



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 9

Agenda Date: September 5, 2023

In Control: San Antonio Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Pre-K 4 SA

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dr. Sarah Baray

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Teachers 4 Toddlers (T4T) Program: Acceptance of Beldon Family Grant

SUMMARY:

Board action to accept funds from the Beldon Family Foundation in an amount of \$150,000.00 for continuation of the "Teachers 4 Toddlers Program (T4T Program)", which aims to address the critical shortage of highly skilled infant- toddler teachers in San Antonio.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Launched in 20019, the Teachers for Tots (T4T) Program leverages Pre-K 4 SA's efforts to increase the quality of child care in San Antonio through the San Antonio Shared Services Alliance. The T4T program helps to address the critical shortage of highly skilled infant-toddler teachers in San Antonio by helping child care teachers obtain teaching credentials and earn a stipend for serving as infant-toddler teachers in child care centers serving low-income children.

In 2019, the Beldon Family Foundation awarded Pre-K 4 SA an initial grant of \$25,000 to support the first T4T cohort of 8 teachers. All eight of the initial T4T participants earned a CDA credential and 75% remained in their teaching position for at least 12 months following CDA completion. This exceptionally high retention rate was especially remarkable given that the T4T program launched during the COVID pandemic. Because of the program's initial success, the Beldon Family Foundation awarded Pre-K 4 SA a second grant of \$51,000 in 2021. A third grant of \$79,000 was awarded in 2022. As of April 2023, 55 teachers from 22 childcare centers serving 400 children have participated in the T4T program. Ninety-two percent of T4T participants have earned a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, and more than 75% remained in their teacher position for at least 12 months.

In June 2023, the Beldon Family Foundation awarded Pre-K 4 SA \$150,000 to continue the T4T program. With this generous support, Pre-K 4 SA will be able to offer the T4T program to another 75 participants.

ISSUE:

This Board's acceptance of additional grant monies in the amount of \$150,000.00 will allow continued implementation during the 2023-24 school year of the Teachers for Tots (T4T) Program, which aims to address the critical shortage of highly skilled infant-toddler teachers in San Antonio.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes Board action to accept funds from the Beldon Family Foundation in an amount of \$150,000.00 for continuation of the "Teachers 4 Toddlers Program (T4T Program)", which aims to address the critical shortage of highly skilled infant-toddler teachers in San Antonio.

ALTERNATIVES:

If the Board does not accept the incremental \$150,000.00, Pre-K 4 SA will not be able to continue the "T4T Program", which addresses the critical shortage of highly skilled infant-toddler teachers in San Antonio.

RECOMMENDATION:

Pre-K 4 SA staff recommends Board formally accept the incremental \$150,000.00 being awarded by The Beldon Family Foundation.