

Academic and Career Advising

Pathways Research Agenda

Strand 1

October 16, 2025 LONESTAR^{RP3} Collaboratives Virtual Meeting



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Research Collaborative



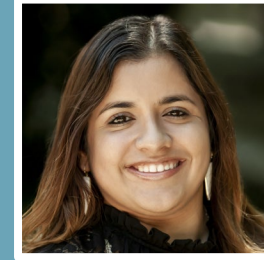
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TxCAN
an INITIATIVE of EDUCATE TEXAS

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Director of Higher Education Access & Transition



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EDUCATE TEXAS

ADDRESSES THE BIGGEST
CHALLENGES IN PUBLIC
EDUCATION.



We believe all Texans should have an education that empowers them to earn a good living, find a purposeful career, and realize bold dreams for themselves, their families, and their communities.



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PURPOSE

TxCAN is building a network of leaders and organizations across the state who share our commitment to **increasing access to higher education**.

VISION

The Texas College Access Network (TxCAN) connects and supports college access initiatives across Texas, with the goal of increasing access to college and certificate programs. We believe **aligning efforts across the state will help college access providers achieve a greater impact than any one provider could alone**

GUIDING QUESTION

How can we work together to ensure college access professionals have the **knowledge, tactics, relationships, and resources** needed to ensure at least 65% of Texas students enroll in a postsecondary program directly from high school by 2030?

TxCAN takes the following approach to drive change in higher education for all Texas students:

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Collective Action

We bring together college access leaders from across Texas to identify and address strategic priorities collectively.

Shared Learning

We connect college access leaders with targeted training and encourage the consumption of the latest college access data and research.

Intentional Partnership

To connect leaders with the broadest impact on college access and success in Texas, we primarily partner with the tri-agencies, regional backbone organizations and statewide funders.

To achieve systems change, we had to expand beyond **convening** to become an **action** network.

Convenor

Former State

TxCAN focused on connecting regional and statewide college access leaders and supporting practitioners.

- Professional Development Opportunities
- Special Projects
- Data Dashboards
- Newsletters and Blogs
- Best Practice Sharing

Transition

TxCAN expanded beyond a convenor to become an action network focused on systems change.

- Strategic Priority Selection
- Systems Change Capacity Building
- Formal Process and Structure Design
- Build Project Teams

Action Network

Current State

We work together to address the systems that make college access difficult for students and families.

