WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
COASTAL BEND

Child Care Services Committee Meeting

October 6, 2026
3:00 pm

Bayview Tower
400 Mann Street, Suite 800
Bayview Large Conference Room
Corpus Christi, TX

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6023106124?pwd=LGkM5d67Dtb6LmUlVkD2iPYqMpA2DX.1&omn=83909741441

Toll Free Dial-In
888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 602 310 6124
Passcode: 205402

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.

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
COASTAL BEND

Child Care Services Committee Meeting

Bayview Tower – Administrative Office – 400 Mann Street, Suite 800
Bayview Large Conference Room
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

Join Zoom Meeting

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Tuesday, October 6, 2026 – 3:00 pm

AGENDA

I. **Call to Order**: *Marcia Keener, Chair*

II. **TOMA Rules**: *Celina Leal*

III. **Roll Call**: *Celina Leal*.....5

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 May 5, 2026, Child Care Services Committee Meeting**.....6-7

VII. **Information Only:**
1. Child Care Services Update:
   a. TWC: Child Care Funding Fraud in Texas Update: *Valerie Ann De La Cruz*.....8

(cont'd page 2)

2. Performance Update BCY2026 (Q1 Oct.-Dec.) (Q2 Jan.-Mar.) (Q3 Apr.-Jun.) (Q4 Jul.-Sept.)
   a. Early Access to BCY2026 funding update: *Shileen Lee*.....9-10
   b. Third Quarter (Q3) Performance: *Valerie Ann De La Cruz*.....11
   c. Fourth Quarter (Q4) April Outcomes & Action Plan for Remainder of Q3: *Valerie Ann De La Cruz*.....12
3. Operations & Management of Child Care Services
   a. Baker Ripley Update: *Kenia Dimas*.....13

4. Child Care Quality Services (CCQS)
   a. Texas Rising Star (TRS) Program Update*: Valerie Ann De La Cruz*.....14
   b. Activities & Events – (Q3): *Valerie Ann De La Cruz*.....15
   c. Local Child Care Advisory Council Updates: *Valerie Ann De La Cruz*.....16
   d. *Success Stories: Valerie Ann De La Cruz*.....17

VIII. **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 **Bayview Tower – Administrative Office, Bayview Large Conference Room** and on **ZOOM**. With this format, comes some changes to what is required of board members and the public.

a. The presiding member (Chair or designee) must be in-person at the meeting location, 400 Mann Street, Suite 800, Corpus Christi, Texas.
b. Board members must be visible on camera in order to count toward the quorum and in order to vote.
c. 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.

Child Care Services Committee
Roll Call Roster
October 6, 2026
(4 = Quorum)

_____ Marcia Keener, Chair

_____ Dr. Michelle Cavazos

_____ Cynthia Alegria

_____ Dr. Criselda Leal

_____ Dr. Zachary Suarez

_____ Michelle Tobar

_____
Signed

_____
Printed Name

MINUTES

Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend – Child Care Services Committee Meeting
Bayview Tower- Administrative Office- 400 Mann Street, Suite 800
Bayview Large Conference Room
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

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Meeting ID: 602 310 6124
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Tuesday, May 5, 2026 – 3:00pm

Committee Members Present
Marcia Keener, Chair
Michelle Cavazos
Dr. Criselda Leal
Dr. Zachary Suarez
Michelle Tobar

Other Board Members Present

Absent
Cynthia Alegria

Others Present
Ken Treviño, Workforce Solutions
Alba Silvas, Workforce Solutions
Shileen Lee, Workforce Solutions
Valerie Ann De La Cruz, Workforce Solutions
Christina Gonzalez, Workforce Solutions
Sarahi Vasquez, Workforce Solutions
Milanda Ballesteros, Workforce Solutions
Roxanne Morales, Workforce Solutions
Ernest Everett, Workforce Solutions
Tracy McAfee, Workforce Solutions
Valerie De La Cruz, Workforce Solutions
Miroslava Paiz, Workforce Solutions
Kristen Bily, Workforce Solutions
Vicki Stonum, Workforce Solutions
Imelda Trevino, Workforce Solutions
Celina Leal, Workforce Solutions
Kenia Dimas, BakerRipley
Geri Escobar, C2GPS
Sandy Anderson, Baker Ripley

I. Call to Order
Ms. Keener called the meeting to order at 3:01pm.

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

III. Roll Call
The roll call was called, and a quorum was present.

IV. Announcement on Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest
Attention was called to the Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest and disclosures were requested by the Chair Keener, at this time. None were made.

