

**Memorandum of Understanding between
Hidalgo County Head Start Program
And
Weslaco Independent School District
2018-2021**



Purpose:

This collaborative partnership, the **School Readiness Partnership Model (SRPM)**, establishes an agreement between **Hidalgo County Head Start Program (HCHSP)** and the **Hidalgo Independent School District (WESLACO ISD)** to provide Head Start services to age and income eligible pre-K children as per the guidelines established by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Texas Education Agency (TEA). The intentions are to collaboratively develop and foster a cohesive partnership to provide a high quality early childhood program for children and their families; to ensure that each Agency assumes the responsibility to communicate with the other and share leadership responsibilities to maximize resources; and to ensure that these collaboration arrangements between **WESLACO ISD** and **HCHSP** are developed, implemented, and reviewed annually to improve quality of services.

HCHSP is a component of Hidalgo County, Texas, a governmental entity. **WESLACO ISD** is a public education institution of the state of Texas. **HCHSP** and **WESLACO ISD** each have Boards of Directors (Hidalgo County Head Start Policy Council, Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court and WESLACO ISD Board of Trustees) established per applicable statues and local ordinances and/or procedures, which operate within the scope of their defined duties. Each Board has received information regarding the nature and scope of the proposed partnership and have approved the partnership and granted signatory authority to the individual designated as authorized to bind their respective organizations. Signatory authorities are listed on the end of this agreement. Each designee shall ensure that their respective Board of Directors is informed of the various aspects and elements of this partnership agreement signature page.

The terms and conditions set forth in the following document shall constitute the entire Agreement between **WESLACO ISD** and **HCHSP** and may not be amended except by a written document signed by both entities.

Days and Hours of Operation:

Days of operation shall be agreed upon by both parties during the months of August through June. The daily operations will be from 7:45 am to 5:15 pm.

(Note: District Calendar will be developed and approved by both entities.)

Center Sites:

The names and addresses of the **HCHSP** sites that will be serviced by **WESLACO ISD**:

Donna I Head Start 1402 Silver Ave. Donna, TX 78537	Donna II Head Start 1715 Miller Ave. Donna, TX 78537	La Estancia Head Start 3601 East Mile 8 North Weslaco, TX 78596	La Herencia Head Start 100 La Herencia Mercedes, TX 78570
Progreso Head Start 109 Palm Ave. Progreso, TX 78579	Roosevelt Head Start 814 E. Plaza Weslaco, TX 78596	Weslaco III Head Start 1317 N. Mile 6 1/2 Weslaco, TX 78596	

Roosevelt Head Start Center is located in a District owned building and playground space whereby utilities and maintenance of facilities and playground are provided by the District.

Term:

The Term of this Memorandum of Understanding is for two years and eleven months commencing **August 1, 2018** and ending **June 30, 2021**.

WESLACO ISD Responsibilities:

WESLACO ISD will provide appropriate educational and supportive services to ensure children and families are school ready. **WESLACO ISD** shall comply with and provide in a satisfactory manner as outlined in the Head Start Performance Standards, the Head Start Act of 2007, guidance from the Office of Head Start (OHS), OMB circulars and as applicable either the Texas Education Agency (TEA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), or the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (TDFPS) Childcare Licensing Regulations.

Program Description:

Eligible children are 3 or 4 year olds as of September 1st of each school year will be dual-enrolled and served by **WESLACO ISD** and **HCHSP**. Collaboratively, the **HCHSP** children will receive 3 hours of instruction in cognitive development by a certified **WESLACO ISD** funded **School Readiness Partnership Model (SRPM) teacher** in each classroom, and full day services by a Head Start teacher and an assistant teacher with credentials required by **HCHSP** in a designated facility meeting Head Start, Child Care Licensing and school district requirements. In addition, the Children's Learning Institute, hereinafter referred to as CLI, at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston will provide opportunities for both organizations to collaborate and share student-level information through the online platform, CLI Engage. The purpose is to provide a framework for CLI to establish student-level permissions in CLI Engage shared between both parties.

