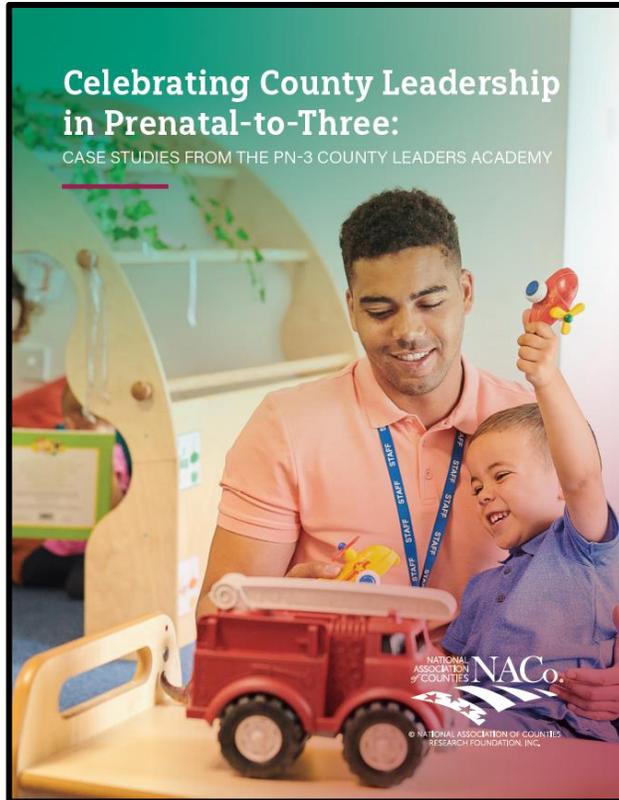


Counties for Kids

The Latest from Counties for Kids



Local Strategies for Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences

Feb 1, 2023 · Infant/toddler mental health



Open for Business: Strategies for Engaging the Business Community in Local Child Care Efforts

Nov 29, 2022 · Child care

Celebrate the Week of the Young Child with Counties for Kids!

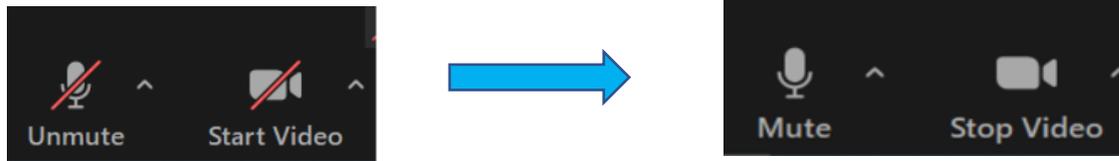
The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the world's largest early childhood education association. The purpose of the Week of the Young Child (WOYC) is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

During this WOYC, we invite all county leaders to join the Counties for Kids network of champions and learn local approaches for advancing PN-3 policies, programs and systems. We encourage you to use the resources below to share how your county is celebrating young children during WOYC and year round!

