



### **Supporting Student-Parents and Families**

**Community College Association of Texas Trustees** 

**Annual Conference** 

September 12-14, 2024

Jee Hang Lee President and CEO



### Framing the Conversation

For parents nationwide, child care is a basic need, and often a critical barrier for those who seek to enroll in and complete postsecondary education.

Raising Up Student Parents





22%

of today's college students are parents



Over half of student parents are people of color

42% of student parents in higher education attend CC



58%

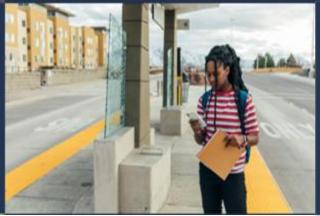
are struggling with food or housing insecurity





19%

of today's college students have disabilities



33% of student parents earn GPA of 3.5 or higher compared to 31% independent students

## Why Head Start?

# Head Start programs provide comprehensive support to nearly 1 million children and families each year



Federally funded program that grants directly to providers



Services include education, health, and family stability



Centers are approved for specific geographic service areas; relocation within the same area is permissible



Funding supports staffing, facilities, workforce training, family supports



### A Partnership that Makes Sense

Most community college campuses operate within Head Start geographic service areas

The median distance between a campus and its nearest Head Start is only 1.5 miles

Only 130 community + technical colleges have Head Start centers on campus



## **Benefits of Head Start College Partnerships**

#### **Head Start**

- Increase Head Start enrollment
- Financial/budget implications
- Create workforce and training pathways
- Connection to campus departments and resources



## **Benefits of Head Start College Partnerships**

### **Children & Family**

- Co-located, free for families, high-quality, early learning opportunities
- Co-located resources for parents, children, family members
- Full- or part-time job opportunities
- Higher-education modeling



### **Benefits of Head Start College Partnerships**

### **Community Colleges**

- Support persistence & completion among students with young children
- Capacity to support students basic needs
- Access to a high-quality early learning program,
- Recruit prospective student parents and their families

# Opinion | Head Start centers in community colleges can

change the child-care equation



By the <u>Editorial Board</u>
| **Follow** 

March 14, 2023 at 6:05 p.m. EDT



# What is the Kids on Campus project?



### **Project Overview**

**Establish 50-75 partnerships** 

Put forth and evaluate a design that is sustainable

Demystify partnerships and demonstrate scalability

Highlight a business case/economics of the partnership

**Cultivate a Community of Practice** 

**Create library of resources for future partnerships** 



### **Project Design**

Screening potential organizations for interest and preparedness to partner

2

Matchmaking between community colleges and Head Start programs

3

Technical assistance to go from meeting to marriage to living together successfully



### **Project Support**

Directors at both ACCT and NHSA will work to facilitate partnerships and provide guidance throughout the process.

- **1** Technical Assistance Webinars
- Peer Learning Opportunities
- Partnership Coaching
- Template and Resource Development



### Kids on Campus User Guide

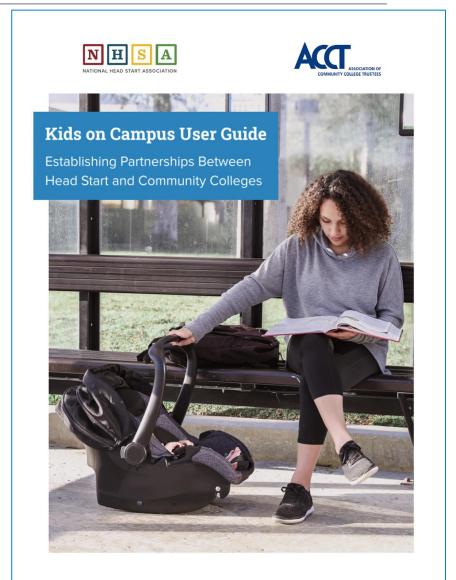
1 Before You Begin

2 Partnership Profiles

3 Navigating Negotiations

4 Launching Your Partnership





### **Texas State Based Project**



Texas Association of Community Colleges



Two-year Texas based project

**Partnership with TACC** 

**State Coordinator housed at TACC** 

Leverage national project to create Texas specific resources

20 partnerships in two years



### **Next Steps for Participation**

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

**Fill out the Screener Form** 

Create a Readiness Report

Engage in TA, Negotiations, & CoP

**Full Partnership Activities** 



# Want to Participate?



https://www.kidsoncampus.org

# Questions?



### **Thank You**

### **Kids on Campus Team**



Miya T. Simpson

msimpson@acct.org

**Susana Hines** 

shines@nhsa.org

https://www.kidsoncampus.org

