



# TEXAS PRENATAL TO THREE (PN-3) COLLABORATIVE MINI GRANT APPLICATION

## OVERVIEW

The Texas Prenatal to Three (PN-3) Collaborative, seeks to increase access to high-quality services for low-income infants, toddlers, and families in Texas. Led by TexProtects, Texans Care for Children, and Children at Risk, the PN-3 Collaborative engaged over 100 organizations across the state to develop and now to implement a cross-sector prenatal-to-three strategic agenda for healthy beginnings, supported families, and quality early care and learning for Texas infants and toddlers. Please see the Appendix for our vision, mission and more details about each of our goals. Starting in early 2021, the PN-3 Collaborative proposes to provide seed funding to engage communities in furthering our statewide PN-3 goals, specifically funding efforts to increase public awareness, advocacy and action to better support infants, toddlers and their families. In January 2021, the PN-3 Collaborative In Community will award up to six mini-grants to city, county, or regional-level organizations that are interested in focusing on building increased support for healthy beginnings, supported families, and quality early care and learning for infants and toddlers.

## MINI-GRANT AWARDS AND AMOUNT:

The PN-3 Collaborative will award 6 mini-grants up to \$50,000 over two years (\$300,000 in aggregate). Eligible organizations are 501(c)3 nonprofit or public agencies located in and/or serving rural and suburban communities with populations under one million. A 10% match of cash or in-kind resources is required.

## MINI-GRANT TIME FRAME:

Proposals for the PN-3 mini-grant program are due February 1, 2021. Grant recipients will be notified by April 15, 2021. The mini-grant period extends from May 15, 2021 to May 31, 2023. Grants will be paid over a two-year period.

## TYPES OF ACTIVITIES:

The PN-3 Collaborative is interested in partnering with communities that will help us advance our statewide goals through work at the local level and that will build awareness and connection to state policymakers around issues facing infants, toddlers and their families.

Priority will be given to communities that submit a bold but realistic plan, with:

- An overall focus on race equity
- Opportunities to elevate parent voice and to engage parents in the work; and
- A realistic plan for how work will continue after grant funds are expended.



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The PN-3 Collaborative is interested in funding a range of community activities that advance our overall goals. These can include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ Coalition Capacity
  - Forming, expanding or furthering the work of a backbone organization that can facilitate cross-sector activities and lead a coalition to implement a project
  - Supporting efforts to organize the community partners around community data, including development of a community data dashboard to inform policy leaders on how children and families are faring in the community
- ◆ Health and Coverage
  - Start-up costs to implement CenteringPregnancy or CenteringParenting
  - A targeted parent outreach and engagement campaign to increase enrollment in Children’s Medicaid and CHIP
  - Strategies to increase community maternal prenatal care rates
- ◆ Screenings, Referrals, and Home-Based Services
  - Parent education campaign focused on child development (events, dissemination of materials, parenting program) including implementation of the Bright by Text parent texting program
  - Support for a screenings specialist to provide training to local early childhood providers (health care, home visitors, child care)
  - Developing strategies to create a closed-loop referral process
- ◆ Early Childhood Education and Care
  - Setting up a local Shared Services Alliance that builds capacity of local child care providers
  - Establishing a school readiness partnership
  - Support to transition Head Start classrooms to Early Head Start classrooms
  - Improving quality of infant and toddler child care including home-based care
- ◆ Advocacy
  - Promoting public awareness and policy solutions for issues impacting infants, toddlers, and their families. Activities such as virtual or on-site community forums that include a screening of the documentary “No Small Matter,” virtual or on-site tours of infant toddler childcare programs, traditional or social media campaigns, and local and state advocacy efforts
  - Local needs assessments of the availability of high-quality infant and toddler care or the availability of evidence-based home visiting and parenting education programs serving infants and toddlers
  - Plans for coordination with statewide PN-3 advocacy efforts



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## **REQUIRED COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:**

