



**City of Dallas**

# Overview of Out of School Time Landscape and Early Childhood Care Landscape and Update on Related Projects

## Workforce, Education and Equity

Jessica Galleshaw,  
Director, Office of Community Care and Empowerment

Dannita Williams,  
Program Administrator, Office of Community Care and  
Empowerment

Marjorie Murat  
Chief Executive Office, Dallas Afterschool

Kyle Francis, PhD  
Vice President of Development, Dallas Afterschool

# Agenda for Today



ECOSTS Programming Updates

Partner Presentation: Dallas  
Afterschool

Questions and Discussion





- ECOSTS (Early Childhood and Out-of-School Time Services) – Providers Program
- ECOSTS – Special Needs/Families Experiencing Homelessness Program
- ECOSTS Provider Assistance (ARPA) Program



# ECOSTS: Purpose



- ECOSTS program seeks to:
  - **Remove Financial barriers to childcare**
    - By providing subsidy to parents who need help with childcare and who DO NOT qualify for any other forms of public assistance
  - **Remove Geographic barriers**
    - By allowing parents to select any licensed provider that best meet their needs





- **Assist parents planning to cover full cost of their childcare**
  - By providing financial planning and budget development workshops and follow-up group session for parents in the program
- **Improve delivery of services**
  - By providing technical assistance to participating childcare programs in area of need and interests
- **Assist parents in selecting childcare**
  - By training parents in what to look for when selecting a childcare center



# ECOSTS: Providers Subsidy Rates



The ECOSTS Program pays a portion of childcare expenses for working parents whose income is at 80% or below the Area Median Income (AMFI), based on the sliding scale below (As of October 2024):

<u>AGE</u>	<u>WEEKLY SUBSIDY</u>
Birth - 18 months	\$175.00
18 months – 36 months	\$150.00
3 years – 5 years	\$125.00
6 years – 12 years	\$100.00

Staff conducts market analysis every 2 years and adjusts rates accordingly.



# ECOSTS: Providers Subsidy Rates



## FY 2024 Area Median Family Income (AMFI) Limits Summary:

FY2024 Income Limit Area	Median Family Income	FY 2024 Income Limit Category	Persons in Family							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Dallas, Texas HUD Metro Fair Market Rents (FMR) Area	\$110,300	Low (80%) Income Limits (\$)	61,800	70,600	79,450	88,250	95,350	102,400	109,450	116,500
		Very Low (50%) Income Limits	38,650	44,150	49,650	55,150	59,600	64,000	68,400	72,800
		Extremely Low (30%) Income Limits	23,200	26,500	29,800	33,100	36,580	41,960	47,340	52,720

**NOTE:** HUD generally uses the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) area definitions in the calculation of income limit program parameters. However, to ensure that program parameters do not vary significantly due to area definition changes, HUD has used custom geographic definitions for the **Dallas, TX HUD Metro FMR Area**.

The **Dallas, TX HUD Metro FMR Area** contains the following areas: Collin County, TX; Dallas County, TX; Denton County, TX; Ellis County, TX; Hunt County, TX; Kaufman County, TX; and Rockwall County, TX.



# Eligibility Guidelines



- To qualify for the program, families must meet the following guidelines:
  - Must reside in Dallas
  - Select a licensed childcare facility in Dallas
  - Have legal custody of the children being enrolled
  - 80% AMI or below







## Specialized Programs (through contracted providers):

- **Childcare for Homeless Families:** Designed to provide year-round childcare for homeless children to enable parents to obtain/sustain employment, receive job training, and/or continue their education. Homeless means an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; or an individual whose primary residence during the night is a supervised, publicly or privately-operated facility designed to provide temporary living accommodations.
- **Childcare for Special Needs Children:** Designed to provide year-round childcare for children with functional needs requiring assistance to perform tasks that are not within the typical chronological range of development. Some special needs include, but are not limited to, visual, speech, and hearing impairments; restriction of movement or large and/or small muscles; learning impairment, emotional disturbances, and who have been affected/effectuated by HIV/AIDS disease.



# Special Needs / Families Experiencing Homelessness



Special Needs Assistance seeks to:

- **Aid child development for children who have special needs and children who have been affected by HIV/AIDS disease.**
  - By providing year around medically managed care, which includes an onsite nurse and partners who provide speech, physical and occupational therapy.