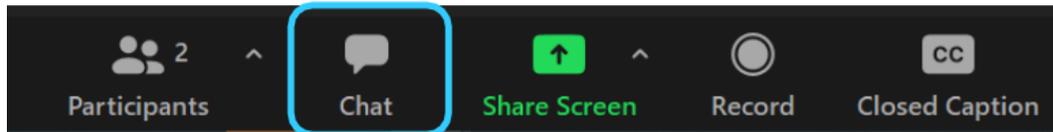


Instructions

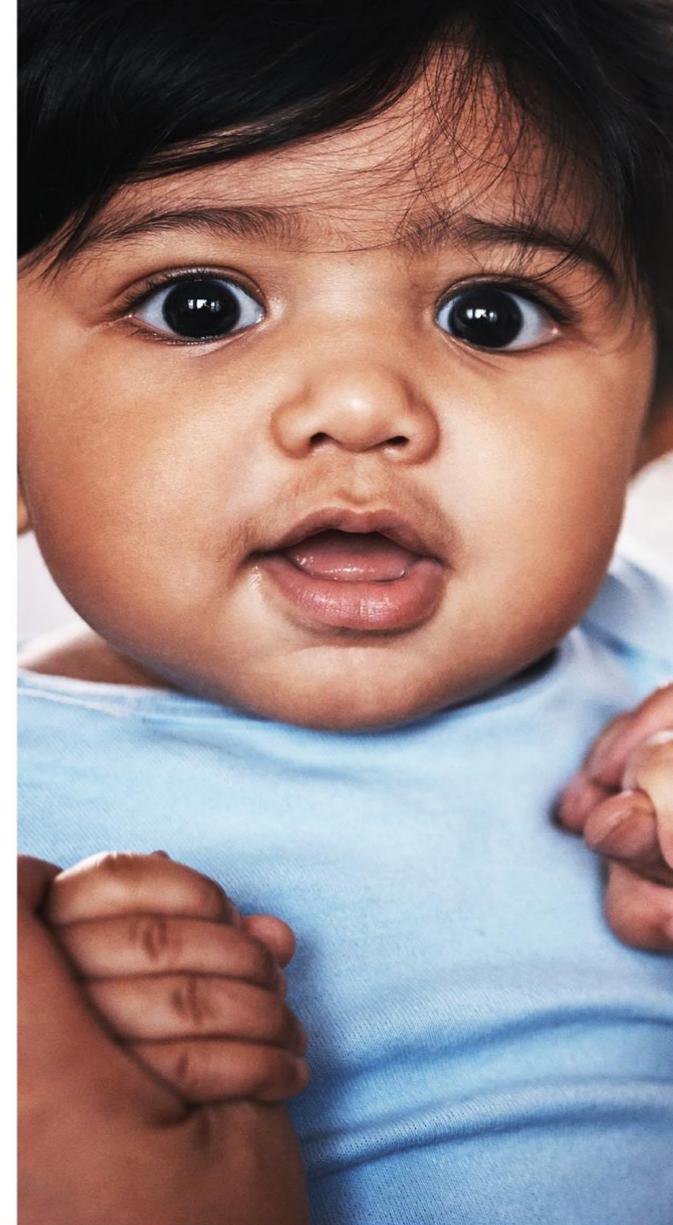
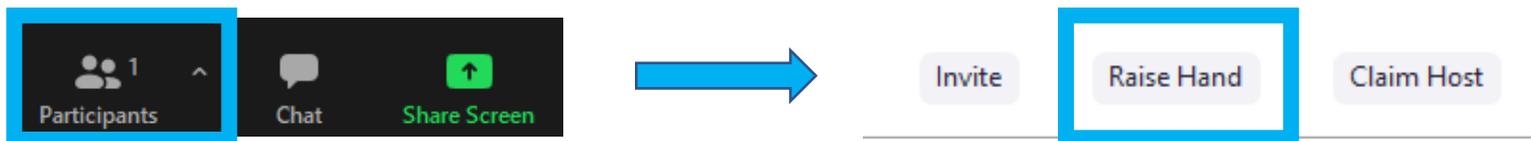
To mute/unmute and start/stop video:



To access the chat box:



To raise/lower your hand:



Agenda

PN-3 Peer Learning Network: Long-Term Strategies for Strengthening the Child Care Workforce (Urban and Larger Suburban Counties)

- Welcome (5 min)
- Santa Clara County, Calif. Presentation (10 min)
 - Hon. Susan Ellenberg, Supervisor
 - Sarah Duffy, Chief Children's Officer
- Harris County, Texas Presentation (10 min)
 - Danielle Brooks, Manager, Early Childhood Initiatives
- Questions & Interactive Discussion (30 min)
- Conclusion (5 min)



Prenatal-to-Three Peer Learning Network: Long Term Strategies for Strengthening the Child Care Workforce



