

STEP UP TEXAS

IMPROVING JUVENILE JUSTICE OUTCOMES WITH TRAUMA-INFORMED AND RESTORATIVE PRACTICES TRAINING



ABOUT US

STEP UP Texas is a project funded by the U.S. Department of Justice to bring trauma-informed and restorative practices training and implementation support to school districts, law enforcement, and the judicial system to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in engagement with the juvenile justice system (*JJDA Title II, Part B, Core Requirement 4*). It is a partnership between The University of Texas at Austin, Williamson County Juvenile Services, and STARRY. Initially funded in 2021, STEP UP Texas began providing training in Williamson County, Texas while also convening a Task Force of community and organizational stakeholders to better understand local challenges and possible solutions. In 2022, STEP UP Texas received additional funding to include implementation support alongside the training and to expand its reach to additional jurisdictions in Texas.

PROJECT TIMELINE

JANUARY 2021

- Received notice of FY19 grant funding.
- Established partnership between The University of Texas at Austin, Williamson County Juvenile Services, and Bluebonnet Trails Community Services.
- Began providing trauma-informed and restorative practices training to community, school districts, law enforcement, & judicial system.

MAY 2021

- Held official STEP UP Texas Kickoff event attended by Williamson County school superintendents, law enforcement, and juvenile judges.

DECEMBER 2021

- During the first year, the project conducted 120 trainings for 1,589 people and established partnerships with 18 community, school, and governmental organizations.

JANUARY 2022

- Received notice of FY21 grant funding to expand Williamson County model to 8 additional jurisdictions in Texas.
- Continued to provide trauma-informed and restorative practices training to community, school districts, law enforcement, & judicial system.
- Convened local Task Force to begin gap analysis, facilitate cross-sector dialogue to understand local challenges, and identify points for policy and practice interventions.

SUMMER 2022

- Began FY21 grant expansion efforts.
- Began partnership with STARRY (in place of Bluebonnet Trails Community Services) and onboarded Director of Trauma-Informed Training.
- Onboarded Williamson County Training & Technical Assistance Professionals (TTAPs) & Director of Restorative Practices Training.
- Began serving Uvalde County as 2nd STEP UP Texas jurisdiction.

FALL 2022

- Release Request for Proposal (RFP) statewide to begin process of selecting TTAP grantee organizations to serve 7 additional STEP UP Texas jurisdictions.
- Distribute RFP widely & conduct RFP informationals.

SPRING 2023

- Grant applications due & Grant Review Committee selected.
- Review applications & select TTAP grantee organizations in 7 jurisdictions bringing the project total to 9 Texas jurisdictions served by STEP UP Texas.

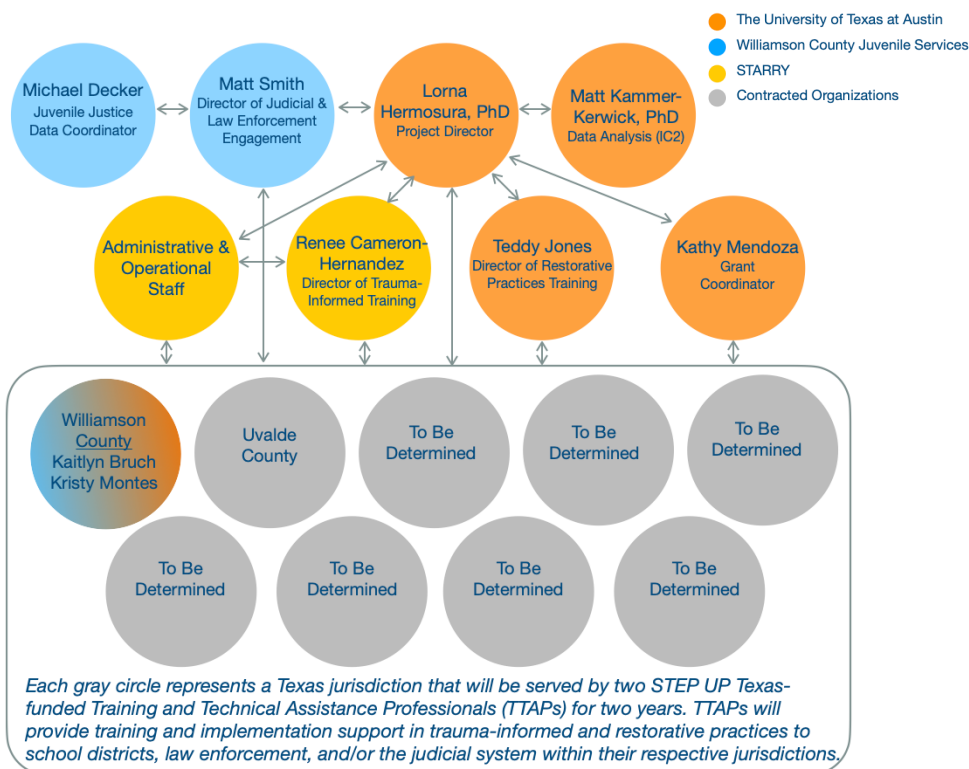
SUMMER 2023

- Execute contracts and fund TTAP grantee organizations.
- Onboard and train all 18 TTAPs (2 per jurisdiction) as trainers in trauma-informed and restorative practices.

JULY 2023 - JUNE 2025

- 18 TTAPs serve 9 Texas jurisdictions providing trauma-informed & restorative practices training and implementation assistance to school districts, law enforcement, and the judicial system & convening local Task Forces to inform the work.
- 18 TTAPs supported by the STEP UP Texas Core Team.

STEP UP TEXAS TEAM



PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Provide Training & Technical Assistance

- Provide training in trauma-informed and restorative practices and implementation support to: school districts, law enforcement, the judicial system.

Convene local Task Forces

- Convene community members and staff from local school districts, law enforcement, and judicial system to: conduct a gaps analysis to understand why disproportion exists in the local jurisdiction (assess the community's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) and to recommend interventions and policy change.
- Informed by literature review and local data analysis.

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL: STEPUPTX@STARRY.ORG