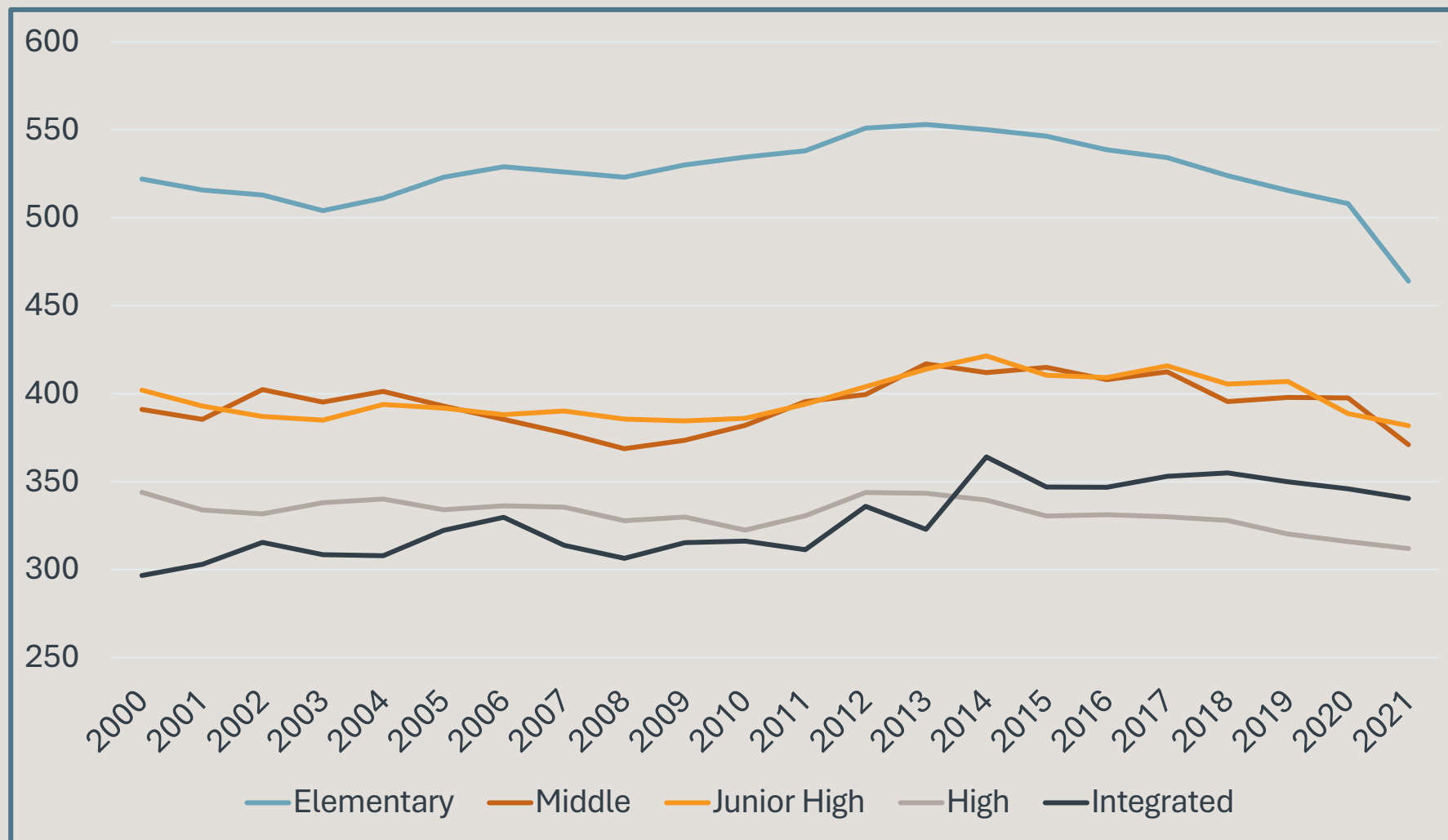
- Collective Strategy Creation and Deployment
- Impact metric development and monitoring

