



Request for Coverage
June 6, 2019

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

Rashena Flagg, CHILDREN AT RISK
rashena@pretcfirm.com | 713.301.4577

**Pre-K 4 SA, United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County, CHILDREN AT RISK
to Launch Shared Services Initiative for San Antonio Child Care Providers**
*New partnership provides strategy to help improve quality at early child development centers
and make business more sustainable*

WHAT: Pre-K 4 SA, United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County, and CHILDREN AT RISK are joining forces to support child care providers in San Antonio with an innovative business solution that will improve education quality, encourage family engagement and enhance the child care business model. The nonprofits are launching the new Shared Services Alliance initiative in San Antonio.

The Shared Services Alliance brings multiple child care providers together so they can share resources, negotiate better prices as a group, improve child outcomes, and work together to meet their goals around quality programming. By reallocating and pooling resources, partners in the program can create necessary efficiencies that will improve overall quality and increase access for children.

The goal of the Shared Services Alliance is increased enrollment, decreased debt, and increased revenue to fill critical gaps at child care centers. Teachers and staff will benefit from better wages, retirement benefits and professional development. Vulnerable families will have better access to health and social services, and children will have improved kindergarten readiness scores.

This alliance is one of three that is being created around the state as part of the Preschool Development Grant Birth-Five (PDG B-5) awarded to Texas by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and U.S. Department of Education. Through PDG B-5, the Texas Education Agency has partnered with CHILDREN AT RISK to provide the technical assistance services needed to launch these shared services alliances.

WHEN: **Thursday, June 6, 2019**
10 a.m.

WHERE: **Pre-K 4 SA East Education Center**
5230 Eisenhower Rd., San Antonio, TX 78218

SPEAKERS: Dr. Sarah Baray, CEO, Pre-K 4 SA
Chris Martin, president and CEO, United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County
Shay Everitt, Director of Early Childhood Education Initiatives, CHILDREN AT RISK
Cody Summerville, Program Specialist, Texas Education Agency
Louis Tatum, Interim Executive Director, Workforce Solutions Alamo
Ed Serna, Interim Executive Director, Texas Workforce Commission.

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About United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County:

United Way is the largest private investor in health and human services programs in San Antonio and Bexar County. United Way focuses on 1) preparing children for school and life, 2) helping students graduate and succeed, 3) supporting strong individuals and families, and 4) providing safety net services for those in immediate need. For more information, visit www.unitedwaysatx.org or call (210) 352-7000.

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.

About CHILDREN AT RISK:

CHILDREN AT RISK is a non-profit organization leading the way to improving the quality of life for Texas' children through research, collaboration, and advocacy. CHILDREN AT RISK educates the community and public officials based on its groundbreaking research which tracks children's health, safety, education, and economic conditions. By understanding children's needs and speaking out on their behalf, CHILDREN AT RISK drives change. For more information, visit www.childrenatrisk.org, [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).