

## **Work Plan - Vergas/CEDA**

### **Primary Priority: Childcare Development in Vergas**

#### **1. Community Engagement & Needs Assessment**

- Conduct outreach to families, employers, and stakeholders to determine childcare needs and preferences
- Host community meeting(s) or listening sessions

#### **2. Site & Model Exploration**

- Identify potential locations or partners (churches, schools, city-owned buildings)
- Research and evaluate various operating models (in-home care, center-based care, municipality-led, co-op models)
- Consult with licensing specialists to determine feasibility of sites and models

#### **3. Partnership & Provider Development**

- Connect with regional childcare providers, nonprofits, foundations, and early childhood education experts
- Provide marketing or outreach support for provider recruitment
- Support licensing process (if applicable) through referrals and administrative coordination
- Facilitate city permitting or zoning discussions, if applicable

#### **4. Funding & Strategic Planning**

- Identify relevant local, state, and federal funding opportunities (DEED Childcare Economic Development Grants, First Children's Finance, Rural Childcare Innovation Program)
- Draft and submit at least one major funding application
- Assist in the development of business plans, budgets, or pro forma documents needed for funding

#### **5. Reporting & Communication**

- Provide monthly updates to the Vergas EDA on progress, challenges, and next steps

### **Secondary Priority: Local Economic Development Support**

#### **1. EDA Grant Program Management**

- Oversee and manage Vergas EDA's local grant program
- Conduct business visits to promote the grant opportunity and answer questions

#### **2. Marketing & Outreach**

- Create and distribute marketing materials for the EDA's programs and initiatives
- Support general business outreach in Vergas through in-person visits and direct communication