Families Experiencing Homelessness:

- **Remove financial barriers to qualify childcare**
  - By providing free childcare for homeless families
- **Address the unique needs of homeless children**
  - By providing a program that is designed to address early childhood development, health/mental wellness and family support services



# Program Performance Measures



Program	Measure	Goal	FY24 Actual
ECOST	Number of children served	235	301
ECOST	Total workshops offered	12	23
Special Needs Assistance	Number of children served	40	36
Special Needs Assistance	Number of households served	25	27
Families Experiencing Homelessness	Number of children served	40	36
Families Experiencing Homelessness	Number of households served	25	27



# Program Outcome Measures



Program	Measure	Goal	FY24 Actual
ECOST	How many parents were able to maintain employment due to receiving affordable childcare	Every family enrolled	209
Special Needs Assistance	Percentage of parents that have obtained employment or remained employed, received job training and/or continued their education due to agency providing childcare of parents	90%	100%
Special Needs Assistance	Percentage of children who will maintain or improve in all areas of educational or developmental domains when measured at the end of the year	85%	100%
Special Needs Assistance	Percentage of parents who will rate the effectiveness of the child program as "effective" or "very effective"	90%	100%
Families Experiencing Homelessness	Percentage of infant/toddler children participating in Vogel Alcove for at least 8 months who are functioning at an appropriate stage of development	75%	91%
Families Experiencing Homelessness	Percentage of 5-year-old children assessed as kindergarten ready at the end of May	75%	90%
Families Experiencing Homelessness	Percentage of parents that have obtained employment or remained employed, received job training and/or continued their education due to agency providing childcare-	75%	79%



# Drivers of Poverty: Childcare



## Program Update:

- Finalizing Program Statement
- Tentative Date for Council Approval: December 2024
- Tentative Start Date: January 2025



# Agenda for Today



ECOST Programming Updates

Partner Presentation: Dallas  
Afterschool

Questions and Discussion





# City of Dallas

Workforce, Education & Equity Committee Briefing  
November 5, 2024

---





The mission of Dallas Afterschool is to level the playing field for children of all races and economic backgrounds by increasing access to high-quality out-of-school-time programs.

[DALLASAFTERSCHOOL.ORG](http://DALLASAFTERSCHOOL.ORG)



 @DallasAfterschool

 @Dallas\_Afterschool

 @DalAfterschool





# AGENDA

---



**01** Importance of Out-of-School Time (OST)

**02** The OST & Early Childhood Landscape

**03** Dallas Afterschool & Our Work

**04** The Impact of the City of Dallas ARPA Grants



# Out-of-school-time programs



## Make a difference for *youth* by:

---

- **Keeping children safe**

Juvenile crime triples between the hours of 3 & 6 pm., hours when children are more likely to experiment with risky behaviors.

- **Closing the opportunity gap**

By the time they reach the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, low-income children have experienced 6,000 fewer hours of enrichment activities compared to middle-income children.

- **Inspiring kids to learn and stay engaged in school**

Attendance, grades and graduation rates are directly linked to high quality afterschool programs.

- **Supporting social-emotional development**

Last year, 85% of students in our partner programs showed improved mental health aptitudes based on a nationally-used assessment tool.

- **Building communities:** Out-of-school time programs foster a sense of belonging and connection to the community, helping children feel valued and supported.



# OST and Early Childhood programs



## Make a difference for the *workforce* by:

---

- **Supporting working families**

By allowing parents to stay in the workforce, these programs promote economic mobility, housing stability, and food security.

- **Increasing tax revenue**

Texas loses \$1.8 billion annually in tax revenue from parents who chose not to work because of a lack of childcare.

- **Bolstering productivity**

Texas loses around \$7.59 billion in productivity every year due to employee absences caused by lack of reliable childcare.

- **Building the workforce**

These programs themselves are significant employers, with over 46,000 Texans working in the out-of-school-time and childcare sectors. By providing ongoing professional development opportunities, agencies like Dallas Afterschool and Educational First Steps contribute to the overall uplift of the economy.



# The current OST landscape



## Is in a state of crisis

- Unmet demand is at an all-time high.
- For every child in an afterschool program in Dallas, 3 are waiting to get in.
- Annual turnover rate for OST workforce averages as high as 70%, forcing programs to operate below capacity.
- This gap leaves **over 100,000 children** in Dallas without a safe place to go afterschool.