TxCAN's Structure



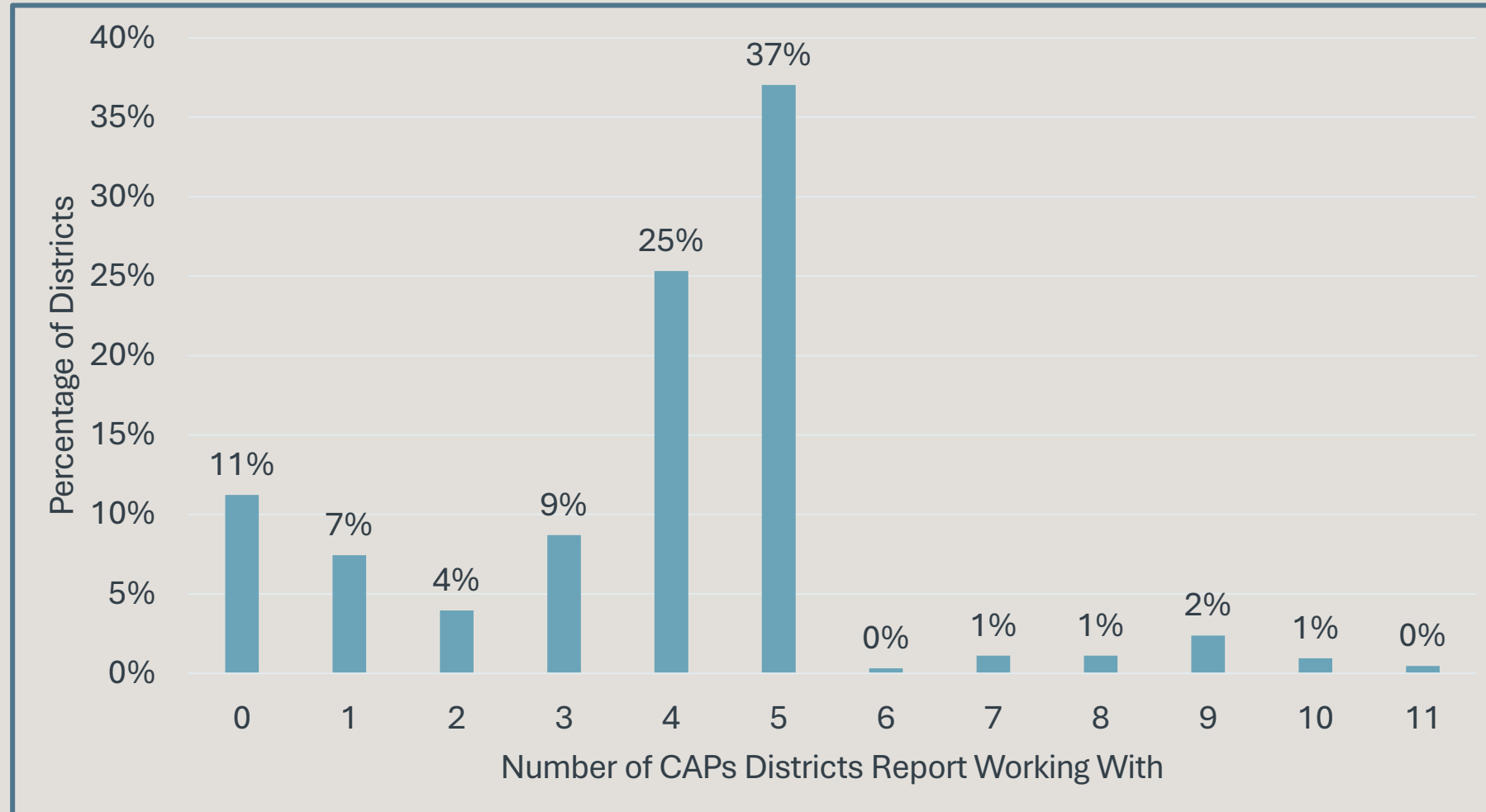
The **TxCAN Staff** will serve and support the **Guiding Team** and **Advisory Council** as they lead the **Project Teams** responsible for implementation.

Student-to-Counselor Ratios, by School Type



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Number of CAPs District Respondents Reported Partnering With



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District Leader Perceptions of CAP Partnerships

- 1) CAP Partnerships are Necessary given Counselor Constraints
- 2) Funding Constrains CAP Options
- 3) Limited District Capacity Prevents Effective CAP Management
- 4) Constrained CAP Partnerships Create Misalignment
 - Goal Misalignment
 - Metric Misalignment
 - Student Population Misalignment
 - Strategy Misalignment
- 5) Strong CAP Partnerships Matter, and are Possible
 - Leadership vision, prioritization, and stability
 - Critical role of liaisons/intermediaries
 - Need for integrated systems and data sharing



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Research Questions

What are the academic and career advising practices used by schools and advisors?

- a. What third-party college access/advising programs (CAPs) do high schools partner with to provide advising services to students?
- b. What are the model features and advising practices employed by these CAPs?
- c. [Future research] How do districts create coherent and aligned CAP partnerships?
- d. [Future research] How do characteristics of CAP programs and partnerships relate to students' postsecondary outcomes?



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Why these Research Questions?



