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Contact: Jill Byrd, Creative Noggin
 jill@creativenoggin.com | 210.501.4288

Pre-K 4 SA awards \$4.3 million in grants to increase access to high-quality early childhood education across San Antonio

Funds improve curriculum and instructional quality for the city’s youngest learners

SAN ANTONIO — Pre-K 4 SA selected 22 education providers to receive \$4.3 million in grants for the 2018-2020 school years to improve instructional quality and increase access to early childhood education in San Antonio.

“The Competitive Grants Program is a powerful tool for delivering on the promise of high-quality prekindergarten for all of San Antonio’s 4-year-olds,” said Sarah Baray, Pre-K 4 SA CEO. “Through these grants, we are not only educating the 2,000 students enrolled at our four centers, but we are engaging and preparing our youngest learners across the city for success by investing dollars into the community’s early childhood education infrastructure.”

Grant proposals were submitted in October 2017. The Pre-K 4 SA Board reviewed and approved the 2018 recipients at a meeting March 6, 2018. Grant contracts for the 2018-2020 academic years will be a one-year term with an additional one-year renewal. Eligible categories included public/charter schools, private/parochial schools, and licensed child development centers.

| Public/Charter | Private/Parochial | Child Development Centers |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Central ISD • San Antonio ISD • Northside ISD • North East ISD • Southwest ISD • Harlandale ISD • Edgewood ISD • Jubilee Academy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Mary Magdalen • Archdiocese of San Antonio: Hope for the Future • Islamic Academy of San Antonio | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daughters of Charity – DePaul Wesley Children's Center • Daughters of Charity – DePaul Children's Center • KinderCare Nacogdoches Learning Center • St. Philip's College Child Development Center • University Presbyterian Children's Center • KinderCare Guilbeau Learning Center • La Mision Child Care • La Petite - Judson • Northwoods Presbyterian Day School • Humble Creek Ranch Youth Enrichment and Sports Academy • La Petite – Emerald Glade |

Pre-K 4 SA’s Competitive Grants Showcase will be March 7 at Launch SA. The new recipients will be highlighted, while the 2016 awardees will present the enhancements to their early childhood education programs made possible through Pre-K 4 SA grants. The first cycle of grants recipients served 4,628 students between August 2016 and December 2017. Pre-K 4 SA Competitive Grants Program is part of the organization’s City of San Antonio charter to serve as the early childhood learning resource for the community.

The \$4.3 million grants for the 2018-2020 term will expand access to full-day pre-kindergarten for 500 additional children in San Antonio. Additionally, 760 working families will have access to extended-day services. The grants will assist with professional learning to increase specialized credentials for assistant teachers through child development

associates certificates. Collectively, \$2.3 million will be expended to increase the number of teachers, instructional assistants, support staff and extended day staff, while at the same time infusing the local economy with \$2 million in service contracts, professional development, and improvements to indoor and outdoor learning spaces.

“Pre-K 4 SA was designed to benefit every 4-year-old in the city,” Baray said. “We are making San Antonio a national benchmark for early childhood education by working with our school districts, charter and parochial schools, as well as child development centers to provide grants and professional development.”

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About Pre-K 4 SA:

Pre-K 4 SA is a comprehensive early childhood initiative aimed at changing the education and workforce trajectory of San Antonio in one generation. Pre-K 4 SA offers full-day pre-kindergarten for 4-year-olds living in the City of San Antonio. Pre-K 4 SA is free for qualifying students and also accepts tuition-paying students. The school day begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Extended hours are available at no additional charge from 7:15 to 8 a.m., and from 3 to 6 p.m. for working families. Breakfast, lunch and two snacks are included and free transportation is available to all students. Pre-K 4 SA has four Education Centers located throughout the city: North Education Center, 3635 Medical Dr.; South Education Center, 7031 S. New Braunfels Ave.; East Education Center, 5230 Eisenhower Rd.; and West Education Center, 1235 Enrique M. Barrera Memorial Parkway. The Pre-K 4 SA Professional Learning program provides pre-kindergarten through third grade educators in San Antonio with complementary continuing education to support best practice instruction to help every child in San Antonio excel. The Pre-K 4 SA Competitive Grants program provides more than \$4 million in funding annually to increase quality and access in early childhood programs throughout San Antonio. Visit www.prek4sa.com for more information.

San Antonio: America’s 21st Century City

San Antonio is a global city with a dynamic economy and workforce, a deep cultural heritage and diverse communities that are resilient and welcoming. It is one of the strongest fiscally managed cities in the country with a vibrant business climate and a ‘AAA’ general obligation bond rating from all three major rating agencies. San Antonio is a city that nurtures entrepreneurship, encourages investment and funds infrastructure. America’s seventh-largest city offers growth opportunities in bioscience, financial services, aerospace, cybersecurity, energy, transportation, manufacturing and health care. In 2015, UNESCO designated San Antonio’s 18th century Spanish colonial missions as a World Heritage Site — the first in Texas. Proudly called Military City, USA®, San Antonio is home to one of the largest populations of active duty military, veterans and crucial military commands. In 2018, the city will celebrate its 300th anniversary, honoring its rich past and a bright future focused on innovation and livability. For more information, visit www.sanantonio.gov.