

# Resource Ally

Helping people & families find the help they need

*3<sup>rd</sup>* Annual Living With Disability  
Information & Resource Conference  
Saturday, February 21, 2015

**Community Now!**

Independence from Waiting.

Freedom from Institutions.

<http://www.communitynowfreedom.org/>

# Resource Links

- **Charitable Organizations**
- Faith Based Initiatives
- **Federal/State Programs**
- Information/Support Groups
- **Internet**
- National Organizations
- **Natural Supports**
- Non-Profit Organizations
- **Public Education**
- Special Interest Groups



# What is the vision?

- What do you want for your child now and in the future?
- **What do they want for themselves?**
- How do YOU define your role in helping your child reach ***their*** goals?
- Who can help you to help your child reach their goals?



**... disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to —**

- (A)** live independently;
- (B)** enjoy self-determination;
- (C)** make choices;
- (D)** contribute to society;
- (E)** pursue meaningful careers; and
- (F)** enjoy full inclusion and integration in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of American society

**Disability Is Natural** <http://www.disabilityisnatural.com/>



# Person-Centered Planning

- a discovery process that leads to finding the balance between what is important **to** a person and **for** a person
- uses a variety of discovery skills and strategies
- encourages people to listen with all senses
- develops an action oriented plan

"**Independence** is not measured by the number of tasks we can do without assistance, but by the **quality of life** we can lead **WITH** assistance."

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

# Person Centered-Planning Resources

Dreamworks Planning Tool

[http://www.arcnetc.org/uploads/Dreamwork\\_My\\_Child.pdf](http://www.arcnetc.org/uploads/Dreamwork_My_Child.pdf)

Texas Project First: Person Centered Planning

<http://texasprojectfirst.org/PersonCentPlanning.html>

Sample Person-Centered Plans

<http://factoregon.org/about/mission-vision/>

It is better to look ahead and prepare  
than to look back and regret.



# Long-Term Services & Supports



Long-term services and supports (LTSS) provide daily health care and living needs to qualified individuals (of all ages) who have a disability or long-term illness in the community or in an institutional setting.



# DADS Community-Based LTSS Programs

Medicaid Waiver programs for adults and children with medical/physical disabilities:

- Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)
- Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (DBMD)
- Medically Dependent Children's Program (MDCP)

Call 1-877-438-5658 to be placed on the interest list.

Medicaid Waiver programs for adults and children with an intellectual and developmental disability (IDD)

- Home and Community Based Services (HCS)
- Texas Home Living (TxHml)

Contact your Local Authority (LA) to be placed on the interest list.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/contact.cfm>

## **Additional DADS Community-Based programs include, but are not limited to:**

- Community Attendant Services (CAS)
- Family Care Services (FCS)
- In-Home and Family Support Program (IHFSP)
- Special Services to Persons with Disabilities (SSPD)
- Special Services to Persons with Disabilities/24 Hour Shared Attendant Care (SSPD-SAC)

Contact your local DADS office for more information.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/contact.cfm>

## Targeted HCS Diversion Slots

- The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) may make available a targeted HCS waiver slot to an individual with an intellectual disability who is determined to be at imminent risk of admission to an SSLC.
- A slot is *not* available to an individual who has criminal charges pending or who is eligible for admission to the forensic SSLC.

View the Targeted Diversion Slot Protocol

[http://www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/lah/res/HCS\\_Diversion\\_from\\_SSLC.pdf](http://www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/lah/res/HCS_Diversion_from_SSLC.pdf)

View the Targeted Diversion Slot Application

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/forms/8726/8726.pdf>

Contact your local DADS office for more information

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/contact.cfm>

# Consumer Directed Services (CDS)

- Gives you a choice about how your services are managed:
  - Agency option (Agency Managed)
  - Service Responsibility option (Co-Managed)
  - Consumer Directed Services employer (Self-Managed)
- Services that can be self-directed vary by program

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/cds/index.html>



# DADS Institution-Based LTSS

Intermediate Care Facility for Persons with an Intellectual Disability or Related Condition (ICF-ID) – An ICF-ID is state operated facility that provides 24 hour residential and habilitation services to qualified Individuals.

