



For Immediate Release

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Pre-K 4 SA's Leader Honored as Outstanding Child Advocate

CHILDREN AT RISK recognizes community leaders improving quality of life for Texas' children

SAN ANTONIO — The City of San Antonio is proud to announce that Pre-K 4 SA CEO Sarah Baray has been recognized by CHILDREN AT RISK, a research and advocacy nonprofit leading the way in improving the quality of life for Texas' children, for her community-wide work in early childhood education at the Academy Awards of Child Advocacy annual event, October 1.

The event honors individuals and nonprofits who demonstrate their dedication to improving life for children in Texas. According to CHILDREN AT RISK President and CEO Dr. Robert Sanborn, those recognized as Outstanding Child Advocates go above and beyond because they're passionate and selflessly serve.

"San Antonio has lead the way in Texas and in the United States with its leadership in prekindergarten education. Sarah Baray and Pre-K 4 SA are pioneers worthy of this great nomination," Sanborn said. "We know that building brains builds better communities and economies. Dr. Baray's bold work to elevate children, families and the community in one generation through education for all children makes her a most deserving nominee."

Baray was nominated for this award by the Academy of Child Advocacy, a group comprised of community leaders and former awardees. She was nominated because of her vital work in ensuring that children in San Antonio receive the best possible early childhood education and are set on the path to success in life.

City leadership applauds her local and national leadership to improve high-quality early learning in San Antonio.

"Sarah's experience in early childhood education and her leadership in our community will not only continue to improve the lives of San Antonio children, but also change the landscape of our great city," City Manager Erik Walsh said. "Her passion and drive to increase access and improve the quality of education for our earliest learners will continue to facilitate better outcomes long term for our community as a whole."

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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 7:45 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 Gardendale Early Learning Program powered by Pre-K 4 SA is the first replication site and was made possible through a partnership with Edgewood Independent School District. This program creates greater capacity for high-quality early education with both pre-k and kindergarten classrooms. 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.

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