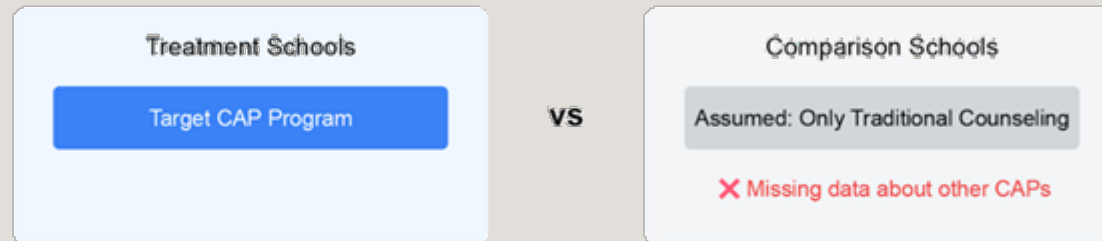
- **Precursor to Pathways Research Agenda**
 - Collecting comprehensive, descriptive data on CAP programs and partnerships is necessary to understand the landscape.
 - Difficult to evaluate which advising practices contribute to student outcomes if we lack evidence regarding the practices being used by schools and advisors.
- **Interactive Statewide CAP Registry**
- **Facilitating Better Research on CAPs**
 - School-level datafile containing information on CAPs operating in each middle and high school in Texas, by year, from 2016-2025.



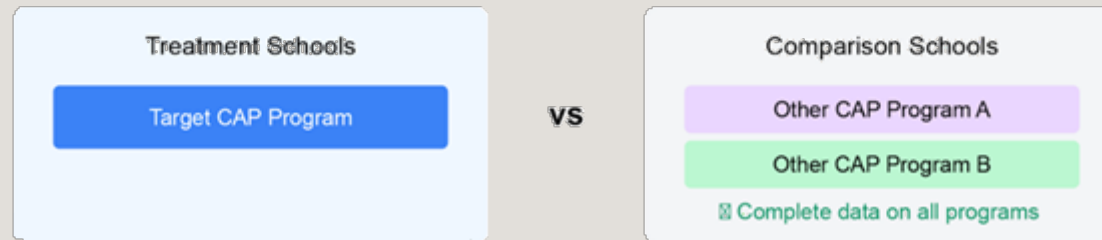
Facilitating Better Research on CAPs

CAP Evaluation Approaches

Naive Comparison



Data-Informed Comparison



Key Benefits of Data-Informed Approach:

- Accurately identifies other CAP programs in comparison schools
- Enables creation of more appropriate comparison groups
- Reduces bias in effectiveness estimates



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More About the CAP Registry



- Management
 - E.g., non-profit, university, governmental
- Funding
 - E.g., federal, state, private, local
- Grade levels served
- Student populations served/prioritized
 - E.g., first-generation students
- Advisor characteristics
 - E.g., near-peer/professional, short vs. long-term appointments
- Regions/districts served
- Training provided to advisors
 - E.g., pre-service, in-service, mentorship
- Student-to-advisor ratios
- Key goals and metrics



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An illustration featuring a large laptop screen as the central element. The screen displays a grid of four yellow folder icons. Above the screen, a stack of four books (blue, white, blue, and black) sits on the left, and a glowing yellow lightbulb with radiating lines is on the right. To the left of the laptop, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a yellow dress, stands holding a smartphone. To the right, a man with short brown hair, wearing a teal shirt and dark pants, stands holding a laptop. The background is a light blue gradient with a large, soft, yellowish-orange shape behind the central elements.



Registry Example

- Shows regions where programs are available
- Can filter by topic/focus area
- Helps districts find resources and program to support student mental health

Statewide Regional Resources ⓘ

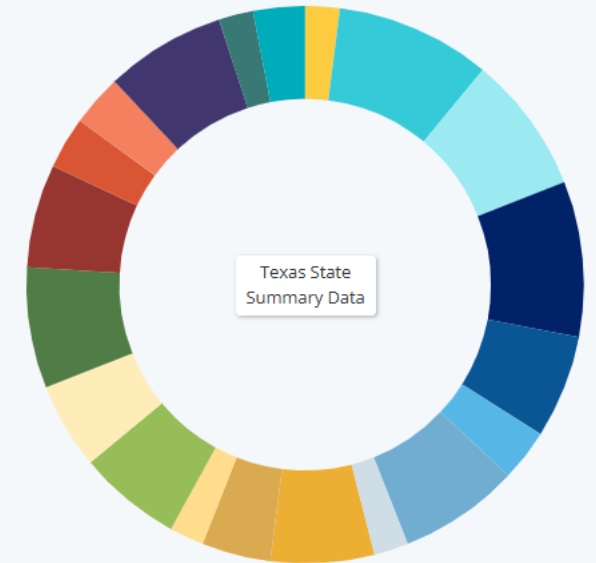
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Percent of Resources Identified in Each Region