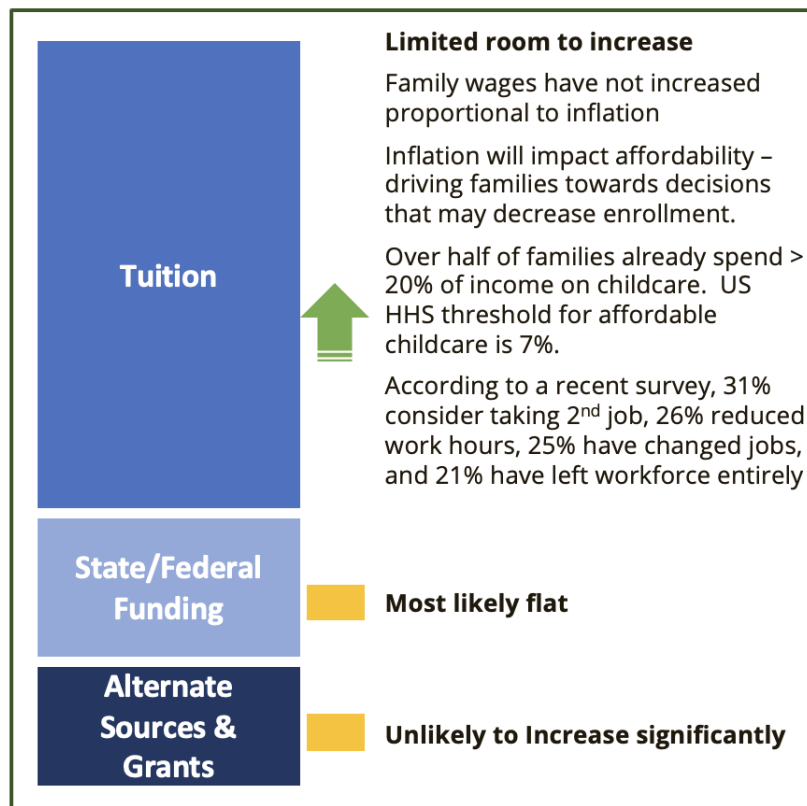
# The current Early Childhood landscape



## Childcare provider center-based business model assessment

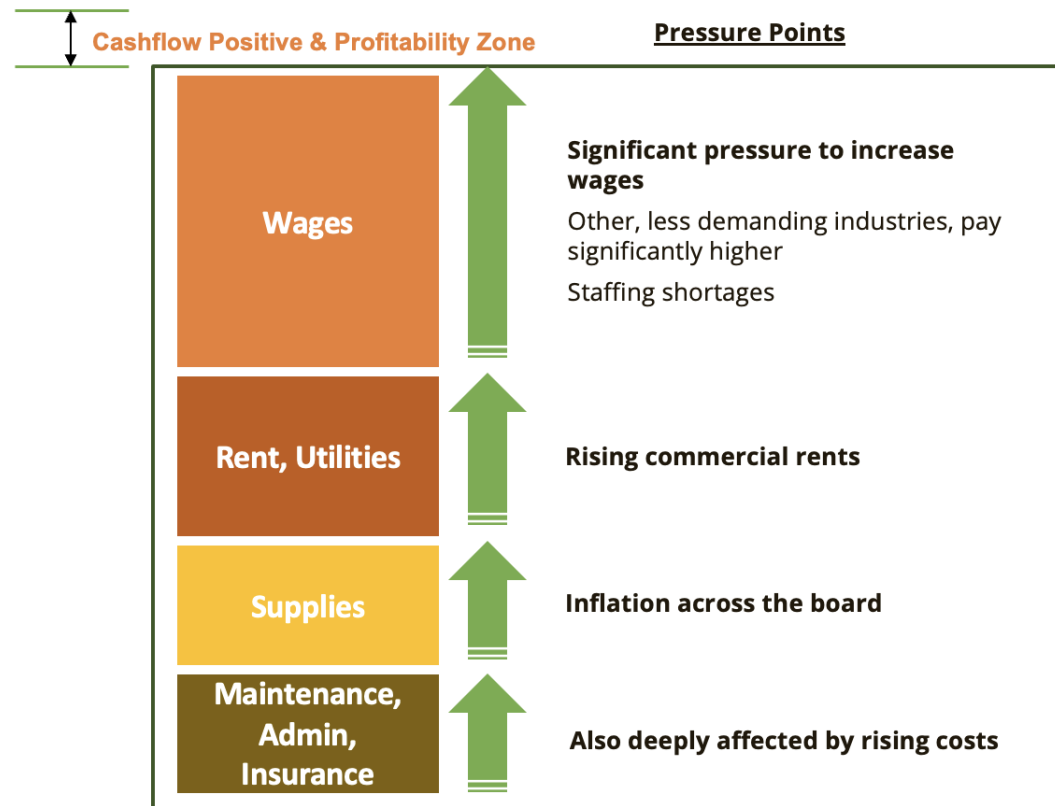
### REVENUE

#### Trends & Factors



### EXPENSES

#### Pressure Points



# OST & ECE – by comparison\*



	Out-of-School Time	Early Childhood Education
Lifeline for working families	✓	✓
Crucial for youth development	✓	✓
Severe staffing shortages	✓	✓
Mostly grant funded	✓	✗
Mostly tuition funded	✗	✓
Eligible for subsidies	✗	✓
Licensed	✗	✓
Brick and mortar	✗	✓



\*While the similarities and differences outlined here are generally applicable, exceptions may exist.

# Why Dallas Afterschool



## To fill a critical gap that is unique to OST

- A 2007 study found **no unifying agency** existed to facilitate communication, learning, or information exchange among the hundreds of nonprofit afterschool agencies in Dallas.