V. Public Comments

Due to the new TOMA Rules, there is a laptop at meeting location 400 Mann Street; Suite 800 and is noted on Zoom call that it is Public as per TOMA Rules. The laptop is available and open to the public.

VI. Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of February 10, 2026, Child Care Committee Meeting

Ms. Keener stated a main motion to approve the minutes of February 10, 2026, Child Care Services Committee meeting. Dr. Cavazos moved to approve the February 10, 2026 minutes; the motion was seconded by Dr. Suarez and approved.

VII. Information Only:

1. *Child Care Services Update (Q1 Oct.-Dec.) (Q2 Jan-Mar.) (Q3 Apr-Jun.) (Q4 July-Sept.)*

a. TWC: Governor Abbott Directs Investigations into Potential Child Care Funding Fraud in Texas

Mrs. De La Cruz reported on Governor Abbott directing investigations into anti-fraud measures and Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend established protocol to address potential fraud cases included on page 9 of the May 5, 2026 packet.

2. *Performance Update BCY2026 (Q1 Oct-Dec.) (Q2 Jan.-Mar) (Q3 Apr-Jun.) (Q4 Jul -Sep)*

a. Early Access to BCY2026 Funding Update

Mrs. De La Cruz reported on Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend's Child Care Services (CSS) Program beginning BCY2026 in a unique position due to circumstances outlined in Background Information included in pages 10-11 of the May 5, 2026 packet.

b. Second Quarter (Q2) Performance

Mrs. De La Cruz reported on Performance Measures for the Second Quarter outlined in Background Information included on page 12 of the May 5, 2026 packet.

c. Third Quarter (Q3) April Outcomes & Action Plan for Remainder of Q3

Mrs. De La Cruz reported a summary on Third Quarter (Q3) April Outcomes, and the Action Plan for the remainder of Q3 outlined in Background Information included on page 13 of the May 5, 2026 packet.

3. *Operations & Management of Child Care Services*

a. BakerRipley Update

Ms. Dimas reported on BakerRipley Operations & Management for Child Care Services for the Second Quarter (Q2) with the new TX3C System Update outlined in Background Information included on page 14 of the May 5, 2026 packet.

4. *Child Care Quality Services (CCQS)*

a. Texas Rising Star (TRS) Program Update

Mrs. De La Cruz reported information on the Texas Rising Star (TRS) Program Updates included on page 15 of the May 5, 2026 packet.

b. Activities & Events – Second Quarter (Q2)

Mrs. De La Cruz reported information on the Activities & Events had in the Second Quarter (Q2) included on page 16 of the May 5, 2026 packet

c. Local Child Care Advisory Council Updates

Mrs. De La Cruz reported information on Local Child Care Advisory Council Updates included on page 17 of the May 5, 2026 packet

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38pm.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII.1a. Child Care Services Update- TWC: Child Care Fraud in Texas Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In January Governor Abbott directed TWC and the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to work in collaboration to further implement anti-fraud measures and launch investigations into any potential fraud and misdirection of taxpayer dollars related to the Child Care Services Program. The Governor has also directed that TWC and HHSC provide a progress report to his office on January 30, 2026, and a final report on these efforts on February 27, 2026.

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) and Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) already have strong anti-fraud processes in place like routine audits of providers and in-person site visits to facilities to ensure the physical safety of Texas children and the good stewardship of state dollars. These strong anti-fraud measures have shown results as Texas' percentage of improper payment rates is 0.43 percent, compared to Minnesota's approximately 11 percent according to the most recently available federal data.
As outlined in CCS Provider Agreements, the attendance tracking system must be used by all providers, and by all CCS families. We continue to not anticipate any changes in CCS payments to providers.

Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend (WFSCB) has also established a protocol to address potential fraud cases within the Coastal Bend region. WFSCB collaborates closely with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) and our contractor to identify, investigate, and rule out any instances of provider fraud. This coordinated approach ensures accountability, maintains program integrity, and supports compliance with state regulations.
Potential Fraud Cases in the Coastal Bend are as follows:

- April 2026-0 Cases
- May 2026 – 3 Cases: All three cases were after school programs that did not have a contact number listed.
- June 2026 – 2 Cases: Both cases were due to capacity. Monitoring visits were conducted; the programs' capacity, and attendance was reported to FDCM.

As part of our protocol, a review was completed and properly documented for each site, confirming that they are active operating centers. All programs were in compliance.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII – 2a. Performance Update BCY2026- Early Access to BCY2026 Funding Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend's Child Care Services (CCS) program began BCY2025 in a unique position because of the circumstances listed below.

- WFSCB's child care performance target for BCY2025 was 3,312 average number of children served per day.
- WFSCB was able to utilize two years of local match funding (BCY2023 and BCY2024) to enroll children into the CCS program during BCY2024. This funding allowed WFSCB to not only meet the BCY2024 performance measure target of 3,242 average number of children served per day, but to exceed this target.
- There were 3,901 children enrolled in the CCS program on October 1, 2024.
- Enrollment needed to decrease by 589 children before we could consider outreaching children from the waitlist. The decrease in enrollment could only occur as a result of attrition.
- February, March, and April are months during the contract year in which we have large numbers of customers whose eligibility must be redetermined. We hoped to see a considerable number of children attrition out of the program during these months. This did not happen.
- The functionality of the new child care case management system, the Texas Child Care Connection (TX3C), specifically, the issues occurring with children's referrals (not showing up in their designated Board areas/showing up in other Board areas) makes us question if our enrollment number(s) are accurate. There are variances in enrollment numbers from day-to-day and the difficulty in receiving reports in the TX3C system is challenging and unreliable for accuracy in determining the actual number of children enrolled in the CCS program.

The Board and contractor staff closely monitored the impact the large number of children enrolled in the CCS program was having on the allocated child care budget to determine how long the allocated budget could sustain the children enrolled in the CCS program. Board staff met with TWC staff in April regarding this unique situation and were informed that we would have to borrow money from the BCY2026 child care allocation to cover the cost of care for the children in the CCS program through the remainder of the contract number. TWC asked WFSCB to determine how much money we would need to sustain this enrollment through the end of BCY2025. WFSCB requested $1.6 million from TWC in June. This amount represents one payment cycle.

Update: As of April 27,2026, WFSCB
Based on March 2026 data, the Board has successfully managed its enrollment, meeting its affordable
target for three consecutive months while remaining within the following overall contracted
performance targets:

- BCY 2026 Contracted Target—3,217 (midyear adjusted target approved March 3, 2026)
- BCY 2026 Affordable Target—3,025

Month	YTD Average # of Children Served per Day	YTD % of Contracted Target	Monthly Average # of Children Served per Day	Monthly % of Affordable Target
January 2026	2,813	87.44%	2,994	98.98%
February 2026	2,861	88.93%	3,073	101.59%
March 2026	2,895	89.99%	3,078	101.75%

Consequently, the Level 1 Sanction is lifted. Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend is no longer on the CAP.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII. 2b. Performance Update BCY 2026- Third Quarter (Q3) Performance

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend (WFSCB) child care performance during the second quarter of BCY2026 is as follows.

- Workforce performance measures the affordable target for BCY2026 is 3025 children served per day.
- There were 1226 children on the waitlist for the CCS program at the beginning of the third quarter of BCY2026.
- At the end of the third quarter, WFSCB enrolled 119 children for a total of 3293.
- This enrollment places our performance at 100.24 % of TWCs' performance target 3025.
- Child Care enrollments (average number of children served per day) and performance for the third quarter (Q3) of BCY2026 are listed below. This data is from the Texas Child Care Connection (TX3C) child care case management system.

