

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE October 11, 2024

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

SUBJECT **Update on 2024 Dallas Youth Survey and Dallas Youth Collaborative**

The Office of Community Care and Empowerment (OCCE) is excited to provide an update on the 2024 Dallas Youth Survey, which launched on October 1, 2024, and will run until November 30, 2024. The City strategically engages youth through the Youth Commission and College Advisory Council and offers enrichment services targeting higher-risk youth populations, including opportunity youth, through youth development and intervention programs, administered through the Office of Community Care and Empowerment (OCCE). The Dallas Youth Survey is an initiative of the Dallas Youth Commission and the National Civic League (NCL). The College Advisory Commission also supports the development of the survey and is leading the distribution plan for students over the age of 18 years. The goal of the survey is to collect responses from over 5,000 students between the ages of 13 and 24 across Dallas, with a focus on gathering critical data regarding their perspectives on key areas such as education, safety, mental health, workforce readiness, and civic engagement.

The survey will provide a robust and representative dataset that will help us better understand the needs, challenges, and opportunities for Dallas youth. These insights will directly inform our future program development, recommendations, and priorities in areas like workforce development, education reform, and youth violence prevention. We are working in close partnership with Dallas ISD, Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD, Harmony ISD, Highland Park ISD, Richardson ISD, charter schools, local colleges, community centers, and youth-serving organizations, to ensure diverse participation, including outreach to underserved populations and opportunity youth.

Additionally, this survey serves as a pilot to assess the feasibility of future expansions. While this survey is administered only in English at this time, there are plans for future surveys to incorporate multiple languages, based on feedback, and reflective of the evolving demographics of the youth population in Dallas.

A comprehensive analysis of the results of the survey will be shared with the WEE Committee in FY25. The findings will support the City's planning around youth-related programs, ensuring they are evidence-based and reflective of the identified needs of our young people.

## **Dallas Youth Collaborative Launch Luncheon Recap**

On October 3, 2024, OCCE convened the Dallas Youth Collaborative at City Hall. The event brought together over 25 educational institutions and community organizations committed to focus on fostering collaboration on youth-focused initiatives. During the

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luncheon, several organizations signed pledges of support, signifying a citywide commitment to working together on programs that empower and uplift young people. Attendees had the opportunity to discuss strategic priorities for the Dallas Youth Collaborative, including leadership development, safety, educational attainment, and youth engagement.

This event marked an important milestone in unifying efforts across the city, and we are confident that the Youth Collaborative will enhance opportunities for youth in Dallas through sustained partnerships and collective action.

We look forward to sharing further updates on both the survey and the Dallas Youth Collaborative's initiatives in the coming months. Please contact myself or Jessica Galeshaw, Director of Office of Community Care and Empowerment, at 214-670-5113 or [jessica.galeshaw@dallas.gov](mailto:jessica.galeshaw@dallas.gov).

Sincerely,



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