

ACCESS TO SERVICES



Enhance 2-1-1 capability to receive texts/chat messages to increase access to services

EDUCATION – LEARN WELL

Bold goal: 8,000 high school students at risk of dropping out will graduate on time

Early Learning & Public Education

- Expand Pre-K funding to cover full day
- Address inequities in public education funding to account for non-English speaking students
- Fund college/career readiness and guidance and counseling on appropriate courses and pathways
- Implement the 60x30TX Plan to ensure 60% of young Texans have college degrees by 2030

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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INCOME – EARN WELL

Bold goal: 24,000 low-income working families will be on the path to financial stability

VITA and EITC

- Maintain IRS funding for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program and protect the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

Adult Literacy

- Increase the number of literacy centers and State Board of Education-approved alternatives to the GED

Workforce

- Continue appropriations for the Skills Development Fund to train workers
- Expand funding sources through new models (e.g., Pay for Success)

Transportation

- Continue to end funding diversions
- Continue to fund the Low-Income Repair/Replacement Assistance Program (LIRAP), aka AirCheckTexas “Drive a Clean Machine” Program

HEALTH – LIVE WELL

Bold goal: 17,000 more adults with ongoing health conditions will have improved lives

Community Care

- Create a fair hearings process for STAR+ assisted living residents involuntarily discharged and elevate penalties for violations of discharge procedures
- Require assisted living facilities and nursing homes to notify the local ombudsman of discharge notices
- Ensure institutions using locked doors to restrict resident movement are properly certified.

Medicaid

- Increase the Personal Needs Allowance for Medicaid residents in nursing homes to no less than \$75/month
- Reduce Medicaid Waiver waitlists by 20%
- Expand the number of insurers in Tarrant County’s Dual Eligible pilot (Medicare/Medicaid) to at least two
- Support long-term extension of the Medicaid 1115 Transformation Waiver in order to preserve health care access for uninsured Texans, access to community-based timelier care and health care innovation

- Develop a comprehensive transportation plan for the county

OTHER HEALTH PRIORITIES

- Ban balance-billing by non-network providers
- Increase funding for home-delivered meals
- Establish a Grandparent Protection & Support Act to ensure the person raising the child receives all court-ordered support payments made
- Enroll all uninsured eligible Texans into the health insurance marketplace accept federal funds to increase
- Within the Health & Human Services Commission, authorize an Office of Aging Coordination as a function of the proposed Medical and Social Services Division
- Allow more affordable housing to be built for low-income older people.
- Preserve and protect critical trauma care funding.

Child Protection/Foster Care Redesign

- Allocate an additional \$2 m/year in state funding to cover the full regional cost of foster care re-design;

NON-PROFIT VIABILITY

Goal: Increase access to services

Protect the charitable deduction

OTHER ISSUES WE CARE ABOUT

EDUCATION	INCOME	HEALTH
<p style="text-align: center;">Early Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor bills that address professional development for Pre-K teachers <p style="text-align: center;">College/career readiness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide funding to improve college/career readiness standards and guidance/counseling on appropriate courses and pathways Defend K-12 and higher education funding for dual credit courses and incentivize those which allow students to obtain a recognized industry certification or result in transferable college credit. <p style="text-align: center;">Formula funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjust long-term formula funding deficiencies by updating the Cost of Education Index Account for more students learning English and for quality full-day Pre-K. <p style="text-align: center;">Innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Innovation Zones that allow accredited school organizations to develop local initiatives to improve education outcomes. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Workforce Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support additional funding to serve unemployed people with multiple barriers, such as reentry, homelessness, mental illness, or lack of education <p style="text-align: center;">Veterans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Veterans Treatment Courts with access to the daily list of inmates who check into county jails. <p style="text-align: center;">Homelessness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjust the Healthy Community Collaboration match formula to remove onerous restrictions on source of matching funds Support affordable housing for the poorest Texans to decrease the primary driver of homelessness <p style="text-align: center;">Prisoner Re-entry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the option for a felon to apply to get his/her record sealed after 5 years of no re-arrest for criminal activities Provide judges with more sentencing flexibility; and ban the creation of new felonies . <p style="text-align: center;">Payday Lending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support efforts by cities and others (including the Dallas Federal Reserve) to require lenders to ensure consumers have the ability to repay their loans. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Human Trafficking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergo comprehensive reform to ensure that victims are rehabilitated and not criminalized Ensure Texas meets the requirements established under the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. Monitor quality standards and the implementation of human trafficking training for state departments and service providers that serve human trafficking victims <p style="text-align: center;">Obesity Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support access to healthy foods along with nutrition and food education, especially in low-income neighborhoods and school cafeterias and vending machines Promote healthy babies and support new mothers by promoting breastfeeding, including at places of employment <p style="text-align: center;">Family violence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain full funding for family violence core services programs Support making the commission of family violence in the presence of a child a criminal violation while ensuring that victims of family violence cannot be held responsible for the child's exposure Support strengthening of firearm removal capabilities in cases of domestic violence

		<p style="text-align: center;">Immunizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pass a “Parents Right to Know” measure that provides information on immunization rates for public schools• Require individuals to opt out of ImmTrac on their own after parents have opted their children into the registry <p style="text-align: center;">Infant Mortality Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Streamline the process for Medicaid eligibility in pregnancy• Continue care for Medicaid deliveries from 2 months to 18 months postpartum• Promote worksite policies that support worksite lactation and leave for prenatal care/childbirth <p style="text-align: center;">Smoking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adopt a statewide comprehensive smoke-free law to protect all workers in indoor workplaces and to safeguard public health against second-hand smoke.• Protect state funding for tobacco prevention and cessation programs• Support an increase in the price of cigarettes by at least \$1/pack, with proportional increases for other tobacco products.
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