

# early**matters**





The Employers for Childcare Task Force (E4C) is a non-partisan, diverse group of business leaders who are working together to develop and advocate for public policy reforms to expand working families' access to affordable, high-quality childcare in Texas. E4C was launched by the Texas Restaurant Association, Early Matters Texas, Texas Association of Business, and Texas 2036. We are actively recruiting members.

#### **Member Benefits**

Joining E4C is good for your business and for your community.

- By becoming a member, you will gain access to valuable information, data, ideas, and networking that you can use to strengthen your existing workforce and your recruitment process.
- Joining E4C will provide you with the opportunity to help shape high-quality policies that will directly benefit your company and your employees.
- Joining E4C signals to your employees, customers, and suppliers that you are taking a proactive approach to invest in employee and community wellbeing.
- Finally, joining E4C strengthens the momentum behind efforts to expand access to affordable, high-quality childcare in Texas. This will benefit our state for years.

## **Eligibility**

Business associations, chambers of commerce, individual businesses, and business leaders are invited to join, as long as the entity or individual is not directly engaged in the childcare industry.

Although childcare providers and government leaders are not eligible to serve as E4C members, E4C will actively solicit feedback from these stakeholders throughout our work.

#### **Timeline**

- Fall 2023 Summer 2024: Recruit members, identify advocates, gather feedback, and collect best practices.
- Summer Fall 2024: Develop a strategic policy agenda.
- Fall Winter 2024: Promote the agenda, secure legislative champions, and prepare for the legislative session.
- Spring Summer 2025: Guide our agenda through the legislative process.

### **Member Expectations**

E4C strives to create an inclusive and diverse community of business leaders. We also recognize that members will have different levels of availability, and so at a minimum we ask members to:

- Affirm that they are committed to the goal of expanding affordable, high-quality childcare in Texas.
- Allow your name and/or logo to be included on official E4C materials and membership lists.
- Participate in at least one survey to assess opportunities to expand affordable, high-quality childcare. No responses will be attributed to you or your business without your permission.
- Participate in at least one business convening by June 2024 (virtual options available; no more than two hours per meeting).
- Engage in at least one of our advocacy efforts leading up to or during Texas' 89th Regular Legislative Session, which will take place from January to June of 2025. This can be satisfied in many different ways, including but not limited to lending your name or logo on letters to lawmakers, contacting your lawmakers, testifying at the Texas Capitol, sharing a message of support on social media, and meeting with a lawmaker.

For members who want to be more involved, we welcome your engagement at as many business convenings as possible so you can help shape the agenda. We will also provide many advocacy opportunities.

#### To Join or Learn More:

Kelsey Erickson Streufert - kstreufert@txrestaurant.org Wendy Uptain - wendy@earlymatterstx.org