Mini-grant activities should be designed with input from a range of sectors and voices from communities, including but not limited to childcare providers, parent groups, and local early education, health and family support programs or organizations serving infants and toddlers. Collaborations must be indicated on the application. Grantees should consider partnerships with the local United Way, Chamber of Commerce, city and county government, local school districts, and/or Head Start

## **MINI-GRANT SUPPORT:**

Over and above the financial resources provided in the mini-grant, the Texas PN-3 Collaborative will provide educational resources about infants and toddlers such as fact sheets, reports, and advocacy tools to support the activities. Coalition staff will also be available to present or participate in activities upon request. The PN-3 Collaborative does not have the capacity to provide implementation technical assistance, however opportunities will be provided to mini-grant recipients to learn from and alongside each other through both the Texas Early Childhood Connector and an informal Community of Practice.

## **GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS AND AWARDS:**

All grantees must agree to submit a report at the end of one year and a final activity report to the Texas PN-3 Collaborative including a budget report and a discussion of progress and what was achieved. The PN-3 Collaborative will provide the final activity report form. Grantees may invoice for 50% of the funding at the start of the grant and may submit an invoice for the balance with the final report upon completion of the project. Grantees will be reimbursed within 15 days of final report submission.

## **MINI-GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION:**

Mini-grant applications must be completed on the attached form and submitted electronically to Jess Trudeau (Jess@txprotects.org) by February 1, 2021.

The complete application must include:

1. Cover Sheet
2. Narrative description limited to four pages
3. Line-Item budget on attached form
4. 501(c)(3) IRS statement from applicant agency Review Process:

All applications will be reviewed by the Texas PN-3 Collaborative. Final award recommendations will include a diverse set of different types of activities and geographic areas of the state and will be announced by April 15, 2021 by the Collaborative.



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## SELECTION WILL BE BASED ON:

1. Degree to which the plan supports one or more of our Texas PN goals:
  - All Texas children are born healthy and have equitable access to health and early learning supports in their homes and their communities.
  - Early childhood systems are aligned, coordinated, and well-funded to ensure young children and their families are healthy and thriving.
2. Diversity of communities across the state. We want to fund rural and suburban communities.
3. Degree to which the proposal addresses racial and economic equity.
4. Sustainability of plan.
5. Strength of coalition supporting plan.
6. Overall impact on strategies and numbers of children and families served.
7. Feasibility of success.
8. Degree to which parent voice and opportunities to engage parents are included

## MINI- GRANT AWARD NOTICE:

Successful mini-grant applicants will be notified by April 15, 2021 and projects should begin by Summer 2021.

Resources:

1. "Early Learning Community Action Guide" as a reference <https://cssp.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/ELC-Action-Guide-FINAL.pdf>
2. [National Association of Counties \(NACo\)](#)
3. [National League of Cities](#)
4. [Pritzker Children's Initiative](#)
5. [BUILD](#)

## QUESTIONS?

Please contact Libby Doggett with any questions you may have at [libby.doggett@gmail.com](mailto:libby.doggett@gmail.com).



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## Texas PN-3 Collaborative Mini-Grant Application Form COVERSHEET APPLICATION INFORMATION

Mini-Grant Summary	
Amount of Mini-Grant Funds Requested (not to exceed \$50,000)	
Type of Activity (choose from list above or specify other local activity)	
Geographic Area Served (city, town, county, or region)	
Start and End Dates of Activity	
Estimated # of people reached through this activity	
Applicant Information	
Legal Name of Applicant Organization	
Name of Official with Authority to Sign Mini-Grant Application	
Title	
Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Phone Number	
Email	
Signature	
Date Signed	
Mini-Grant	
Legal Name of Applicant Organization	
Mini-Grant Contact Information (if different from above)	
Name	
Title	
Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Phone Number	
Email	



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PROJECT NARRATIVE (Narrative Limit Four Pages) Complete the form below and expand, as needed.

