



# Austin Coming Together

THRIVE 2025

**2017 Membership Opportunities**

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## ACT'S STORY

Austin Coming Together provides backbone support for a network of over 70 non-profit, faith-based, public, and private entities committed to improving the quality of life in the Austin community. Since 2010, we have helped our members take a strategic and collaborative approach to achieving outcomes together.

### VISION

We will create a thriving Austin community

### CORE VALUES

Unity, Commitment, Transparency, Collaboration, Action

### MISSION

ACT's Mission

To increase the collective impact of our member organization on improving education and economic development outcomes in the Austin community.

### STRATEGY

Thrive 2025

## THRIVE 2025

In 2016, ACT developed *Thrive 2025*, a common agenda that focuses the efforts and resources of our member organizations on improving the quality of life in Austin by targeting 4 impact goals in Austin from now until the year 2025:

1. Increase access to high **quality early learning** programs
2. Develop pathways to **living wage careers**
3. Create **safe neighborhoods** by restoring relationships among neighbors
4. **Stabilize the housing market** through targeted property interventions

In order to achieve these impact goals, Austin Coming Together fosters the conditions for collaborative action among our members and other important stakeholders.

Please read on to learn more about what we do in Austin, how we support our members and how your organization can get involved in collective impact in Austin.

## ACT COLLABORATIVES

Austin Coming Together develops share leadership around each of the impact goals in our Thrive 2025 agenda. We do this through the ongoing facilitation of our Collaboratives, which are working groups made up of leaders from our member organizations. Each collaborative meets on a regular basis to work on one or more of the following imperatives--

- 1) Continuous improvement of service delivery
- 2) Policy change
- 3) Planning and Investment

### AUSTIN EARLY CHILDHOOD COLLABORATIVE

- **Thrive 2025 Impact Goal:** Quality Early Learning
- **Performance Measure:** 3,900 Austin children under age 5 will be accessing high quality early learning programs by 2025
- **2016 Members:** *Austin Childcare Providers Network, VOCEL, New Moms, Erikson Institute, Access Family Healthcare Network, McCormick Center for Early Learning, Mary Shyrese Daycare, Positive Attitudes Inc, Channings Childcare*

### AUSTIN WORKFORCE COLLABORATIVE

- **Thrive 2025 Impact Goal:** Living Wage Careers
- **Performance Measure:** 2,790 Austin adults will be supported to attain living wage careers by 2025
- **2016 Members:** *Manufacturing Renaissance, New Moms, Jane Addams Resource Corporation, Westside Health Authority, The Cara Program, St. Joseph Services, Dominican University, Safer Foundation*

### AUSTIN PEACE COLLABORATIVE

- **Thrive 2025 Impact Goal:** Safe Neighborhoods
- **Performance Measure:** Austin residents will have 1,790 community-based talking circles that result in restorative covenants by 2025.
- **2016 Members:** *Westside Health Authority, BUILD, St. Joseph Services, Institute for Nonviolence Chicago*

### AUSTIN STABLE HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

- **Thrive 2025 Impact Goal:** Stable Housing Market
- **Performance Measure:** Stabilize 600 troubled residential properties by 2025
- **2016 Members:** *Friendship Community Development Corporation, Oak Park Regional Housing Center, Westside Health Authority, Chicago Community Loan Fund,*

# ACT INITIATIVES

## EARLY LEARNING MATTERS

- **Description:** Early Learning Matters is an initiative of ACT that is meant to 1) help providers of childcare, preschool, and Head Start improve their quality and access professional development resources, 2) help the most at risk children in our community access the the highest quality early learning programs.
- **Highlights:** In 2016, Early Learning Matters helped over 100 families enroll in Chicago Public Schools preschool programs and formed the “Directors Roundtable”, a forum for identifying the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to quality early learning in Austin.

## AUSTIN CAREER CONNECT

- **Description:** Austin Career Connect is a coordinated intake and referral system for ACT members that provide job training, employment, and other support services for Austin jobseekers. The system ensures that jobseekers are “not falling through the cracks” and are being connected to most supportive agencies to help them reach their career goals.
- **Highlights:** In 2016 ACT hired a full-time coordinator for Career Connect and will be expanding job training options within the intake and referral system to include information technology, advanced manufacturing, healthcare, construction, and hospitality and food service options.

