

## **MEDIA CONTACT**

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## **Any Baby Can Media Kit**



**Any Baby Can is your source for pregnancy, child and family related stories.  
We provide in-house experts on a range of topics and can often secure client interviews.**

### **Areas of expertise include:**

Auditory services and hearing aids for children  
Breastfeeding  
Child abuse and neglect  
Child development  
Childhood cancer  
Children with special health care needs  
CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Plan)  
Developmental delays  
Early Childhood  
Family finances  
Healthy eating habits/nutrition  
Home safety for children and families  
Home visitation services  
Homelessness Prevention  
Immunizations  
Literacy/English as a Second Language  
Medicaid  
Mental health  
Nonprofit funding  
Occupational therapy  
Parenting  
Physical therapy  
Postpartum anxiety and depression  
Poverty  
Prenatal care  
School advocacy  
School readiness  
Speech pathology  
Teen pregnancy

# Any Baby Can Child & Family Resource Center

Any Baby Can improves the lives of children by strengthening them and their families through education, therapy and family support services. Each year, Any Baby Can serves more than 6,000 of the youngest, sickest, and poorest children and their families in the Central Texas area. These children face a number of challenges to their well-being, including special health care needs, developmental delays, the danger of being abused or neglected, poverty and the risk of not succeeding in school.



Any Baby Can supports pregnant women, families and children with a continuum of evidence based best practices including both prevention and intervention strategies, overlaid with advocacy and support. Most intensive, individualized services are provided in the home, a proven effective method for sustained positive changes. The agency also provides prenatal and parenting education in classroom settings, postpartum support groups, bereavement support groups and family literacy services.

Clients come to Any Baby Can from a variety of formal and informal referral sources, including other social service agencies, Neonatal Intensive Care Units, pediatricians, hospitals, WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Clinics, school nurses, teachers, family members and friends.

**Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) Program** - helps low-income first-time mothers and their children. With registered nurses serving as home visitors, services begin prenatally and continue with child development education until the child is two years old. NFP home visitors work with families to achieve three main goals: 1) Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women engage in good preventive health practices; 2) Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care; 3) Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education and find work.

**Tandem Pregnant & Parenting Teen Collaboration** - promotes the health and well-being of teen parents who receive prenatal care at People's Community Clinic. The collaboration works to reduce the risk of low birth weight infants and subsequent unplanned pregnancies. Tandem has been recognized for incorporating into its program many of the nationally identified best practices for serving teen parents. It has been particularly effective in promoting positive health behaviors among its participants. Tandem is a collaboration among Any Baby Can, Austin Child Guidance Center, LifeWorks and People's Community Clinic.

**Healthy and Fair Start (HFS) Program** - strengthens low income families with children younger than four years old whose well-being is at risk or who have a mild developmental delay. Any Baby Can Staff utilizes Parents as Teachers, an evidence-based curriculum focusing on home-based parent education and child development. HFS home visitors work with clients in their home to create stable and safe family environments, address developmental delays, increase school readiness and encourage parent involvement in school and community. These result in improved parental confidence and competence, leading to greater family stability as well as appropriate emotional development of the child.

**Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Program** - serves families with children birth to 36 months with a developmental delay, medically diagnosed condition or auditory or visual impairment. The ECI model was built on the understanding that the most effective time to improve a child's ability to grow and learn is before the age of three. ECI helps children reach their full potential and increases parents' knowledge, skills, and ability to support their child's physical, mental, and emotional development.

To learn more about Any Baby Can, please visit [www.abcaus.org](http://www.abcaus.org).

**Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Program** - provides services and support so that no family goes through their journey with childhood cancer alone. Candlelighters serves families of children zero through age 20. Home- or clinic-based services span from diagnosis throughout treatment, during times of crisis and can continue when the child is off-treatment. Bereavement services are also available.

**Comprehensive Advocacy and Resources for Empowerment (CARE) Program** - serves families of children zero through age 20 who have physical, developmental, emotional or behavioral special health care needs. Parents and children receive emotional support, learn coping skills, and are connected to community resources. The program also offers family events that provide a place for families to meet, have fun and support each other. A variety of events are offered throughout the year including family picnics and Mom's Night Out.

**Children's Hearing Aid Texas (CHAT)** - provides auditory services and hearing aids for children in Central Texas with audio logical needs who have no financial alternatives to meet those needs. CHAT was founded on the belief that hearing aids are essential for the development of cognitive and social skills in infants and children with hearing loss. CHAT was founded by Caroline Caven, MA, MBA in 2003 and incubated by the Austin Community Foundation under their 501 (c) (3) status until 2008, when CHAT was "adopted" by Any Baby Can.