There are two types of ICF-ID in Texas.

- Community-based home (small – up to 8 people, medium 9 to 13 people, and large - 14+ people)
- State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs) – large institution for apx. 70 – 550 residents

\* Texas maintains 13 SSLCs

\* SSLC resident population as of May 2014: 3420

Texas SSLCs have and continue to be monitored as part of a settlement agreement with the Department of Justice, Office of Civil Rights for *“serious deficiencies at multiple facilities, a long history of abuse, neglect, and exploitation and failure to serve Facility residents in the most integrated setting appropriate to their individual needs”*.

Details of the DOJ Complaint, the settlement agreement, and all monitoring team reports are available on the CN! website.

[http://www.communitynowfreedom.org/Texas\\_Institutions.php](http://www.communitynowfreedom.org/Texas_Institutions.php)

Nursing Facility (NF) – residential facilities that provide services for individuals whose medical condition regularly requires the skills of licensed nurses.

## LTSS: DADS Information Resources

- Comparison charts were created to describe the similarities and differences among DADS LTSS waiver services and entitlement programs in Texas.

[http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/waiver\\_comparisons/](http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/waiver_comparisons/)

- A detailed list of all DADS services is available at:

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/listofservices.html#physical>

**NOTE:** The Olmstead decision requires states to eliminate unnecessary segregation of persons with disabilities and to ensure that persons with disabilities receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs. For more information about the Olmstead decision, visit <http://www.ada.gov/olmstead/index.htm>.

# LTSS: A Closer



## Generally Speaking, LTSS Programs...

- include but are **NOT** limited to Medicaid Waiver programs, HCS group homes and ICF-IID facilities.

Service options include...

- Adaptive Aids
- Behavioral Supports
- Community Support
- Dental
- Financial Management
- Habilitation
- Personal Care
- Minor Home Modifications
- Nursing
- Residential Assistance
- Respite
- Specialized Therapies
- Supported Employment
- **And more...**



- are most likely not available right away
- have different eligibility requirements, rules, funding amounts, service options and service rates
- determine eligibility when services are offered
- may not consider family income
- vary by county
- cost more when provided in an institution
- ***are changing...***

The Medicaid LTSS Reform Bill (SB 7 – signed into law on June 14, 2013) changes how Texas manages and pays for medical and LTSS for individuals with IDD.

Moving from a fee for service model to managed care.

Implementation began in September 2013 and the full redesign will roll out gradually through 2020.

## **STAY INFORMED! Managed Care Initiatives Website**

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/mmc.shtml>

- general information & updates
- informational meetings
- presentations
- committee meetings
- Q&A documents

# SB 7 Timeline

## September 1, 2014

- STAR+PLUS expands statewide and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) acute care benefits will transition into STAR+PLUS.

## March 1, 2015

- Nursing Facility services will transition into STAR+PLUS.

## June 1, 2015

- Community First Choice tentatively scheduled, pending federal approval.

## September 1, 2016

- STAR Kids and IDD pilot programs will be implemented.

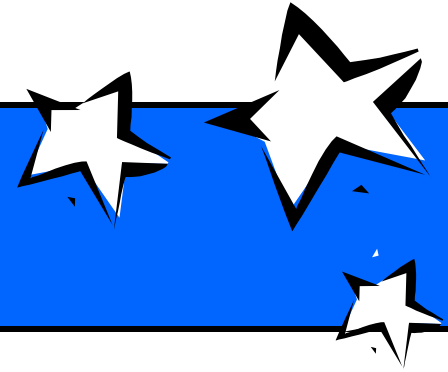
## September 1, 2017

- Determination regarding transition of TxHmL benefits to STAR+PLUS will be made.