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE HUB

- **Description:** ACT is helping our members create a community-based and restorative system for justice that will act as an alternative to our current punitive justice system. We do this by providing education around restorative justice philosophy, as well as training and technical assistance to enhance the use of restorative practices in the community.
- **Highlights:** Austin Coming Together secured resources from the African American Legacy project to contract with local Restorative Justice practitioner Lynn Morton to hold peace circles and provide training for our members and throughout the community.

## QUALITY OF LIFE PLANNING

- **Description:** ACT is helping our members to engage the community in a “Quality of Life” planning process that will result in a community-back comprehensive plan for Austin.
- **Highlights:** ACT has secured support from LISC Chicago and will work with our members to engage over 500 residents in the planning process.

## **MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

ACT membership levels are based on organizational involvement. The most basic requirement for all ACT members is to complete our annual member survey. The survey is a way for ACT to track and measure the collective impact our members have on our 4 impact goals.

Second, ACT members can choose to serve on one or more of our Collaboratives. By serving on our Collaboratives, your organization can influence 1) the efforts being made to improve service delivery, 2) plan making to attract new public and private investments to Austin, and 3) the creation and execution of a policy agenda that address structural barriers to the impact goals of Thrive 2025..

Finally, ACT members can also choose to participate in one or more of our initiatives that will help your organization improve its performance as it relates to working towards specific impact goals of the Thrive 2025 agenda, and improving coordination with other ACT members.

### **Champion Level**

Commitments

- Fill out annual member survey
- Serve on one or more of ACT's collaboratives
- Participate in one or more of ACT's initiatives

### **Lead Level**

Commitments

- Fill out annual member survey
- Serve on one or more of ACT's collaboratives

### **Partner Level**

Commitments

- Fill out annual member survey
- Participate in one or more of ACT's initiatives

### **Ally Level**

Commitments

- Fill out annual member survey

## **ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

### **ELECTRONIC PROMOTIONS**

ACT members can promote their events, programs, and services through our website calendar, email marketing, and social media platforms.

### **DISCOUNTED TICKETS PRICES TO ACT EVENTS**

Staff from ACT member organizations benefit from discounted ticket prices to our Spring Social and Membership Awards Banquet. These events are essential networking opportunities for ACT members and a lot of fun!

### **ACCESS TO MEMBER EXCLUSIVES**

ACT offers our members special opportunities for community outreach, client support services, professional development, and opportunities to pursue collaborative funding whenever possible.

## ACT MEMBERSHIP DUES

ACT membership dues are collected on an annual basis. Our membership dues are based on the size of your organization's budget.

### DUES BY ORGANIZATIONAL REVENUE

<b>Less than \$100,000</b> .....	\$60 (\$5/month)
<b>\$100,000- \$499,999</b> .....	\$120 (\$10/month)
<b>\$500,000-\$999,999</b> .....	\$240 (\$20/month)
<b>\$1,000,000-\$4,999,999</b> .....	\$480 (\$40/month)
<b>\$5,000,000 and over</b> .....	\$960 (\$80/month)

## STEPS TO BECOMING AN ACT MEMBER

Whether you'd like to become a member for the first time, or you would like to renew your annual membership for another year, you will need to follow the steps below:

### STEP ONE: SCHEDULE A MEMBERSHIP MEETING WITH AN ACT STAFF PERSON

#### Don't know who to contact?

Call or email

Andrew Born

773.417.8612

aborn@austincomingtogether.org

### STEP TWO: FILL OUT AN ACT MEMBER SURVEY

By filling out a member survey, your organization helps ACT track our network's progress towards the Thrive 2025 impact goals, as well as identify your organization's strengths and capacity.

### STEP 3: SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ACT

Based on your organization's capacity and interests, as identified in the member survey, ACT will ask your organization's leadership to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU). By signing an MOU with ACT, you agree to make specific organizational commitments to ACT, and in turn, ACT makes specific commitments to serve your organization as a member.

### STEP 4: PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES

Once your MOU is signed, ACT will send an invoice to your organization to be paid upon receipt.