

March 5, 2025

Tala Hooban

Acting Director, Office of Head Start
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Dr. Hooban,

I am writing on behalf of Burnet County to express strong support for the grant proposal submitted by Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties (OWBC) to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Head Start. This funding is vital to serving vulnerable children and families in our community.

Since 1965, OWBC has positively impacted the lives of over 20,000 children and families through advocacy, early education, and parental support. Their commitment to fostering healthy child development, emotional wellness, and positive parent-child interactions has been instrumental in strengthening our community.

I wholeheartedly endorse this grant application and the Opportunities Head Start Vision, which seeks to equip children with the knowledge and skills necessary to become productive, active, and thriving members of society.

Our organizations work collaboratively to support children and families, each fulfilling a unique role in this shared mission. If this grant is awarded, we understand that OWBC will:

- Enroll and support children with the greatest needs in the Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start (HS) programs based on eligibility and availability.
- Empower families to advocate for their children's health and education.
- Adhere to Head Start Performance Standards and Texas Minimum Standards for Child Care Centers.
- Collaborate with the Williamson County Health District to conduct Community Health Assessments.
- Participate in community initiatives that promote family health and well-being.
- Provide ongoing reporting and evaluation of grant objectives and outcomes.
- Encourage community engagement through involvement in the Health Advisory Committee, School Readiness Advisory Committee, Policy Council, and Highlight Head Start.

We value our partnership with OWBC and look forward to continuing our collaboration in the years to come. Thank you for your time and consideration of this grant proposal.

Sincerely,

Damon Beierle

Commissioner Pct. 2