- Free and low-cost afterschool programs have **no safety or quality standards.**
- Free and low-cost afterschool programs receive **no public oversight.**
- These programs have **no tuition**, receive **no public subsidies**, and therefore generate **no revenue.**
- OST educators receive **no professional development.**



# Dallas Afterschool



## Our Reach

- We partner with **40 agencies** that run **250 sites**
  - Non-profit providers
  - Dallas ISD
  - Dallas Department of Park & Rec
- From these agencies, we train **500+ OST professionals.**
- And we provide academic and enrichment activities for **19,000 students.**

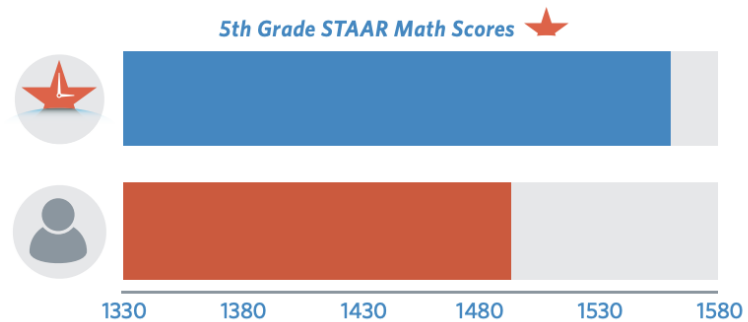
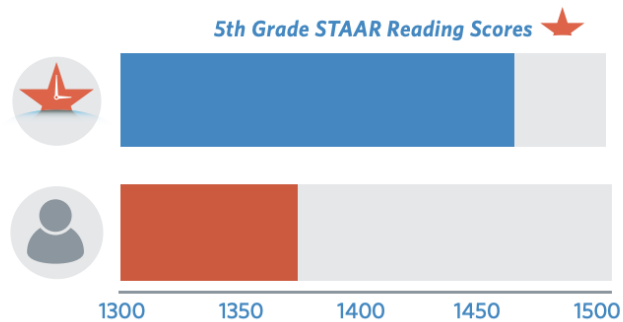
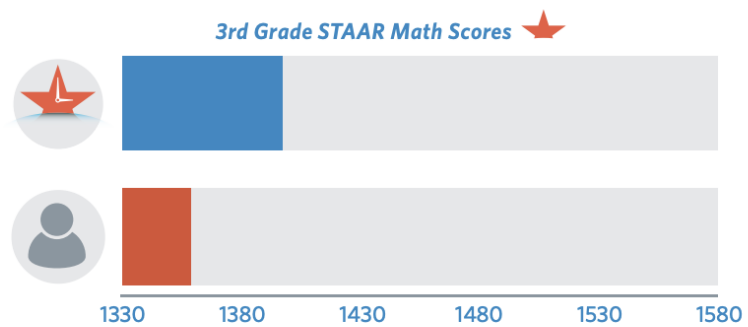
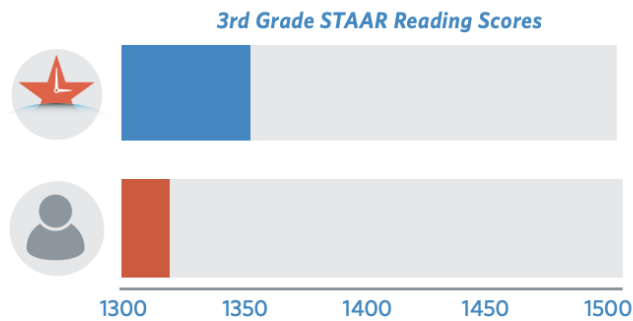