Partnership Responsibilities:

A. WESLACO ISD will:

- a. Provide classroom space in a state child care licensed facility which meets Head Start and school districts requirements, is appropriately staffed and furnished to deliver Head Start services based on the Head Start Standards, the Head Start Act, Child Care Licensing and district/state requirements.
- b. Assign a **WESLACO ISD** principal, instructional coach/s, and/or other district liaison to the Hidalgo Head Start facility to provide supervision, oversight, support and evaluation of the **WESLACO ISD** teachers.
- c. Provide certified early childhood teachers to deliver 3 hours of instruction in cognitive, physical, and social development to participating **HCHSP** children in each classroom.
- d. Coordinate efforts with **HCHSP** to identify at least 10% of funded enrollment of Head Start children with special needs and follow the referral process for identification and provision of services.
- e. Permit **HCHSP** representatives to attend ARDs conducted by **WESLACO ISD** involving **HCHSP** children.
- f. Supplement health services, educational services, parental training and other services as required by the children and their families.
- g. Assign special education teachers to provide services to children who are identified in need of special services through the **WESLACO ISD** Special Education Program.
- h. Arrange for a substitute when the **WESLACO ISD** teacher is absent.
- i. Provide supplemental instructional resources essential to implement a high quality comprehensive early childhood education program.

- j. Meet monthly or on a regular basis with **HCHSP** designated personnel to facilitate the instructional process and other services.
- k. Provide an overview of the collaboration with the participating Administrators.
- l. Finance the **WESLACO ISD** personnel and other resources as appropriate.
- m. Purchase and maintain a certificate of insurance for commercial general liability, i) Bodily Injury and Property Damage \$300,000 ea. Occurrence, and ii) General Aggregate \$600,000 **HCHSP** must be named as an additional insured.

B. The WESLACO ISD Teacher/Staff will:

- a. Provide 3 hours of daily instruction in cognitive development, physical, or social to the **HCHSP** children utilizing a research based State Adopted Curriculum the Texas Pre-kinder Guidelines (up dated 2015).
- b. Attend and/or assist in delivery of collaborative Professional Development for **WESLACO ISD** and **HCHSP** as deemed appropriate.
- c. Participate with the **HCHSP** staff in the recruitment of children process.
- d. Implement a curriculum which is research based designed to support the child's social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development.
- e. Attend **HCHSP** collaboration meetings as deemed necessary during the school year.
- f. Complete and fulfill the required documentation for **WESLACO ISD** and **HCHSP** staffs with the assistance of both Human Resource Departments.
- g. Collaborate and plan with the **HCHSP** teacher to provide high quality early childhood instruction and prevent a duplication of efforts.
- h. Inform the Center Manager and **HCHSP** teacher when she/he is going to be absent and utilize the Substitute System to obtain a designated substitute.
- i. Follow collaboration protocol with any issues/concerns which may arise.
- j. Follow **WESLACO ISD** requirements, policies and procedures as well as the Head Start Performance Standards and the Texas Child Care Licensing Minimum Standards.
- k. Comply with any other responsibilities assigned by the immediate supervisor.
- l. Coordinate efforts with the **HCHSP** staff to enroll the children in the district.

C. HCHSP will:

- a. Provide classroom space in a state child care licensed facility which meets Head Start and school districts requirements, is appropriately staffed and furnished to deliver Head Start services based on the Head Start Standards, the Head Start Act, Child Care Licensing and district/state requirements.
- b. Coordinate efforts with **WESLACO ISD** to identify children with special needs and follow the **WESLACO ISD** referral process for identification and services.
- c. Identify personnel who will attend the ARDs conducted by **WESLACO ISD**.
- d. Assist with the distribution, completion, and submission of the required **WESLACO ISD** student enrollment documents within the first week of a child's enrollment.
- e. Coordinate with district staff to transition children to the **WESLACO ISD** public schools at the end of each school year.
- f. Provide assistance with daily attendance reporting.
- g. Meet monthly or as needed with the designated **WESLACO ISD** personnel.
- h. Schedule a time for the **HCHSP** teacher and **WESLACO ISD** teacher plan weekly to implement a high quality early childhood instruction and prevent a duplication of effort.
- i. Ensure that the classroom size meets the adult/child ratio as required by state and federal standards.
- j. Finance program operations based on the **HCHSP** grant.
- k. Will upload student-level data into CLI Engage.

