

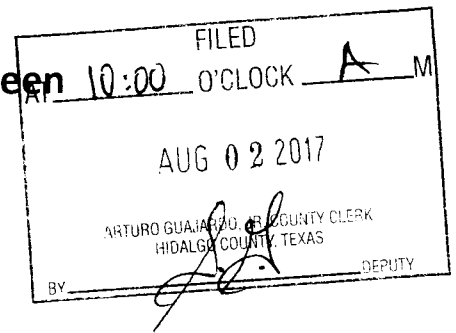
# Memorandum of Understanding Between

Hidalgo County Head Start Program

And

Buckner Children & Family Services, Inc.

2017-2018



The **Hidalgo County Head Start Program (HCHSP)** and **Buckner Children & Family Services, Inc. – STAR Program (Buckner Star Program)** agree to establish a working and cooperative relationship between the parties in order to plan services appropriate for each agency's or program's clients. It is the objective of the **Hidalgo County Head Start Program** to collaborate with partners in our communities, in order to provide the highest level of services to children and families; to foster the development of a continuum of family centered services, and to advocate for a community that shares responsibility for the healthy development of children and families of all cultures.

The terms and conditions set forth in the following document shall constitute the entire Agreement between the **HCHSP** and **Buckner–STAR Program** may not be amended except by a written document signed by **HCHSP** and **Buckner–STAR Program**.

**Buckner–STAR Program** provides services to youth, 0 to 17 years of age, and their families in at-risk situations. The **Buckner–STAR Program** is designed to reduce family conflict, help with family support and skills, and prevent the problems of runaway, school attendance issues and delinquent behaviors. We help youth and families resolve crises, and establish and achieve goals that strengthen and promote healthy families. The services provided to the youth and families include screening/intake, crisis intervention, counseling services, skills-based training, case management, case follow-up and outreach. All services are free of charge to **Hidalgo County Head Start** and the surrounding areas, and provided through home visits, office visits, and schools and community visits.

### **Buckner–STAR Program agrees:**

- To provide skills-based training weekly or as scheduled to qualifying students and their families. These curriculums may be conducted in an individual student setting and will be delivered tailored to the needs of the school. Students will learn skills to help them resolve crises among peers and family, develop their skills to cope with everyday problems and stresses in their lives, and learn self-esteem concepts while developing communication skills and peer pressure refusal skills.

### **General Responsibility of Buckner–STAR Program:**

- Upon the receipt of referral, provide Intake process (which includes meeting with the youth's parents to obtain consent forms).
- Provide staff to conduct and counseling services.
- Provide program curriculum and supplies, and

### **Hidalgo County Head Start Program will**

- Provide students referrals.
- Provide class/school time for STAR services.
- Provide class/facility space for counseling services.
- Maintain the children's, families', and programmatic records in a manner that will assure the protection of the rights and privacy of parents, families, and staff. All **HCHSP** records, data, or information related to individual children, families, and staff will be treated as confidential. Release of information will take place only with clients' prior written consent and approval.

### **Collaboration Efforts between Buckner–STAR Program and HCHSP:**

- In the event that the receiving agency or program is unable to provide services to the client, it is agreed that alternate referrals will be provided as possible resources.
- The undersigned parties agree that they will try, when possible, to participate and collaborate in shared forums, networking meetings, and training sessions.

### **Termination:**

Either party may terminate the Agreement, with or without cause, by giving ten (10) days written notice to the other.

### **Term:**

This Agreement is in effect **September 1, 2017-** through **August 31, 2018**, unless earlier terminated as provided herein.

### **Governing Law:**

This Memorandum of Understanding will be construed in accordance with the Laws of the State of Texas and is performable in Hidalgo County, Texas.

### **Consideration:**

This Agreement is being made in consideration of the following: **Buckner Children & Family Services, Inc.–STAR Program** and **Hidalgo County Head Start Program** agree that there will be no financial exchange of monies or other compensation.

**[Signature page follows]**

The below signed authorities agree to the statements in this document in order to develop a strong collaboration and an open communication system at all levels which will enable both **Buckner Children & Family Services, Inc.–STAR Program** and **HCHSP** to provide the children the best services available.

**Buckner Children & Family Services, Inc.–STAR Program:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name and Title

**Hidalgo County Head Start Program**

Ramon Garcia

Honorable Ramon Garcia  
Hidalgo County Judge

8/1/17

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Teresa Flores

Teresa Flores, Executive Director  
Hidalgo County Head Start Program

7-31-17

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**ATTEST:**

Arturo Guajardo, Jr.  
Arturo Guajardo, Jr.  
Hidalgo County Clerk



APPROVED BY  
7/25/17 [Signature]

**Approved As To Form:**

Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez, LLP

By: [Signature]

Stephen L. Crain

**Approved As To Form:**

Oxford & González, P.C.

By: [Signature]

Ricardo González

Date Approved by Policy Council: 06-21-2017  
Date Approved by Commissioner's Court: 07-25-2017