

BIANCA RAMIREZ

BIANCA'S STORY

Bianca Ramirez was in her senior year of college when she learned she was pregnant. Bianca worried about how she would complete school and care for a newborn with few resources and no ability to pay for child care. She became homeless around the same time she gave birth to her son Isaiah. Luckily, Bianca and Isaiah found a space in a homeless shelter in San Antonio. The staff provided Bianca with resources and access to subsidized child care assistance for Isaiah. The support enabled her to work and complete her degree. Bianca was able to secure full-time employment, stable housing, and returned to school. Today, she is a Licensed Master Social Worker. Although she has since lost access to child care again due to the excessive cost of raising a child as a single parent, she continues to fight for access to child care for all.

Bianca notes that she wouldn't have been able to accomplish all that she has without access to subsidized child care. Despite her advanced degree, Bianca still struggles to find high-quality and affordable child



care. Isaiah was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder and Bianca has been turned away by child care providers, many of whom lack the training to work with children like Isaiah. Bianca advocates for increased training requirements and higher wages for child care providers.

CHILD CARE IN TEXAS

- A single parent in Texas spends 36.4% of their income for center-based infant care.
- Married parents of two children living at the poverty line pay 65% of their household income for center-based child care.
- The cost of infant care in Texas is nearly the same as the annual cost of tuition at a four year state college.

2019 CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST

Provide a \$5 billion increase to FY 2020 Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funding to ensure more children and families gain access to high-quality, affordable, and safe child care.