## September 1, 2020

- Determination regarding transition of HCS, CLASS, DBMD, and Community ICF in STAR+PLUS will be made.

# STAR+PLUS



STAR+PLUS

PROGRAM

Your Health Plan ■ Your Choice

STAR+PLUS Waiver Program - a Medicaid managed care program administered through the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

- provides health-care and long-term services and supports through a medical plan.

Find additional information

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/starplus/>

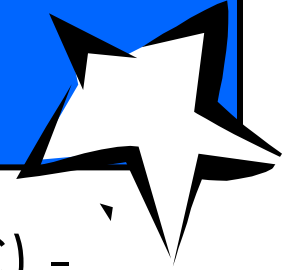


Youth Empowerment Services Waiver - The YES Waiver program is administered through the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

- for individuals who have a Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)
- available in ten counties (Bexar, Brazoria, Cameron, Ft. Bend, Galveston, Harris, Hidalgo, Tarrant, Travis, Willacy)

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhsa/yes/>

# Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC)

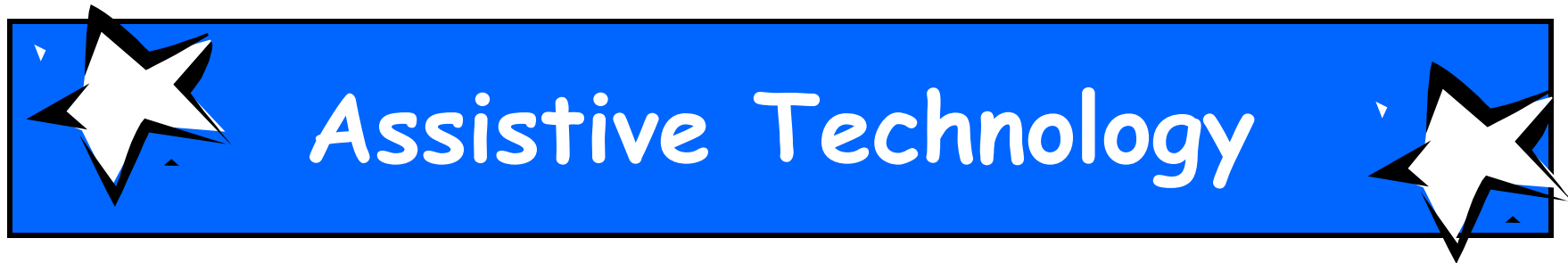


- Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) - provide information about and help with state and federal benefits. They can also help you learn about local programs and services.
- Not available in every county.



For more information or to find out if there is an ADRC in your area visit

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/adrc/index.html>



# Assistive Technology

Assistive technology devices and assistive technology services are defined in the Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (ATA)

- Assistive Technology Device: Any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off-the-shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.
- Assistive Technology Service: Any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology service.

## Intended Benefits

Any technology that enables someone to do something they otherwise couldn't facilitates access and the opportunity to achieve a task previously determined unreachable. It provides new ways to...

- communicate
- receive instruction
- learn
- demonstrate understanding
- work
- play
- control the environment
- accomplish day to day activities
- move about and *more...*

*AT provides access to and enhances all aspects of life; education, communication, leisure, employment, day-to-day activities and more.*

## Unintended Benefits

- increased independence, self-confidence and self-esteem
- participation in everyday life



- Assessing Students' Needs for Assistive Technology (ASNAT) Resource Manual 5th Edition.

<http://www.wati.org/content/supports/free/pdf/ASNAT5thEditionJun09.pdf>

- Family Center on Technology and Disability (FCTD) – a national center supported by the Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs.



Family Center  
on Technology  
and Disability

[www.fctd.info](http://www.fctd.info)

- The Family Guide to Assistive Technology
- Fact Sheets
- Online Conference Series
- Monthly Newsletter

<http://www.fctd.info/>

- Texas Technology Access Program (TTAP) – leads the state's efforts to carry out the federal Assistive Technology Act of 2004 through demonstrations, device loans, and informational resources.

