

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 11, 2025

TO Honorable Chair and Members of the Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee

SUBJECT **Update on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Childcare Program**

This memo provides an update on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Childcare Programming administered by the Office of Community Care and Empowerment (OCCE) and will highlight recent progress and current activities. OCCE is administering childcare programming through CDBG under 3 programmatic areas: (1) ECOSTS Subsidy; (2) ECOSTS Homeless and Special Needs Children; and (3) Drivers of Poverty Childcare Program.

ECOSTS – Subsidy and Special Needs

The Early Childhood and Out-of-School Time Services (ECOSTS) Program assist low-to-moderate-income families by providing financial assistance by way of subsidies payment to their childcare provider and contracting with two nonprofit agencies to provide childcare assistance to children who are experiencing homelessness and children with special needs. This program promotes stability to low-to-moderate-income families who falls within these two components:

1. ECOSTS Subsidy
2. ECOSTS Homeless/Special Needs

For the ECOSTS Subsidy Program, parents must be working or attending school, living in the City of Dallas, and fall within the HUD Average Family Median Income (AFMI) Guidelines.

The ECOSTS Subsidy Program is presently serving 64 families/83 children. Currently there are 12 fully licensed childcare providers in the program, located in within the City of Dallas.

The requirements for the ECOSTS Homeless/Special Needs Program are follows:

Housing Insecure Families

- Families must provide a verification letter showing the family is currently living in a homeless shelter in the City of Dallas.

Families with Children with Special Needs

- Parents must be working or attending school
- Living in the City of Dallas
- Fall within the HUD AFMI Guidelines

- Have a child with special needs

We are currently serving 46 families/58 children through the ECOSTS Homeless/Special Needs Program.

Drivers Of Poverty Childcare

For fiscal year 2025, the Community Development Commission recommended the allocation of CDBG Drivers of Poverty program funding to support childcare services. The Drivers of Poverty Program (Childcare), targets resident of the City of Dallas who are low-to-moderate-income needing childcare assistance, who meet two of the nine Drivers of Poverty, as outlined in the 2014 Mayor's Task Force on Poverty. The two drivers chosen for this childcare program are:

- High Poverty Rates for Single Women Heads of Households with Children
- Neighborhoods of Concentrated Poverty

OCCE employs dedicated personnel to support this program, funded through CDBG. As of April 2025, we are actively enrolling providers and families into the program.

Sincerely,



M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira,
Assistant City Manager

Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety
Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager

Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement, and Alignment (I)
Directors and Assistant Directors