Center Hosts Conference on the Early Childhood Education Assessment

Deanna Schexnayder, associate dean of finance and administration at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, and senior research scientist at the Ray Marshall Center discussed key findings in the Early Childhood Education Assessment across Texas. In conjunction with the public release of the first Texas early childhood education needs assessment in 40 years, the Ray Marshall Center hosted a one-day conference, entitled “Texas Early Childhood Education Needs Assessment: Findings, Policy Implications and Promising Service Models,” on Monday, October 29th, 2012, at the LBJ School of Public Affairs on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin. For more information, access to publications, and to view the event photos, click here.

Chris King Presents to Central Texas Schools Principals

Center Director Chris King presented key findings and recommended actions for fostering increased direct-to-college enrollments to a meeting of Central Texas high school principals convened by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce at the offices of Southwest Education and Development Laboratories in Austin, as part of the Center’s Central Texas Student Futures Project.

King Attends Colorado Aspen Institute Events; Issued Grant for the Two-Generation Anthology
King Discusses Two-Generation Strategies

In October, Director Chris King attended the Aspen ThinkXChange and Fellows Forum, which focused on the potential of two-generation approaches. The Anthology will support a wider understanding of credibility for two-generation strategies as a solution to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

Bob Glover, Center’s First Employee and Former Director, Retires

Robert W. (Bob) Glover, the first employee of the Ray Marshall Center when its namesake founded it in June 1970, retired on September 30, 2012. Dr. Glover is research scientist and a former director of the Center from 1976-1983. Dr. Glover’s distinguished career includes authoring countless books, articles and reports. Over the years, he has had an indelible and lasting impact on Austin’s approach to investing in its residents, working with a long list of mayors, county judges, business and civic leaders. He is one of the world’s leading experts on apprenticeship and headed the Federal Committee on Apprenticeship during the Carter Administration in the 1970s. At the LBJ School of Public Affairs, Dr. Glover taught almost a dozen policy research projects since the late 1970s. He worked closely with the late Walt and Elspeth Rostow, professors at the LBJ School and community leaders, to establish The Austin Project, which acts as a catalyst to improve the lives of children, youth and families. Additionally, he has mentored numerous students and continues to shape their careers to this day.

Center Researchers Present Findings from Workforce Potential Project

Center Director Chris King, Research Scientist Bob Glover, Research Associate Dan O’Shea and Graduate Research Assistant Laura Stelling presented their findings and recommendations from the Workforce Potential Project to the Social Equity Committee of the
service gaps in early childhood education and school-age care programs and services for the state of Texas and jurisdictions within Texas.

**Change in the Early Childhood Population in Texas, 2000 to 2010, and Projected to 2015**

*Published by the Hobby Center for Study of Texas, Rice University. September 2012. 140 pp. By Steve H. Murdock, Michael Cline, Debbie Perez, George Hough.*

Researchers report data on the increase of the early childhood population (children under 13 years) in Texas from 2000 to 2010, and provide growth projections for this group from 2010 to 2015.

**Supply and Quality of Early Care and Education and School-Age Care**

*Published by the Ray Marshall Center for the Study of Human Resources, and The University of Texas at Austin. August 2012. 116 pp.*

**Austin Area Research Organization.** AARO will be deciding how it plans to implement the Workforce Potential Project in Central Texas in the near future.

**Heath Prince Gives Leadership Presentation to Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce**

At the invitation of the Greater Austin Chambers of Commerce, Associate Director, Heath Prince delivered a leadership presentation to representatives from the Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce, as well as to representatives from several postsecondary institutions and K-12 school districts in and around Gwinnett County, GA. Prince spoke of the current research surrounding the Student Futures Project, and the panel topics included a broader effort by the Chamber and Central Texas ISDs to increase enrollment into postsecondary education, and the importance of these efforts to the local economy.

**King Speaks to Kansas City Chamber about the Student Futures Project**

Director Chris King spoke about contributions made by the Central Texas Student Futures Project in a presentation to civic, business and education leaders from Kansas City, MO on a trip organized by the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. King outlined the importance of engaging non-education, non-researcher stakeholders, and how maintaining research capacity based in colleges or universities is valuable and lends to further credibility to educational improvement efforts.

**Greg Cumpton Presents at the Greater Austin Chamber’s College Readiness and Enrollment Support Team Second Forum**

Greg Cumpton, a social science research associate at the Ray Marshall Center, gave a presentation to the Greater Austin Chamber's College Readiness and Enrollment Support Team (CREST). Cumpton discussed upcoming presentations with the Kansas City Chamber, Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management, and the Workforce Data Quality Initiative. Cumpton further discussed the factors associated with postsecondary enrollment and the reasons to examine short-term strategies outside of the classroom. Click here to view the presentation.
This report documents the existing supply of early childhood education and school-age care in Texas and determines the share of that care meeting recognized quality standards.

**RMC in the Press**

**Austin-American Statesman**
Chris King and ASCEND, a policy program of the Aspen Institute, were mentioned in the Austin American Statesman on Two-Generation Approaches, read the full article.

**Upcoming Events**

**November: 8-10**
Center Staff Speaking, Presenting Papers at APPAM. Several staff members from the Ray Marshall Center will have roles on the 2012 fall research conference program of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, to be held in Baltimore from November 8-10.

**King Presents at the Future of Workforce Development in Kansas City**
Chris King presented The Rise of Sectoral Workforce Development at The Future of Workforce Development Conference at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, MO. King's remarks are contained in the "Sectoral Approaches Enhance Workforce Development" section on Page 5 of the Kansas City Fed's Community Connections publication for Fall 2012.

**Project Updates**

**Texas Early Childhood Education Needs Assessment: Final Report**
The final report in The Texas Early Childhood Education Assessment came to a close as the center held a conference on October 29th at the LBJ School. The ECEA report was a collaborative project between the Ray Marshall Center for the Study of Human Resources at the University of Texas at Austin and the Hobby Center for the Study of Texas at Rice University, with funding provided by the Texas Early Learning Council via the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in Houston. The purpose of the project was to describe the demand for, the supply of, and the service gaps in early childhood education and school-age care programs and services for the state of Texas and jurisdictions within Texas. This is the first statewide needs assessment of Texas early childhood education in over 40 years. Read the full report.

**The CareerAdvance® Program in Tulsa, Oklahoma**
The Ray Marshall Center completed its third report in a series of reports focusing on the implementation of CareerAdvance®—a program for training parents of Head Start and Early Head Start children, administered by the Community Action Project of Tulsa County (CAP). CareerAdvance® began in Tulsa in 2009 as the parent training portion of a two-generation strategy to end the cycle of poverty in families with a child enrolled in Head Start or Early Head Start. The driving theory of change behind CareerAdvance® is that family economic success will protect and enhance gains made through high-quality early childhood programs even after children transition into the public school system. The program is operated by the Community Action Project of Tulsa County (CAP), an antipoverty agency with a highly successful record in growing pilot programs into effective large-scale initiatives. After a year
as a pilot program, CareerAdvance® moved into regular operations, at which time funding through the Health Profession Opportunities Grant program (HPOG) from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services enabled the program to expand and scale-up. This report reviews the progress of CareerAdvance® during its second year of operations as an HPOG program from September 2011 through August 2012. Read the full report.