

Harris County
early learning
QUALITY NETWORK



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CHILDREN AT RISK, EAST HARRIS COUNTY EMPOWERMENT COUNCIL,
HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, VN TEAMWORK, AND YMCA OF GREATER HOUSTON

Harris County is piloting a new, community-driven network approach to supporting quality improvement in early learning settings (primarily focused on child care settings). The goal of the Early Learning Quality Network (ELQN), is to **improve local community child care quality** through community led planning and community directed funding. The ELQN strategy goal is to improve early learning and care by working alongside providers, families, and other community stakeholders to focus on quality improvement initiatives that build upon the unique strengths and opportunities of each focal community.

The ELQN is working towards:

- 2,500+ children to experience improved child care environments;
- Families to have increased access to quality child care that meets their needs and preferences;
- Additional community infrastructure to support quality child care in Harris County.



CHILDREN AT RISK serves ELQN as the Network Support Hub (NSH) with the following organizations serving as the Local Network Organizations (LNOs):

- East Harris County Empowerment Council
- Harris County Public Library
- VN TeamWork, Inc.
- YMCA of Greater Houston

ELQN ROLES AT A GLANCE

Network Support Hub (NSH)

- Convene Local Network Organizations to reflect and learn from one another
- Provide training and technical assistance to build LNO capacity
- Administer funding to support quality action plans in each community
- Track ELQN progress

Local Network Organizations (LNOs)

- Convene community stakeholders
- Collaboratively develop a Child Care Quality Action Plan with the community that articulates the vision and strategies to improve quality in early learning settings
- Support and monitor implementation of Child Care Quality Action Plan with the community