D. Collaboratively WESLACO ISD and HCHSP will:

- a. Implement an early childhood program utilizing best early childhood practices.
- b. Coordinate and collaborate to plan for instruction, share resources and intensify services to meet the needs of eligible four year old (Pre-K children) and three year old children.
- c. Schedule a weekly planning time for lesson planning and preparation.
- d. Share information on upcoming workshops and conferences on Early Childhood and Head Start.
- e. Review program operations to avoid duplication of efforts.
- f. Meet on a regular basis to discuss the progress of the collaboration.
- g. Perform children's assessment and evaluation, and collaborative program evaluation, to meet **WESLACO ISD** and **HCHSP** requirements.
- h. Analyze and share data for program planning and improvement.
- i. Work together to meet attendance goal.
- j. Inform all stakeholders of the collaboration and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- k. Provide family services, parent engagement activities and home visits.
- l. Support all events which promote the partnership.
- m. Organize and plan to sustain the partnership and promote a collaborative culture.
- n. No collaboration will be established for sharing and viewing student-level data in CLI Engage until this MOU has been approved by both parties.
- o. CLI will establish student-level data viewing and editing permissions for collaboration classrooms after a copy of the signed document and specific classroom collaboration details are received by CLI.
- p. Specific collaboration details of classes, teachers, and students must be provided to CLI before can collaborations are established in the CLI Engage database:
 1. Each party will designate a primary contact for all collaborations in the addendum.
 2. Collaboration information must be submitted to CLI in the approved format that includes the names of both parties, schools, and teacher(s) assigned to the shared classrooms.
 3. Primary contacts from both parties will approve collaboration details in writing via email.
- q. Only dually-enrolled students in collaboration classrooms will be shared by both parties.
- r. Both parties will be able to view and edit data for only those classes approved by both parties.
- s. Users with CLI Engage accounts will have the following level of access to view student-level data:
 1. Community/District Users and Specialists to view and edit student-level data for classes at schools that they are assigned to view.
 2. Principal/Directors will only have access to view and edit student-level data for classes at schools that they are assigned to view.
 3. School Specialists will only have access to view and edit student-level data for classes at schools that they are assigned to view.
 4. Teachers will only have access to view and edit student-level data for classes that they are assigned to view.
- t. The parties will establish which party will upload student-level data into CLI Engage.
- u. This Agreement will be renewed when additional classes are added as a part of the collaboration.
- v. Either party can request that access to view and edit student-level information can be removed from the other party at any time.
- w. CLI will require written consent from both parties before any changes are made to student-level permission for users who have access to view and edit student-level data.

Collaboration Classrooms

CLI will establish permissions for **WESLACO ISD** staff and **HCHSP** staff to view and edit student-level data for the schools and classes listed in the table below. Specific details for each classrooms must be received by CLI in the approved format, with written approval via email by both parties before collaborations will be established in the CLI Engage database.

PARTNER 1	School Name	Teacher	PARTNER 2	School Name	Teacher	Classroom
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna I Head Start	Rosie Perez	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Alexis Garza (AM)	1
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna I Head Start	Blanca Pena	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Julissa Ramirez (AM)	2
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna I Head Start	Kassandra Garcia	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Doraly Hernandez (AM)	3
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna I Head Start	Zahydee Hernandez	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Maria Zamarron (AM)	4
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna I Head Start	Noelia Garza	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Alexis Garza (PM)	5
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna I Head Start	Mary Hinojosa	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Julissa Ramirez (PM)	6
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna I Head Start	N/A	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	-----	7
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna I Head Start	Maria Ruiz	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Doraly Hernandez (PM)	8
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna II Head Start	Maria S. Adame	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Maria Zamarron (PM)	1
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna II Head Start	Rosa M. Ramirez	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Marilu Soto (AM)	2
Hidalgo County Head Start	Donna II Head Start	Jessica Diaz	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Marilu Soto (PM)	3
Hidalgo County Head Start	La Estancia Head Start	Eunice Delgado	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Celinda Musanje (PM)	1
Hidalgo County Head Start	La Estancia Head Start	Maria Camacho	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Celinda Musanje (AM)	2
Hidalgo County Head Start	La Herencia Head Start	Dulce Diaz	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Brissa Aguilar (PM)	1
Hidalgo County Head Start	La Herencia Head Start	Marisa Trevino	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Mindy Ortega (PM)	2