Susan Ellenberg

President, Board of Supervisors, Santa Clara County

Sarah Duffy

Chief Children's Officer, Office of Children & Families Policy,
Santa Clara County



Childcare and Early Education Covid Relief Efforts

CARES emergency
funding for essential
worker childcare

COVID Relief funds to
stabilize providers

ARPA funding to
address impacts on
workforce and
available childcare



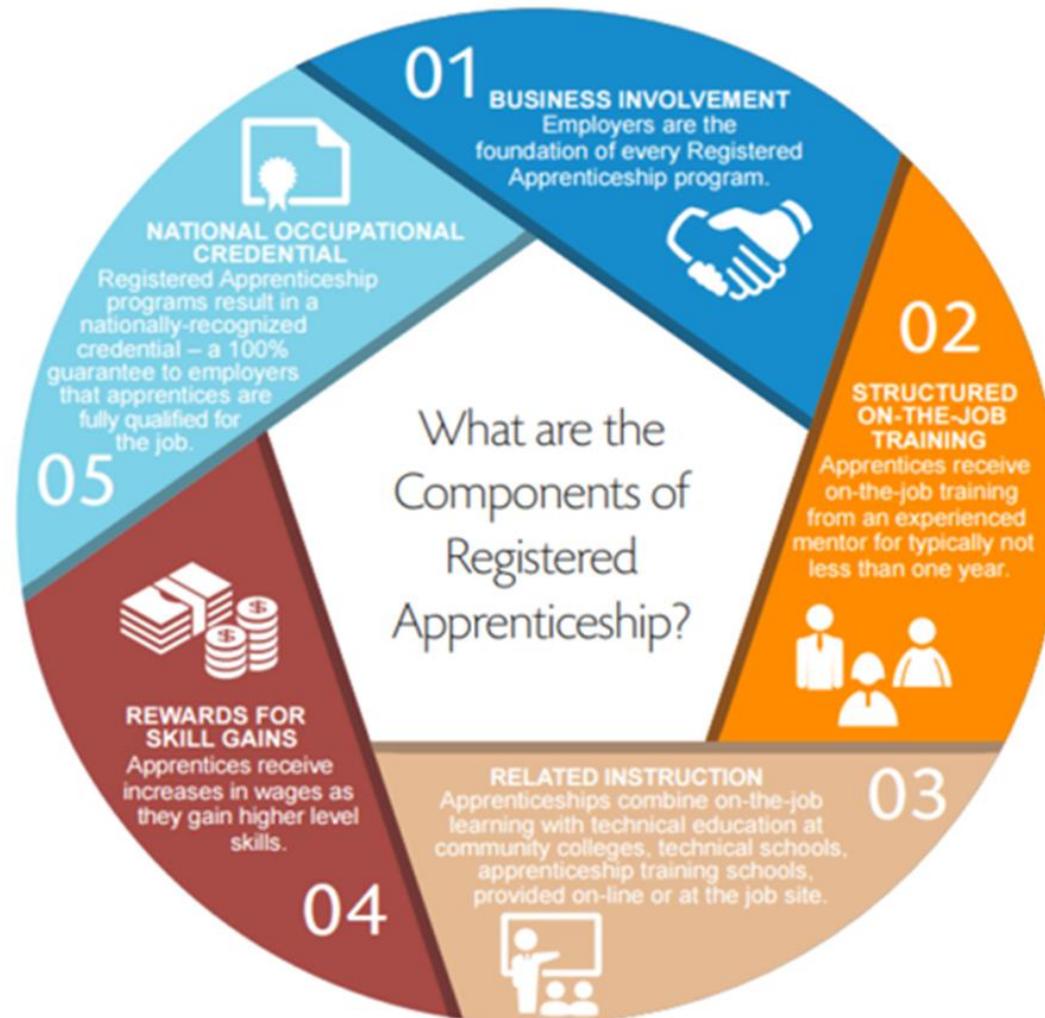
Santa Clara County Data Highlights

- Total Santa Clara County Population under 18 years of age: **424,995**
- Santa Clara Population Ages 0-5: **125,749**

