Every child is healthy, well-educated and financially secure.
All 7.2 million of them!
Every child is healthy, well-educated and financially secure.
Thousands of Rio Grande Valley children live in immigrant families

Out of 390,000 kids in Cameron and Hidalgo counties, more than half live with one or more parents who is an immigrant.

Of those, half live with at least one parent who is not a U.S. citizen (this includes parents who are legally authorized).
Every child is healthy, well-educated and financially secure.
Median income for households with children is much lower in the Rio Grande Valley
Median income for households with children is much lower in the Rio Grande Valley

$35,750

Cameron & Hidalgo Counties

Median Income of Households with Children, 2015
Median income for households with children is much lower in the Rio Grande Valley.

- **Cameron & Hidalgo Counties**: $35,750
- **All Other Texas Counties**: $64,000

Median Income of Households with Children, 2015
For a family with two kids to get by in the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission area...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Needs to Earn (per worker)</th>
<th>Metro Median Hourly Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10/hr</td>
<td>$15/hr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Two working parents each need to make $10/hour
For a family with two kids to get by in the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission area...

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Family Needs to Earn (per worker)</th>
<th>Metro Median Hourly Wage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$17/hr</td>
<td>$15/hr</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A single parent needs to earn $17/hour
Too many Rio Grande Valley children live in poverty ($≤$24,500 for a family of four)
Too many Rio Grande Valley children live in poverty (<$24,500 for a family of four)

Texas 23%
Too many Rio Grande Valley children live in poverty (<$24,500 for a family of four)

Texas 23%

Hidalgo County, 43%

Cameron County, 46%

Poverty rate for children, 2015
Total poverty rate by census tract, 2011-2015
The likelihood of living in poverty is affected by family structure and place.

Poverty rate by family type, 2011-2015
Policy matters.

Place matters.
Every child is *healthy*, well-educated and financially secure.
Child uninsured rates have declined, but remain too high.
Health insurance access must be protected

400,000 Texas children rely on CHIP
Women of childbearing age are more likely to be uninsured in the Rio Grande Valley than in the rest of Texas.
Infants in Hidalgo County are at higher risk of low birthweight or premature birth.
Infants in Hidalgo County are at higher risk of low birthweight or premature birth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Cameron County</th>
<th>Hidalgo County</th>
<th>Texas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Late or No Prenatal Care</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premature Births</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Infant health indicators, 2015
Infants in Hidalgo County are at higher risk of low birthweight or premature birth

### Late or No Prenatal Care
- Cameron County: 8.9%
- Hidalgo County: 13.3%
- Texas: 11.5%

### Premature Births
- Cameron County: 14.5%
- Hidalgo County: 15.3%
- Texas: 11.7%

### Low Birthweight
- Cameron County: 7.8%
- Hidalgo County: 8.4%
- Texas: 8.2%

*Infant health indicators, 2015*
Around 30 percent of children in the Rio Grande Valley lack consistent access to adequate food
Every child is healthy, well-educated and financially secure.
Pre-K enrollment is higher in the Rio Grande Valley than in Texas

Pre-K enrollment for four year olds, 2015
High school completion rates remain high

High school completion, 2012-2016

- Cameron County: 92.6% to 95.4%
- Hidalgo County: 92.6% to 93.8%
- Texas: 92.6% to 95.6%
High school completion rates remain high

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Overall HS Completion Rate</th>
<th>ESL Student HS Completion Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cameron County</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo County</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High school completion by ESL status, 2016
What can we do?
Recommendations

- Make school funding more adequate and equitable
Recommendations

- Protect and expand access to health care
Recommendations

- Support children by supporting working families.
We believe in a Texas that offers everyone the chance to compete and succeed in life.

We envision a Texas where everyone is healthy, well-educated, and financially secure.