<http://techaccess.edb.utexas.edu/>

# Possible Funding Resources

## CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

- Ability Connection Texas Technology Initiative  
<http://abilityconnectiontexas.org/techinitiative.php>
- AMBUCS®  
<http://www.ambucs.org/>
- Be An Angel  
[http://www.beanagl.org/support\\_assist.html#.VKZ5o\\_8tGP8](http://www.beanagl.org/support_assist.html#.VKZ5o_8tGP8)
- DARS Specialized Telecommunications Assistance Program (STAP)  
<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/dhhs/stap.shtml>
- iTaalk Autism Foundation  
<http://www.itaalk.org/#!grantapplication/c19r1>
- Texas Elks Grants for Special Children  
[http://www.texaselks.org/Special\\_Grants.html](http://www.texaselks.org/Special_Grants.html)
- Variety the Children's Charity of Texas  
<http://www.varietytexas.org/>

EPSDT Program  
Medicaid  
Private Insurance  
Public School  
Voc. Rehab Program

# Charitable Organizations

- Canine Companions for Independence  
<http://www.cci.org/>
- Kidds Kids  
<http://www.kiddskids.com>
- Santa America  
<http://santaamerica.org/about-santa-america/>
- Songs of Love Foundation  
<http://www.songsoflove.org/>
- The Face 2 Face Foundation  
<http://www.face2facefoundation.org/>

Foundations  
Non-Profit Organizations  
Civic Groups  
Special Interest Groups

- Alexander Vision Clinic

<https://www.cookchildrens.org/SpecialtyServices/Ophthalmology/Pages/default.aspx>

- First Hand

<https://applications.cerner.com/firsthand/>

- Partnerships for Prescription Assistance

[https://www.pparx.org/prescription\\_assistance\\_programs](https://www.pparx.org/prescription_assistance_programs)

- The Humanitarian Foundation Dental Care for Children with Special Needs Program

<http://www.hfgrotto.org/programs/the-dental-program/>

- The Parker Lee Project

<http://www.theparkerleeproject.org/>

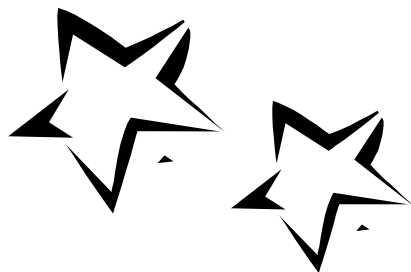
- United Health Care Children's Foundation

<http://www.uhccf.org/>

# Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Services Program

CSHCN is administered through the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and helps

- children – under age 21 - with special health-care needs who meet eligibility criteria
- people of any age with cystic fibrosis



For more information

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/>

# Disability Rights Texas (DRTx)

Federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency (P&A) for people with disabilities in Texas.



- 6 regional offices across the state
- service priorities are re-established every 4 years and reviewed annually by the Board of Directors

**Disability Rights**  
TEXAS

<http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/>



# Employment Resources

## Customized Employment

Customized employment is a flexible process designed to personalize the employment relationship between a job candidate and an employer in a way that meets the needs of both. It is based on an individualized match between the strengths, conditions, and interests of a job candidate and the identified business needs of an employer.

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/CustomizedEmployment.htm>

**Work spares us from 3 evils; boredom, vice & need.**

- Voltaire

Association for People Supporting EmploymentFirst  
(APSE) - the *only* national organization with an *exclusive focus* on integrated employment and career advancement opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

<http://www.apse.org/>

Job Accommodation Network  
(JAN) – provides guidance on workplace Accommodations and disability employment Issues.

<http://askjan.org/>

The DARS Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program helps people who have physical or mental disabilities prepare for, find or keep employment.