Type of Facility	2012 Slots	2021 Slots	Net Change
Child Care Center	45,000	43,404	-4%
Family Child Care Home	19,414	14,592	-33%
Total for Both Facility Types	64,414	57,996	-11%

Total number of licensed childcare provider closures between 2019 and 2021: **161**

Early Learning Apprenticeship Pilot



Family Child Care Network & Shared Services Alliance



WE ARE BUILDING A FAMILY CHILD CARE NETWORK & SHARED SERVICES ALLIANCE IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY!



Why?

Family Child Care is an essential service, and COVID highlighted this and the fact that Family Child Care programs need more support to survive and thrive. Our mission is to help you build a sustainable business, increase your revenue, and eliminate business struggles that keep you from growing.

THE FAMILY CHILD CARE NETWORK WILL LAUNCH THE SHARED SERVICES ALLIANCE!



- Substitute Pool
- Training/
Peer Connections & Learning
- Business Management
- Tuition/Enrollment
- Grant Application

A SHARED SERVICES ALLIANCE PROVIDES ACCESS TO BUSINESS SUPPORTS TO OPERATE EFFICIENTLY AND PROVIDE QUALITY.



Thank You

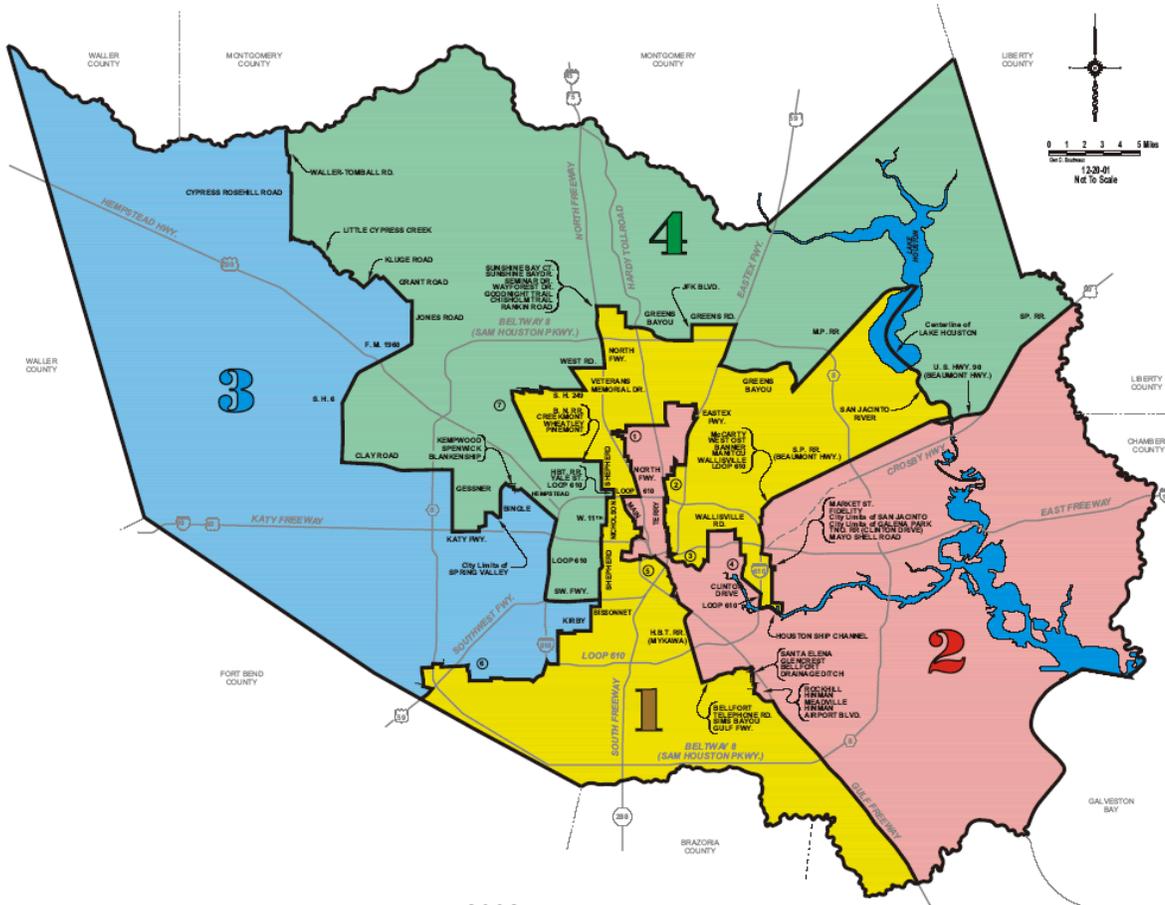
Harris County Information

Harris County has a population of 4.73 million people and is split into four precincts

Nearly every community in Harris County is a Child Care Quality Desert – there are only nine high-quality slots for every 100 young children in Harris County

Current efforts to support quality in early learning fall short

- Fewer than 15% of early learning/child care providers participate in current quality-improvement systems and these systems lack the capacity to serve even their current caseload
- Existing quality improvement systems **exclude many early learning settings**, including Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care
- In the current system, **most resources are allocated to measuring rather than improving quality**
- Current **quality standards insufficiently capture what's important** to families and providers and what matters for child outcomes



Early Childhood Portfolio Strategy

Support the healthy development of young children and their families

Expand access to high-quality, affordable child care