**No Estás Solo You are Not Alone Counseling Program** – employs clinically licensed therapists who provide bilingual, home-based mental health counseling to children and families enrolled in other Any Baby Can home visiting programs. Counseling services help clients address mental health issues and cope with stressful and difficult situations.

**New: Postpartum Services** – include English and Spanish support groups for new mothers and their partners, plus Postpartum informational presentations, tools and resources for the professional community and health providers whose clientele includes new parents. Services also include the Parent Helpline (512-334-4444), a telephone line staffed by licensed therapists who are available to answer postpartum and parenting questions. The Parent Helpline is also used as a Postpartum Depression screening and linking tool.

**Family Education Program** - gives parents the literacy tools and parenting skills to support their children's success in school, increase their self-sufficiency, and raise a healthy family. Any Baby Can staff work with parents to be proactive, confident and appropriate role models for their children. A variety of parent education classes are available to guide new and experienced parents through the journey of parenthood.

**Crisis Assistance, Respite Services, Information and Referral, and Child/Parent Screening** – offer some families served by Any Baby Can access to resources to help meet financial crises such as rent, utilities, food, diapers, medical supplies and equipment, funeral expenses and medications. Respite services are also available if appropriate. The agency offers extensive information on community services available to meet the needs of our families, facilitating referrals as appropriate. As part of our outreach efforts, staff conduct child/parent screenings at various community locations to identify children with a potential need for services.

**Community Collaboration** – is fostered on an ongoing basis with referral sources, sister programs, the medical community and the business community. One example of collaboration is a partnership with Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas, in which the Children's Health Express Mobile Clinic serves as a medical home for the hard to reach populations (primarily children with special health care needs) that Any Baby Can successfully serves.

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## Facts & Stats



**Any Baby Can serves the youngest, sickest and poorest children in our community and their families. The facts and stats below give insight into the need for services in our community.**

Every \$1 investment in quality early childhood development can save our community up to \$17 in remedial education, welfare costs, and court and prison expenses (United Way Success By 6).

30,000 children in Travis County (12%) have a special health care need (Texas Department of State Health Services).

48% of single mothers in Travis County with children under the age of five live in poverty (American Community Survey).

Three year olds from professional families have an average vocabulary of 1,116, compared to only 525 words for those from welfare families (Hart & Risley).

More than 35% of pregnant women in Travis County do not receive adequate prenatal care (Texas Department of State Health Services).

24% of children in Travis County under the age of five live in poverty (2011 American Community Survey).

Children 17 and younger in Travis County are the most likely to live in poverty (2011 American Community Survey). (Note: age 18-24 is highest group, when compared to age birth to 5 and 6-17, but when combined, birth to 17 is highest.)

In Travis County the poverty rate is highest among Hispanic and African American residents, 23% for both groups, more than twice the rate of poverty for Caucasians, which is 9% (2011 American Community Survey).

In Travis County, nearly one out of four people living in poverty is a Hispanic child (17 or younger) (2011 American Community Survey).

Six out of ten low-income children are not kindergarten ready (2011 Community Action Network).

\$22,350: Federal Poverty Guidelines for a family of four (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2011).

An estimated 31,000 adults and 24,500 children in Travis County have mental health issues (2010 Travis County Health and Human Services Community Impact Report).

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## Facts & Stats (continued)



The child poverty rate in the county has reached a ten-year high with over 56,000 children (23.2%) living in households that reported incomes below the poverty threshold (2010 Travis County Health and Human Services Community Impact Report).

In Texas, one of every seven babies was born preterm in 2007 (Center for Public Policy Priorities).

In Texas, 40 percent of babies are born to mothers who received late or no prenatal care (Center for Public Policy Priorities).

1 of every 10 births in Travis County is to a teen mom (Center for Public Policy Priorities).

12% of babies born in Travis County are preterm (Center for Public Policy Priorities).

One of every four Texas preschoolers is not read to regularly – the worst rate in the nation (Center for Public Policy Priorities).

1,777: the number of confirmed victims of child abuse in Travis County in 2009 (Center for Public Policy Priorities).

1 in 10 kids in Travis County schools are in Special Education classes (Center for Public Policy Priorities).

105: the average IQ of at-risk three year olds in a child development study who received intensive, early intervention, versus three year olds who did not, whose average IQ was 85 (Ramey, Campbell, & Blair, 1998).

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