Hidalgo County Head Start	La Herencia Head Start	Margarita Cantu	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Mindy Ortega (AM)	3
Hidalgo County Head Start	Progreso Head Start	Esmeralda Arce	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Emmanuel Garcia (PM)	1
Hidalgo County Head Start	Progreso Head Start	Yadira Cardenas	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Emmanuel Garcia (AM)	2
Hidalgo County Head Start	Roosevelt Head Start	Diana Munoz	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Alma Marines-Aguirre (PM)	1
Hidalgo County Head Start	Roosevelt Head Start	Brenda Rosas	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Alma Marines-Aguirre (AM)	2
Hidalgo County Head Start	Roosevelt Head Start	Marlen Garza	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Janae Cardenas (AM)	3
Hidalgo County Head Start	Roosevelt Head Start	Mirna Lugo	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Olivia Hernandez (AM)	4
Hidalgo County Head Start	Roosevelt Head Start	Cristal Williams	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Janae Cardenas (PM)	5
Hidalgo County Head Start	Roosevelt Head Start	Amenda Vera	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Olivia Hernandez (PM)	6
Hidalgo County Head Start	Weslaco III Head Start	Raquel Gonzalez	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Denise Camargo (PM)	1
Hidalgo County Head Start	Weslaco III Head Start	Judith Sepulveda	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Brissa Aguilar (AM)	2
Hidalgo County Head Start	Weslaco III Head Start	Laura Flores	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Denise Camargo (AM)	3
Hidalgo County Head Start	Weslaco III Head Start	Ofelia Sustaita	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Susana Gonzalez (AM)	4
Hidalgo County Head Start	Weslaco III Head Start	Maricela Flores	Weslaco ISD	21 st Century Early Learning Foundations Academy	Susana Gonzalez (PM)	5

Primary Contacts

Both partners must provide the name and contact information for the person who will approve collaboration details for classrooms on CLI Engage. Staff at the Children's Learning Institute will direct all communication regarding collaboration classrooms to the persons listed below.

Partner 1:

Name: Rebecca Villarreal

Title: Administrator for Education

Email: Rebecca.villarreal@hchsp.org

Phone Number: (956) 383-0706

Partner2:

Name: Janie Peña

Title: Executive Director C&I

Email: jupena@wisd.us

Phone Number: (956) 969-6560

Transportation Services:

Assigned **WESLACO ISD School Readiness Partnership Model** teachers will travel to **HCHSP** sites and provide instruction to students at such locations.

General Conditions:

- This Agreement shall not serve to create a principal agent relationship, partnership or joint venture between the parties hereto, nor does it authorize either party to serve as the legal representative or agent of the other. Neither party shall have any right or authority to assume, create, or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, expressed or implied or in the name of or on behalf of the other party, except as agreed in this MOU.
- It is expressly understood and agreed that, in the execution of the Agreement, **WESLACO ISD** and any other governmental entities named herein do not waive, nor shall be deemed hereby to waive, any immunity or defense that would otherwise be available to it against claims arising in the exercise of governmental powers and functions.
- Each party, at their own expense, shall provide and maintain, during the term of this agreement, insurance, with or without retention, or self-insurance program, which shall provide general liability coverage for liability, property damage, and bodily injury.
- This Agreement is made in Hidalgo County, Texas and shall constitute the complete understanding of **WESLACO ISD** and **HCHSP**, and may not be modified in any manner without the express written consent of all parties.
- Notwithstanding those rules and regulations or standards set by both laws and regulatory agencies, the parties agree that if a dispute arises related to this MOU, the parties will not be required to submit the dispute to arbitration, but to non-binding mediation in Hidalgo County, Texas.
- This Memorandum of understanding is performable in Hidalgo County, Texas.
- Either party may terminate this Agreement, with or without cause by providing 30 days written notice to the other party.
- Each party shall, to the extent allowed by law, hold harmless and indemnify the other party on claims or losses sustained by individuals directly or indirectly involved with performance of services in connection with this Agreement.

