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## **Boston City Council Committee on Ways and Means**

*Dockets #0524-0531 FY22 Budget*

*Office of Women's Advancement*

***Working Session: Friday, May 7, 2021, 10:00 a.m.***

***Hearing: Thursday, May 20, 2021, 10:00 a.m.***

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The following is a collection of questions that were asked by the Committee regarding the FY22 budget for the Office of Women's Advancement at the Working Sessions on Friday, May 7, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Recording here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GavZAZTbqCk>

The Administration is requested to respond to all questions in one of three ways:

- 1) Verbally at the hearing on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 10AM
- 2) For factual questions, through written responses supplied prior to May 20<sup>th</sup>, including budget book page numbers or other references where appropriate.
- 3) By deferring to a specific scheduled departmental budget hearing

Please annotate and return this information request before May 20<sup>th</sup>, indicating how each question will be answered.

### **Office of Women's Advancement Budget Questions**

#### **Councilor Kenzie Bok, Chair, asked:**

- Please explain the \$250,000 increase in contracted services for the Childcare Entrepreneur Fund; what will the criteria be for selection and what form/degree of financial support will it provide?
- How does the design of the Childcare Entrepreneur Fund connect to what the office has found to be the main barriers to increasing access to affordable and quality childcare in Boston?
- How does the Office of Women's Advancement and the Boston Women's Workforce Council (BWWC) work to create an inclusive and welcoming space for trans women?
- Is the measure of 82 businesses receiving financial support specific to those supported by the Childcare Entrepreneur Fund, or include anything else?
- How is the City thinking about the way in which the pandemic has negatively impacted women including job loss or having to leave the labor force, and what can we do to help?

**Councilor Julia Mejia asked:**

- How are we using the Childcare Entrepreneur Fund to empower local entrepreneurs of color who are working in this industry?
- In FY21, the Childcare Entrepreneur Fund is supporting its first entirely non-English-speaking cohort of childcare providers, with workshop facilitation and materials in Spanish. What is the plan to support a cohort of providers who speak languages beyond English and Spanish?