, 2024. Board Professionals will provide the Committee with an update regarding the number of certified TRS child care providers currently in our region and the number of child care providers who currently have an extension waiver that designates their status as being "assessment ready" and the number of entry level designated (ELD) child care providers as of January 31, 2025.

Status of child care providers impacted by the September 30, 2024 deadline:

Certified Texas Rising Star child care providers - 64

Child care providers operating under an extension waiver and identified as "assessment ready" - 56

Child care providers and after school programs currently receiving mentoring services -

Total number of WFSCB child care providers - 120

Child care centers with Workforce Provider Agreements effective January 2023.

"New" TRS entry level designated (ELD) providers after of October 1, 2024 - 50

*Child care providers entering into a Workforce Provider Agreement with WFSCB must become TRS certified within a two-year period to continue receiving subsidies for providing services to children in the Child Care Services (CCS) Program.

VIII – 3b. Child Care Quality Services (CCQS) – Preview of CCQS Second Quarter (Q2)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will share a preview of the child care quality events that will take place during the second quarter of BCY2025.

Staff Retention Bonuses

Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend awarded **886** staff retention bonuses to child care staff who have been employed for a minimum of six (6) months at their current child care facility. The staff retention bonuses address the child care worker shortage that is/has impacted the child care profession and is a supplement to their wages. The bonuses were given to full and part time child care teachers and support staff (cooks, custodians, assistant directors and directors) at child care facilities in the Board's 11-county region. The staff retention bonuses totaled **\$375,000**.

WFSCB Glossary of Terms

Program Title	Acronym	Program Description
Able-bodied Adult Without Dependents	ABAWD	An individual 18 yrs.+, but under the age of 50, without dependents. SNAP-ABAWD recipients are referred by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).
Board Contract Year	BCY	Board Contract Year (runs from Oct. 1 - Sept. 30)
Career & Education Outreach Program	CEOP	Provides career information to students at public middle and high schools, grades six through twelve, to direct students towards high-growth/high-demand occupations. Students receive in- depth information and directions on career choices as well as access to workforce resources.
Dislocated Worker	DW	An individual who has been terminated or laid off from employment is not eligible for unemployment benefits due to insufficient earnings and is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.
Department of Labor	DOL	United States Department of Labor
Educator Externship	EDEX	Informs teachers of the skill sets needed for in-demand jobs, and allows the teachers to inform and guide students toward employment in industries that match their skill sets.
Employment Services (Wagner-Peyser)	ES	Services for employers and job seekers to ensure employers have access to qualified workers. Provides job matching and recruitment services to employers and job seekers.
Eligible Training Provider	ETP	Training providers certified by the Texas Workforce Commission to provide WIOA-funded training programs.
Eligible Training Program List	ETPL	A comprehensive list of training programs approved for WIOA-funded training using Individual Training Accounts.
Fiscal Year	FY	The fiscal year is the accounting period of the federal government. It begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of the next calendar year.
Individual Training Accounts	ITA	An account established for eligible WIOA customers for training in an array of state-approved training programs. ITAs may be used only for programs included on the statewide ETPL.
Local Workforce Development Board	LWDB	Local workforce development board established in accordance with WIA Section 117, for the purpose of policy planning for a local area and has the responsibility to ensure that the workforce needs of employers and job seekers in the geographic area governed by the local unit of government are met.
Monthly Performance Report	MPR	Performance accountability indicators used to assess the effectiveness of states and local workforce systems to achieve positive outcomes for individuals served by the six core workforce programs.
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program	MSFW	A nationally directed program created by Congress in response to the chronic seasonal unemployment and underemployment experienced by migrant and seasonal farmworkers (MSFW). Provides funding to help migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families achieve economic self-sufficiency.
National Dislocated Worker	NDW	A grant awarded to areas affected by major disaster or national catastrophe to assist in disaster relief employment and assist the substantial number of workers who were forced to relocate from an area in which a disaster has been declared.
On-the-Job Training	OJT	One-on-one training located at the job site for participants who already have some job-related skills. By participating in training as an employee, the participant acquires new skills and knowledge and receives the same wages and benefits as current employees in the same or similar position.
Program Year	PY	Program Year (for example, Program Year 2022: PY'22; –period varies for state and federal years)
Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment	RESEA	A federal grant program designed to allow states to provide intensive reemployment assistance to individuals who are receiving unemployment benefits and are determined likely to exhaust their benefits before becoming reemployed.
Rapid Response	RR	Provides immediate on-site assistance to workers who have job losses due to businesses closure or worker reduction. Designed to transition workers to their next employment as soon as possible.

WFSCB Glossary of Terms

Program Title	Acronym	Program Description
Summer Earn and Learn	SEAL	A summer program that offers basic work-based learning and training services for students with disabilities such as, pre-employment work readiness training and preparation for the work experience placement; work experience to help gain familiarity with the workplace environment and develop transferable job skills; and paid compensation for time worked on the job.
Student HireAbility Navigator	SHAN	Student HireAbility Navigator's role is to expand and improve access to employment and training services and to increase employment opportunities for students with disabilities by creating strong partnerships between vocational rehabilitation (VR) Workforce Solutions offices, independent school districts (ISDs), community organizations, employers.
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment & Training	SNAP E&T	Designed to assist SNAP recipients in obtaining employment through participation in allowable job search, training, education, or workforce activities that promote long-term self-sufficiency. SNAP recipients are referred by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).
Trade Adjustment Assistance	TAA	A federally funded program, with no costs to employers, who helps workers who are adversely affected by foreign import or job shifts to a foreign country.
Texas Education Agency	TEA	The branch of government in Texas responsible for public education. TEA is responsible for the oversight of public primary and secondary education in the state of Texas.
Texas Internship Initiative	TII	Provides part-time paid internships in Middle-Skill areas of accounting, business, construction management, engineering, healthcare, and information technology. Participating senior high school students must pass a dual-credit course to be placed in an internship with a local business. This grant is in partnership with Education to Employment (E2E) for the Coastal Bend.
Texas Industry Partnership Program	TIP	Supports collaborations between local workforce development boards and industry partners through the leveraging of matching contributions of cash or qualifying expenditures for occupational job training. Match funds must support certain WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) activities and focus on eight designated industry clusters.
Texas Veterans Commission	TVC	A state agency that assists veterans, their families, and survivors through services provided by federal, state, local government, and private organizations.
Texas Veterans Leadership Program	TVLP	A non-profit agency that provides services to veterans to help find employment and achieve successful transitions back into civilian life.
The Workforce Information System of Texas	TWIST	TWIST is a centralized point of reporting intake and case management for customers. Intake information is submitted just once for multiple employment and training programs and can be retrieved statewide. TWIST also allows staff to query and retrieve information from the legacy systems – Employment Services, Unemployment Insurance, SNAP E&T, TANF, Supplemental Security Income, and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	VRS	A federal program that helps individuals with physical or mental disabilities get and/or keep a job.
Work Experience	WE	A work-based learning opportunity in which program-eligible customers learn both essential and technical skills for long-term employment. Businesses are referred to as "work experience sites." Intended to be short-term (12 or fewer weeks) and part-time work experience can be a volunteer, internship, or temporary short-term paid-work setting.
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act	WIOA	Helps job seekers and workers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market; and matches employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy.
Work In Texas	WIT	A comprehensive online job search resource and matching system developed and maintained by TWC. It provides recruiting assistance to Texas employers and job search assistance to any individual seeking work in Texas.
Workforce Opportunity Tax Credit	WOTC	A federal tax credit that the government provides to private-sector businesses for hiring individuals from nine target groups that have historically faced significant barriers to employment.