

ERIKA WELLS



ERIKA'S STORY

When Erika decided to obtain her master's degree in social work from the University of Texas - San Antonio, she knew that securing child care during nontraditional hours would be one of the biggest hurdles she would face.

Erika struggled to find child care for her 5 year old son in a state where she had few family and friends. Erika joined the student organization, Students Raising Children, a group that created Lil' Roadrunners downtown campus child care program.

As a single mother with two semesters left in her master's program, she believes that initiatives like CCAMPIS are the reason she is able to juggle both child care and furthering her education.

She hopes that by advocating at a national level, lawmakers will see how important it is to have options for parents like her.

CHILD CARE STATS IN TX

Millennial parents in Texas spend on average 38.5% of their income on center-based child care for one infant.

In Texas, single parents pay 36.6% of their income for infant center care.

There are 1,345,519 children under the age of 6 in Texas who could be in need of child care.

Congressional Requests: 2018

Provide a \$1 billion increase for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) in FY 2019. These new funds will help hundreds of thousands of low-income children gain access to high-quality care and help states better meet the needs of families.

Co-sponsor the Child Care for Working Families Act. This legislation would more than double the number of children eligible for assistance under CCDBG, and support the child care workforce.