Texas State Summary Data

Region 1: Edinburg	2%	Region 19: El Paso	2%
Region 10: Richardson	9%	Region 2: Corpus Christi	6%
Region 11: Fort Worth	8%	Region 20: San Antonio	5%
Region 12: Waco	9%	Region 3: Victoria	7%
Region 13: Austin	6%	Region 4: Houston	6%
Region 14: Abilene	3%	Region 5: Beaumont	3%
Region 15: San Angelo	7%	Region 6: Huntsville	3%
Region 16: Amarillo	2%	Region 7: Kilgore	7%
Region 17: Lubbock	6%	Region 8: Mount Pleasant	2%
Region 18: Midland	4%	Region 9: Wichita Falls	3%





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Welcome to the New Orleans Youth Programs Directory!

Find camps, events, programs, contests, mentorships, sports leagues, and much more!

[Find Opportunities Here!](#)



The Youth Programs Directory is a listing of opportunities for New Orleans youth and families. Search hundreds of youth-facing events, programs, and activities to find the resources that are right for your family!

[Report a Bug](#)

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Methods

- **Web Data Scraping**
 - Will start by collecting as much information on CAPs from websites and publicly available sources to build directory
- **Interviews/Data Verification**
 - District leaders – determine what information they seek in deciding whether to partner with CAPs
 - CAP leaders – determine how they describe their key features and model characteristics, verify information in registry
- **CAP/YSO Survey or Registry Information Submission Process**
- **CAP Partnership Data Collection**
 - Will collaborate with CAPs to collect data on school/district partnerships



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Timeline

ACTIVITY	2025									
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Contact regional backbone organizations to recruit CAP partners										
Develop data collection tools										
Receive feedback on and refine data collection tools										
Conduct interviews with CAP partners to collect data on program features										
Convert interview data into CAP registry database										
Collect data on school-CAP partnerships										
Conduct interviews with district leaders to determine CAP information needs										
Develop MVP requirements for CAP registry tool										
Develop prototype of CAP registry tool										
ACTIVITY	2026									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Develop longitudinal dataset of school-CAP partnerships										
Demo CAP registry at LonestarP3 Winter Convening										
Conduct analyses of qualitative interviews of CAP leaders										
Conduct analyses of quantitative data on CAP program features										
Disseminate findings of research at LonestarP3 Summer Convening										
Disseminate manuscripts on CAP growth and features										