# Dallas Afterschool



## Academic Impact of OST



3rd and 5th grade students in Dallas Afterschool partner programs scored higher on their 2016 STAAR tests than their matched peers.

 = statistically significant finding



# Impact of ARPA Grant Program



## Program related expenses

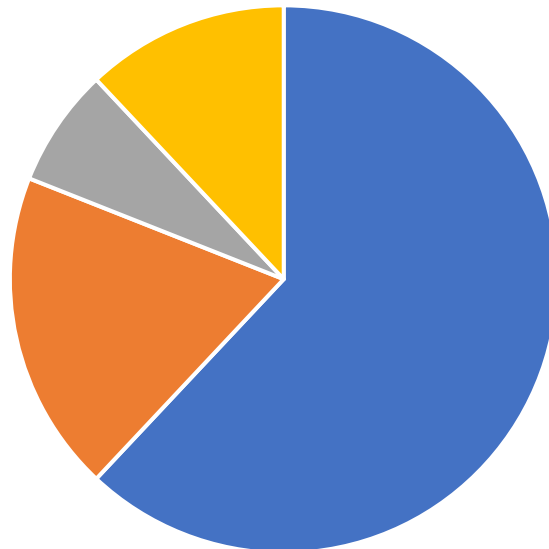
- Dallas Afterschool partnered with Educational First Steps to distribute \$410,000 in **microgrants** to 12 Out-of-School-Time providers and 12 Early Childhood providers.



DALLAS  
AFTERSCHOOL

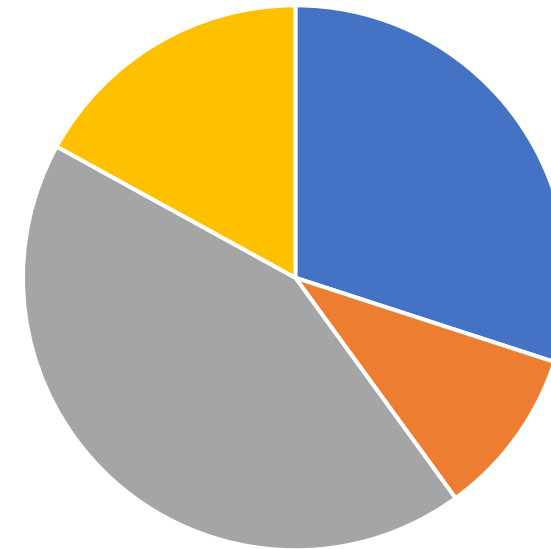
- Salaries
- Supplies
- Facilities
- Other

### OST Grant Expenses



### ECE Grant Expenses

- Salaries
- Supplies
- Facilities
- Other



# Impact of ARPA Grant Program



## Advance *OST programs* along the quality continuum

- All 12 OST providers mastered their **safety exams**.
- Five afterschool programs gained **certification** as operating at the highest level of quality.
- **500 students** now attend afterschool programs certified by Dallas Afterschool.
- **70% of students passed STAAR** reading assessments (compared to 66% of matched peers in DISD).

*\*Early Childhood Programs are already licensed and therefore do not require outside assessments.*





DALLASAFTERSCHOOL.ORG

 @DallasAfterschool

 @Dallas\_Afterschool

 @DalAfterschool

# Agenda for Today



ECOST Programming Updates

Partner Presentation: Dallas  
Afterschool

Questions and Discussion





# Discussion





**City of Dallas**

# Overview of Out of School Time Landscape and Early Childhood Care Landscape and Update on Related Projects

## Workforce, Education and Equity

Jessica Galleshaw,  
Director, Office of Community Care and Empowerment

Dannita Williams,  
Program Administrator, Office of Community Care and  
Empowerment

Marjorie Murat  
Chief Executive Office, Dallas Afterschool

Kyle Francis, PhD  
Vice President of Development, Dallas Afterschool