Supply

Quality

Affordability

Early Childhood Impact Fund Round 1

Child Care Capacity: Contracted Slots Pilot Program – Early REACH

Early Childhood Impact Fund Round 2

County Connections

Quality Network

Subsidy Enrollment
Process Improvement

Child Care Facilities Fund

*Throughout, we will use **data** to make informed policy decisions*

Early Childhood Impact Fund Evaluation

Child Care Capacity: Contracted Slots Pilot Program Evaluation

Quality Network Evaluation



Connective Report

Connective interviewed 12 Home Based Care Providers on behalf of Harris County to find out the needs, wants, and challenges. Harris County is using this information to inform how to better support existing and new home-based child care providers, and ensure Harris County residents will have access to quality child care. The full report can be found [here](#).



The infographic consists of three columns, each with an illustration and a text box. The background features faint line-art illustrations of people and children. The first column shows a woman in a blue suit. The second column shows a woman in a purple patterned dress. The third column shows a woman sitting on the floor with a child.

DAY-TO-DAY SURVIVAL	LANGUAGE BARRIERS	LOW PARTICIPATION
Providers often have a heavy administrative workload in addition to their daily work and familial responsibilities, making it hard for them to find ways to get ahead.	Many Vietnamese-speaking providers struggle to communicate with state licensing representatives, while others rely on family translators to communicate on their behalf.	Many providers don't participate in the child care subsidy program because their clients (parents) aren't participating in it. We learned that enrolling and staying enrolled is too difficult for many parents.

Overview | Expanding Child Care Availability Through a Contracted Slots Pilot Program

What is Contracted Slots Pilot Program?:

Harris County is using ARPA funds to pilot a new approach to funding child care for young children, as well as support child care to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused many child care centers across the county to close.