Registry Progress

Organization Name	Website	Contact Person	Contact Person Title/Role	Contact Email Address	Headquarters Address	Year Founded	Funding Sources	Grade Levels Served	Grade Levels Targeted
Advise Texas - UT Austin	https://admissions.utexas.edu/advise-tx/	Cheryl Sawyer	Program Director, UT Austin	cheryls@austin.utexas.edu		2010	college advising	9-12, primarily 12	
Advise Texas - UT RGV	https://www.utrgv.edu/admissions/freshman/advise-texas/index.htm	Carlo Tamayo	Program Director, UTRGV C	carlo.tamayo@utrgv.edu					
Alamo Colleges - College Connection	https://www.alamo.edu/about-us/offices-departments/departments/college-connection/			dst-collconnectic	2222 N. Alamo St. San Antonio, Texas 78215			12th and beyond	
ASPIRE at Texas A&M San Antonio	https://www.tamusa.edu/aspire/index.html	Dr. Carl Sheperis	Part of College of Education	cshperis@tam	One University V	2019	Federal and Priv	PK-12	
AVID	https://www.avid.org/			AVIDCare@avid	5187 College Av	1980			
Big Brother Big Sister	https://www.bigmentor.org/	Clare McCoy	Director of Programs	cmccoy@bigmen	10843 Gulfdale St. San Antonio, TX 78216				
Boy with a ball	https://www.boywithaball.com/			sanantonio@boy	PO BOX15508, I	2001			
Boyscouts		Ryan Harris	CEO	ryan.harris@scouting.org					
Breakthrough Central Texas	https://breakthroughctx.org/	Issa Galvan	Media/Public Relations	issa@breakthro	3100 E 5th Stree	2001		6th - College	
Cafe College	https://cafecollege.org/	Rose Ann San M	Chief Program Officer	rsanmartin@sae	131 El Paso St, San Antonio Texas 78204			9th-postsecondary	
Cafe College Houston	https://www.facebook.com/cafecollegehouston/								
Celebrate Dyslexia	https://celebratedyslexia.org/	Jasmin Dean	Executive Director	jasmindean@ce	2214 Basse Rd	2019	Nonprofit		
Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas	Home - Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas				205 W. Olmos Drive San Antonio, TX 78212				
City Year San Antonio	City Year San Antonio City Year	Brittany Edwards	Impact Director	BEwards@city	287 Columbus	1988	Americorps	K-12	
Classical Music Institute	Classical Music Institute in San Antonio					2016			
College Community Career	https://collegecommunitycareer.org/	Kathy Rose	Executive Director	krose@colleg	11104 W. Airport	2012		10th - College	
College Possible	https://collegepossible.org/	Jesse Hendrix	Executive Director	Jhendrix@colle	755 Prior Ave. N	2000	Individual Donat	11th - College	
Collegiate Edu-Nation	https://edu-nation.org/			kalexander@edu rmcclain@edu-n	Roscoe, TX	2019		Pre-K - 12th	
Commit Partnership	https://www.commitpartnership.org/				3000 Pegasus P	2012	Public and Priv	EC-12, higher ED + workforce	
Communities in Schools	https://www.communitiesinschools.org/			info@cisnet.org		1977	Corporate, Private foundation, and Individual donat		
Communities in Schools	Home - Communities In Schools			info@cisnet.org	2461 South Clar	1977	Non-profits	K-12	
Communities in Schools of Central Texas	https://ciscentraltexas.org/				2521 E St. Elmo Rd, Austin, Texa		Individual Donations		
Communities in Schools of Houston	https://www.cishouston.org/				1111 North Loop West, Suite 300, Houston, TX 77008		Private Foundati	6th - College	
Con Mi Madre	https://www.conmimadre.org/			info@conmimad	1825 Fortview R	1992	Private Foundati	6th - College	
Contigo Ed	https://contigoed.org/			hello@contigo.org		2019	Private Foundations		
Culturingua	CULTURINGUA	Nadia Mavarakis	Executive Director	info@culturingua.com				k-12	
Economic Mobility Systems	https://www.economicmobilitysystems.org/			info@economic	Economic Mobili	2020	Non-profit, Private Foundation		

“Texas CAP Map” Progress

- Prototype coming soon!
- Release clickable prototype in late October
- Collect feedback on and refine prototype this semester
- Allow users (and CAP administrators) to submit information regarding CAPs and YSOs
- Integrate data on schools served by CAPs/YSOs this spring



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Discussion

- How can we ensure we collect the information we need to on CAPs?
- How should we determine which organizations are included in this directory, beyond traditional CAPs?
- Who do we need to partner with to ensure the success of the project, and how should we do so?
- Which organization should own the directory/website long-term?
- What else should we consider in pursuing this research agenda?



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Next Steps and How to Get Involved

- 1) Provide feedback on the measures and data fields related to CAPs and YSOs
- 2) Test Texas CAP Map and provide feedback once its released
- 3) Provide information on your organization for inclusion in the directory (for CAP/YSO leaders)
- 4) Share school-level data on schools your organization is working with
- 5) Participate in interviews or focus groups on school/district/CAP partnerships



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