Termination:

Either party may terminate the Agreement, with or without cause, by giving a thirty (30) days written notice to the other.

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.

Insurance:

At all times during the term of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), **HCHSP** and **WESLACO ISD** shall maintain in place a commercial general liability insurance policy insuring its property against bodily injury and property damage claims brought in connection with this MOU. **HCHSP** and **WESLACO ISD** agree to carry insurance in the amounts show below:

Workers Compensation Insurance with statutory limits, and Employer’s Liability Insurance with limits of not less than \$1,000,000:

Employers Liability – Each Accident	\$1,000,000
Employers Liability – Each Employee	\$1,000,000
Employers Liability – Policy Limit	\$1,000,000
Commercial General Liability Insurance with limits of not less than:	
Each Occurrence Limit	\$1,000,000
Damage to Rented Premises	\$1,000,000
Personal & Advertising Injury	\$1,000,000

Business Auto Liability Insurance covering all owned, non-owned or hired automobiles, with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit Bodily Injury and Personal Damage.

Indemnification:

To the extent allowed by law, **HCHSP** will and does hereby agree to indemnify, protect, defend with counsel approved by Grantee Board, and hold harmless **WESLACO ISD** and their respective elected officials, employees, representatives and agents (collectively “**WESLACO ISD Indemnitees**”) from and against all damages, losses, liens, causes of action, suits, judgments, expenses, and other claims of any nature, kind, or description, including reasonable attorneys’ fees incurred in investigating, defending or settling any of the foregoing (collectively “**WESLACO ISD Claims**”) by any person or entity, arising out of, caused by, or resulting from **HCHSP’s** performance under or breach of this Agreement and that are caused in whole or in part by any negligent act, negligent omission or willful misconduct of **HCHSP**, anyone directly employed by **HCHSP** or anyone for whose acts **HCHSP** may be liable. The provisions of this section will not be construed to eliminate or reduce any other indemnification or right which any **WESLACO ISD** Indemnitee has by law or equity. All parties will be entitled to be represented by counsel at their own expense.

To the extent allowed by law, **WESLACO ISD** will and does hereby agree to indemnify, protect, defend with counsel approved by **HCHSP** and **Hidalgo County**, and hold harmless **HCHSP** and **Hidalgo County**, and their respective elected officials, officers, directors, attorneys, employees, representatives and agents (collectively “**HCHSP Indemnitees**”) from and against all damages, losses, liens, causes of action, suits, judgments, expenses, and other claims of any nature, kind, or description, including reasonable attorneys’ fees incurred in investigating, defending or settling any of the foregoing (collectively “**HCHSP Claims**”) by any person or entity, arising out of, caused by, or resulting from **WESLACO ISD’s** performance under or breach of this Agreement and that are caused in whole or in part by any negligent act, negligent omission or willful misconduct of **WESLACO ISD** employees, anyone directly employed by the **WESLACO ISD** or anyone for whose acts the **WESLACO ISD** may be liable. The provisions of this Section will not be construed to eliminate or reduce any other indemnification or right which any

HCHSP Indemnatee has by law or equity. All parties will be entitled to be represented by counsel at their own expense.

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 WESLACO ISD and HCHSP to provide the children the best services available.

Weslaco Independent School District

Dr. Priscilla Canales, Superintendent of Schools

Date

Hidalgo County Head Start Program

Ramon Garcia
Honorable Ramon Garcia
Hidalgo County Judge

Teresa Flores
Teresa Flores, Executive Director
Hidalgo County Head Start Program

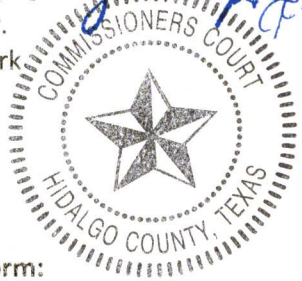
5/29/18
Date

5-24-18
Date

APPROVED BY
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
ON: 5/22/18 gms

ATTEST:

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



Approved As To Form:
Atlas, Hall & Rodriguez, LLP
By: Stephen L. Crain
Stephen L. Crain

Approved As To Form:
Oxford & González, P.C.
By: Ricardo González
Ricardo González