TX PN-3 Community Mini-Grant Application Questions (Please limit your application to 4 Pages).

## DESIRED OUTCOMES

### The Context

What is the overall goal of your project?

Who is involved in implementing this action plan?

When (what is the timeline for implementation)?

What are the main action steps that will help you accomplish your goal?

How will this mini-grant help build your community's capacity to improve the lives of infants, toddlers and their families?

How will this project increase equity in your community?

How will parents be engaged in this work?

### The Community's Vision

What does it look like when you achieve your goal?

### Current Reality

What are the strengths of the team that will lead you to accomplish your goal?

What are the weaknesses of the team that are barriers to your goal?

What are the unintentional consequences of succeeding?

What are the potential benefits of pursuing these actions?

### Commitments

How will your plan help support the state TX PN-3 plan?

After this grant is over what are your next steps?

BUDGET INFORMATION Funds Requested - Awards up to a maximum of \$50,000 Indicate total amount requested for this activity and a description of what the funds will support. Also, provide a line item breakdown of costs (staff support, supplies, space rental, travel, scholarships, etc.) using the budget form below.



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Category	Description	\$ Amount
Staffing		
Contractors		
Supplies/materials		
Copying/printing		
Speaker stipends		
Scholarships/Incentives for participants		
Travel		
Space rental		
Child care support		
Other - specify		
Other - specify		
Match		



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## Appendix

### **PN-3 Collaborative Vision**

- All Texas children are born healthy and have equitable access to health and early learning supports in their homes and their communities.
- Early childhood systems are aligned, coordinated, and well-funded to ensure young children and their families are healthy and thriving.

### **Mission**

The PN-3 Collaborative has developed a policy agenda and will implement an action plan for Texas that will ensure over 300,000 more young Texas children, ages birth to 3, and their families, benefit from effective and well-funded programs that promote healthy beginnings, supported families, and quality early care and learning experiences by 2026.

### **Policy goals**

The policy agenda is focused on the three areas described below and is intended to build on and align with existing efforts and initiatives.

### **Healthy Beginnings**

Goal: Increase the quality of and access to prenatal and postpartum health services for low income mothers and health services for low-income infants and toddlers by:

- Enhancing maternal health by extending Medicaid to 12 months postpartum.
- Connecting infants and toddlers to health care through continuous, 12-month coverage in Children's Medicaid.
- Strengthening outreach and enrollment efforts to increase the number of infants and toddlers enrolled in Children's Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
- Increasing the number of mothers delivering infants in hospitals equipped with Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) maternal health and safety bundles that provide training and equipment to hospitals to address maternal health complications.
- Increasing the number of new mothers receiving behavioral health services in the postpartum year through the Healthy Texas Women program.
- Increasing the number of mothers, infants, and toddlers served through team-based models for prenatal care and pediatric health, such as CenteringPregnancy and CenteringParenting.





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## **Supported Families**

Goal: Increase the number of low-income infants, toddlers, and families who are screened and successfully connected to necessary services by:

- Developing regionally based centralized intake and referral systems and enhancing statewide intake and referral systems to connect families to an array of early childhood resources & supports.
- Increasing parent and provider understanding of healthy child development and support services available for families with young children.
- Increasing detection & intervention efforts and connecting medical providers to grid of resources for families.
- Increasing the capacity of home-based support services and other resources for families, including home visiting, Early Childhood Intervention, and community-based programs.

## **Quality Early Childhood Education & Care**

Goal: Increase access to high quality childcare programs serving low-income infants and toddlers by:

- Increasing access to high-quality childcare for low-income children with working parents by enhancing Texas Rising Star (TRS), the state's quality rating and improvement system, and promoting strategies including shared services, school readiness partnerships, Early Head Start, and engaging home-based child-care providers.
- Strengthening the Early Childhood Education (ECE) workforce through additional professional development, scholarships, apprenticeships, professional networks, and other strategies.