Work with existing high-quality child care centers to add 800 to 1,000 new infant and toddler slots in priority geographies

Prioritize funding to centers that are high-quality and are in or near child care deserts

Ensure equitable distribution across precincts

Increase access to care for priority populations

Focused on children who have the least access to care: infants, toddlers, and 3-year-olds; families with low incomes; families in high poverty areas

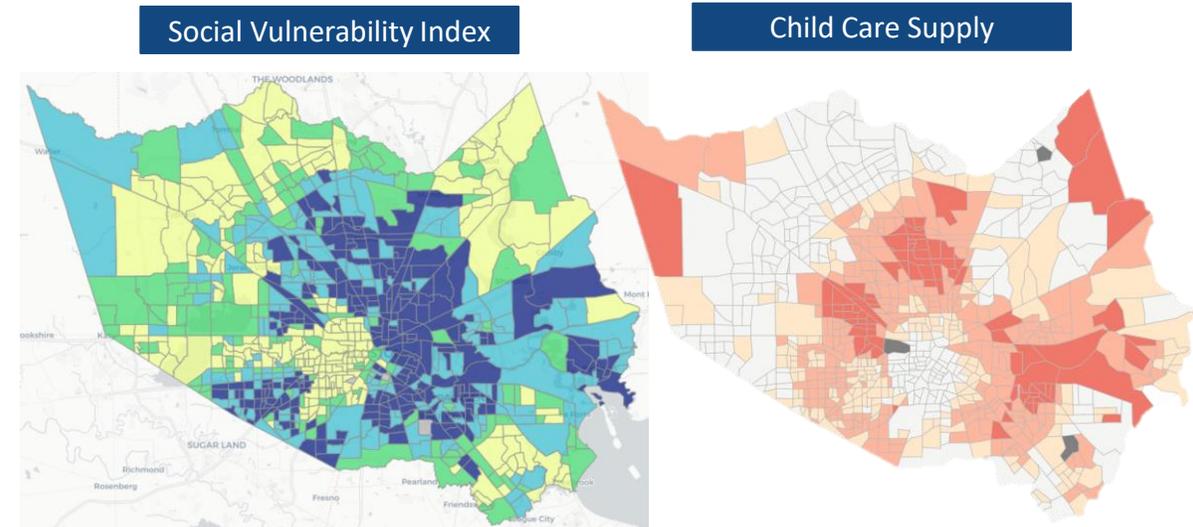
Support high-quality child care environments

Require a living wage for classroom staff and support good working conditions to reduce teacher turnover

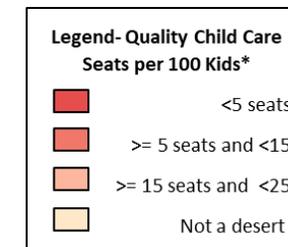
Support strong, durable small businesses

Build entrepreneurial practices to support sustainability of child care

Prioritizes increasing access for families and children in priority geographies:



- 1 High Median Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) ■ ■
- 2 Low Supply of Child Care (i.e., Child Care Deserts)



Sustaining the Early REACH program

Find out more [HERE](#)



\$26.2 million for 2 years with anticipated 1-year additional renewal period

The **sustainability plan** for Early REACH is to demonstrate the need to fund a contract approach with **federal Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) dollars**, which are administered by the Gulf Coast Workforce Board.



Evaluation

Conduct a program evaluation of the pilot program

- Contract with an Institute of Higher Education to conduct a program evaluation and demonstrate the efficacy of a contract approach to fund child care (rather than solely a voucher-based approach).



Gulf Coast Workforce Board

Involve Gulf Coast Workforce Board representation from the beginning of implementation to advise on program administration and set the stage for sustainability with federal funds after 2026

- GCWB representatives will serve on policy advisory committee and be engaged to understand possibility of using existing and future federal funds for a regional contract program.

Discussion Questions

- What do you know about the early childhood workforce in your county?
- What are the major challenges for providers in your county? What supports do providers have access to in your county (e.g., shared services, education supports)?
- Based the information that you've heard today, is your county or state doing similar work to build and maintain the early childhood workforce?
- Do providers in your county reflect the diversity of your community? Can parents find care in that meets their linguistic and cultural needs and preferences?
- Has your county used CARES funding or American Rescue Plan Act funding to support the child care workforce? (i.e., operating grants for child care providers, bonuses, wage increasements, access to professional development)



Contact Us

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Thank you!



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