	Child Care Enrollment	TWC Performance Target	Performance Measure
April	3222	3025	97.63%
May	3292	3025	99.07%
June	3293	3025	100.24%

The continued functionality challenges of TX3C in reporting have made forecasting data reporting difficult. The lack of data has resulted in our inability to accurately track attendance, number of children with disabilities, customer wages, employers, and unit costs. Additionally, due to functionality challenges we have had to create manual processes to be able to track information such as waitlist applicants, recertification letters, attendance, provider rates, and other functional areas of the program.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII-2c. Performance Update BCY2026- Fourth Quarter(Q4) & Action Plan for remainder of Q3.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As of July 1, based on local monitoring of enrollment in the Child Care Services program, there were 3366 children enrolled in the CCS Program. This enrollment placed the CCS program at 100.25% for the year. Enrollment was adjusted for the month of August and September to adjust for summer camps and the start of the new school year.

As of July 1,2026 there were 1153 families and 2621 children on the waitlist. The CCS program has currently stopped outreaching customers from the waitlist due to the new target for BCY 2027.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII-3a. 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 second quarter (Q3). The TX3C system continues to undergo numerous updates throughout its 19 months of existence. Staff continue to provide updates, feedback, and reports on progress, as well as identify new challenges encountered in their everyday work.

Most recently, key staff met with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to share challenges and best practices, exchange ideas, and make suggestions for improving processes while working within the system's current limitations. Issues continue to be reported to TWC through the ServiceNow ticketing system with the support of Board Professionals. TWC remains committed to addressing and resolving system issues.

Operations Update:

Texas Rising Star Program-

The TRS Program currently has one supervisor and six Early Care and Education Specialists (Mentors). Staff continue to participate in ongoing training and community events, including the Child Care Christmas Project, Week of the Young Child, and Back-to-School Fairs. Three staff members are also in the process of becoming ITSN Certified Trainers.

Provider Meeting-

The second bi-annual Provider Meeting was held in May, with strong provider representation. The meeting focused on the Workforce Solutions Coastal Bend Provider Agreement and its requirements. Providers were also given a step-by-step explanation of the requirements for reporting absences. Two providers closed, and two providers opened. One home provider expanded to a center.

Staff Vacancies:

There are currently four vacancies:

- Two Intake Eligibility Specialist positions
- One Early Care and Education Specialist position
- One Provider Services Specialist position

Community Impact:

Employees participated in several community events and initiatives, including:

- Week of the Young Child events in both urban and rural areas.
- Five Back-to-School Fairs in rural areas hosted by school districts and non-profit organizations
- Operation Safe Return in Corpus Christi.
- Planning for upcoming end-of-year events, including the Children's Project, Homeless Project, and Breast Cancer Awareness Month is underway.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII- 4a. Child Care Quality Services (CCQS)- Texas Rising Star Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board team 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. Child care programs who enter into a Workforce Provider Agreement with WFSCB must become TRS certified within a two-year period to continue receiving subsidies for providing services in the CCS program.

Total Number of **certified** Texas Rising Star (TRS) child care providers: 143

☆☆☆☆ Texas Rising Star 4 Star Providers: 49

☆☆☆ Texas Rising Star 3 Star Providers: 73

☆☆ Texas Rising Star 2 Star Providers: 21

Entry Level Providers waiting to be certified: 15

Total Number of WFSCB child care providers who have received mentoring services: 165
Total Number of child care providers: 165
There are currently 7 TRS mentors. The mentors have a case load of about 35 child care providers. We have 2 new mentors who are currently receiving training.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII-4b. Child Quality Services (CCQS); Activities & Events

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board Professionals will provide an update on Activities & Events done in the third quarter (Q3).

