

October 1, 2018

Start Smart Texas
1910 East MLK Jr Blvd.
Austin, TX 78702

RE: Becoming a Start Smart Texas Community

Dear Start Smart Texas,

Enclosed is a request that Big City, TX become a Start Smart Texas community and a member of the Start Smart Texas learning community. Our coalition is devoted to developing solutions for {list indicators your community will focus on such as third-grade reading/math proficiency, school readiness, family engagement, and/or summer learning loss}.

We are a coalition of public, private, civic, philanthropic, and/or faith communities working together to improve student success. Our collaborative of committed partners includes:

- Big City Education Foundation
- Boys and Girls Club of Big City
- Lilah Z. Kalil Charitable Trust
- United Way of Big County
- Big City Independent School District
- All Village Church
- Big City PBS
- Big City Public Library

As we prepare to engage in this work, we are committed to collect and assess data regarding the areas of focus. The data and information that we have obtained about our community is:

- 3rd grade reading levels in XXX county declined on Big City Standards Assessment over a 3-year period (2010 75%, 2011 65%, 2012 55%)
- Proficiency ranges from 26% for English Language Learners (ELL) to 84% for Asian students, Caucasian students and students not receiving free or reduced meals.
- Native American students scored consistently lower than African American and Hispanic students.
- ELL students and students with special needs had the lowest rates of proficiency.

We have identified goals and steps to ensure that children become successful. Our proposed strategies include:

- Drive change through capacity building, group solutions, continuous instructional improvement, and integrated and coordinated systems.
- United Way of Big City, Sarah Doe, will develop profile of XXXX Elementary School, 123 Elementary School, and ABC Elementary School to identify literacy assets and gaps.
- ABC Reads will ensure preschool, childcare teachers, and parents are familiar with readiness indicators, and can prepare children for kindergarten
- Wal-Store will sponsor book distribution to preschool and K-3 children in targeted schools

Together, with a coordinated and collaborative approach, we can ensure that children reach in our community their full potential.

Sincerely,

Contact Name

Organization

Contact Information (email, address, phone number)

SAMPLE