- **Staff Retention Bonus**: WFSCB awarded 1087 full-time, part-time, and support staff employees who maintained employment for at least six months with a one-time retention bonus. Full-time employees (667) received $1100, Part-time (115) employees received $ 700, and support staff (305) received $ 525. The total amount for the Staff Retention Bonus was $ 974,325.00
- **Family Engagement Nights**: WFSCB awarded 141 programs a one-time $300 stipend to assist programs with hosting Family Engagement events. Programs utilized this funding to host Family Engagement nights that focused on child growth and development. The total cost for this one-time stipend was $40,800.00

Child Care Professional Development:

- **Child Development Associate (CDA)**: WFSCB, in partnership with Del Mar College, enrolled 13 teachers and directors in the Child Development Associate (CDA) program. Participants are in their final session of a three-part course over a six-month period to obtain their CDA certification. Tuition, books, and testing fees are fully covered for all participants. The total amount spent for this quarter was $4344.00. Upon completion of this section, participants will be prepared to complete testing and observation to receive their CDA certification.
- **Back-To-School Teachers Fair**: WFSCB held its 12th annual Back-To-School Teachers Fair July 25, 2026. This event hosted 658 participants. Attendees were able to choose from nine breakout sessions that included a leadership track where they received 5.5 of professional development. Participants were given the opportunity to win over $150,000 in various resources for their classroom. The estimated cost for this event $314,907.97.

INFORMATION ONLY

VII-4c. Local Child Care Advisory Council Updates

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC-Letter 19-23-Change 1: Issued December 19,2023; requires that local board areas form a childcare advisory committee. WFSCB has formed an Advisory Council represented by the following entities:

- Licensed childcare center participating in TWC's Child Care Services (CCS) program.
- Licensed or registered childcare home provider participating in (CCS).
- Current Parent served by Child Care Services.
- Baker Ripley the Board Child Care Services contractor.
- Three Child Care Servies Board member staff.
- A childcare community stakeholder representing the interests of the children and/or families served.

WFSCB Advisory Council Meetings:

October 22,2025. Topics discussed:

- Professional development
- Parent inclusion
- CDA training for childcare center staff.

January 21,2026 via ZOOM. Topics discussed:

- Introductions to new members of the Advisory Council.
- Reviewed the requirements of the council.
- Professional development.
- Inclusion for children with special needs. Discussed parent education support on this topic.
- Accommodation for centers that children with special needs.
- Staff retention bonus
- CDA Training for teachers and directors at centers accepting Workforce scholarships.

August 14, 2026, via Zoom. Topics discussed:

- Professional development updates
- Staff Retention Bonus Information
- CDA Participant Update
- Child Care by The Numbers
- Waiting List

INFORMATION ONLY

VII -4d. Child Care Quality Services & Success Stories

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

WFSCB Child Care Quality team reintroduced the Child Development Associate (CDA) program in partnership with Del Mar College. Thirteen dedicated teachers and directors eagerly enrolled, making a significant step forward in their professional development.

Over the course of six months, participants engaged in a rigorous three-part course fully funded by WFSCB Child Care Quality funds, which covered tuition, books, supplies, testing fees along with a thousand-dollar stipend. This support alleviated financial burdens, allowing participants to focus entirely on their education and growth.

Graduates will be equipped not only for certification testing but also with enhanced skills and confidence to positively impact their classrooms. This initiative not only strengthens the workforce but also enriches the learning environment for countless children in our community.
Through this collaboration, WFSCB and Del Mar College have revived a vital program and laid the groundwork for continued success in child development and education. The journey toward CDA certification reflects our commitment to high-quality early childhood education. As they approach the final session, WFSCB continues to support these ladies in their completion of the certification. Please join me in recognizing and congratulating the participants.

- ☆ Bernadette Espinosa- FUMC Vinson Morris
- ☆ Zinnia Logsdon- Bundles of Care
- ☆ La'Rez Selestan- Developing Little Geniuses
- ☆ Alexis Salinas- Developing Little Geniuses
- ☆ Geronique Speaks- Developing Little Geniuses
- ☆ Gabrielle Guerra- Jenny's Tiny Treasures
- ☆ Yvonne Duran- Jenny's Tiny Treasures
- ☆ Jennifer Garcia- Jenny's Tiny Treasures
- ☆ Maritza Cantu- OG Kidzone
- ☆ Kaitlin Noble- OG Kidzone
- ☆ Rosa Yanez- OG Kidzone
- ☆ Mary Cantu- OG Kidzone
- ☆ Debroah Deleon- OG Kidzone

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.