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/vr.shtml>



National Collaboration on Workforce and Disability for Youth – a source for information about employment and youth with disabilities.

<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/>

Project SEARCH – a High School transition program that takes place entirely at the workplace.

<http://www.projectsearch.us/Home.aspx>

SSI Work Incentive Programs – make it possible for Individuals with disabilities receiving Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to work and still receive monthly payments and Medicare or Medicaid.

<http://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/generalinfo.htm#ssiwi>

U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) – provides national leadership and information on disability employment policy.

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/>



## Guardianship and Alternatives to Guardianship

A Texas Guide to Adult Guardianship – a resource guide created by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS)

[http://www.dads.state.tx.us/news\\_info/publications/brochures/pub395-guardianship.pdf](http://www.dads.state.tx.us/news_info/publications/brochures/pub395-guardianship.pdf)

Jenny Hatch Justice Project - an integrated, multi-faceted resource and outreach center dedicated to advancing people with disabilities' right to make their own choices and determine their own path and direction in life.

<http://www.jennyhatchjusticeproject.org/>

Guardianship for Texans with Disabilities 13<sup>th</sup> Edition – a resource guide created by Disability Rights Texas  
[http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/files/Guardianship\\_for\\_Texans\\_with\\_Disabilities.pdf](http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/files/Guardianship_for_Texans_with_Disabilities.pdf)

National Guardianship Association, Inc. – advancing nationally recognized standards of excellence in guardianship.  
<http://www.guardianship.org/index.htm>

Texas Guardianship Association (TGA) – provides information about guardianship and alternatives to guardianship in Texas.  
<http://texasguardianship.org/>

The University of Montana Rural Institute – Consent to Authorize Advocacy sample forms, including a form authorizing parent participation in an adult child's ARD/IEP meeting.  
<http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu/transition/Handouts/Consent%20to%20Authorize%20Advocacy.pdf>



# Housing Options/Resources.



## **What are the options?**

- Adult Companion Care / Host Family
- Family Home
- Home & Community-Based Services (HCS) Group Home
- Home, Apartment, Condominium, Duplex, and Townhome Rental or Ownership
- Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability - (ICF-IID)
  - State Operated - Small, Medium or Large
  - State Supported Living Center (SSLC)
- Residential/Vocational Community

Ability Resources Incorporated (ARI) – provides affordable, accessible rental housing designed for individuals with disabilities, with low and extremely low income in Ft. Worth and Tarrant County. Contact information: 817.377.1046 or [resourcesincari@aol.com](mailto:resourcesincari@aol.com)

Affordable Housing Resources – a list of affordable housing resources created by DADS

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/pi/housing.html>

Critical Housing Accessibility Modification Program (CHAMP) – a home modification program for persons with disabilities.

[http://centraltx.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=TXCA\\_CHSChamp](http://centraltx.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=TXCA_CHSChamp)

Home of Your Own (HOYO) - helps low-income persons with disabilities, as well as families with an immediate family member with a disability, to become homeowners.

[http://centraltx.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=TXCA\\_CHShoyo](http://centraltx.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=TXCA_CHShoyo)

Project Access Program - administered by TDHCA to assist low-income persons with disabilities in transitioning from institutions into the community

<http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/section-8/project-access/>



# Natural Supports

Natural supports refer to the support and assistance that naturally flows from the associations and relationships typically developed in natural environments such as the family, school, work and community.

- do not depend on “eligibility” or “funding”
- are always there
- offer more options

Article: What Are Natural Supports  
By Dee Blose

[http://www.arcnetc.org/uploads/Natural\\_Support.pdf](http://www.arcnetc.org/uploads/Natural_Support.pdf)



## Non-educational Community-based Support Services

- Funds may be used only for eligible students with disabilities who, without the provision of non-educational community-based support services, would remain or would have to be placed in residential facilities for education reasons
- Parents must request services through an application process at their Local Education Agency (LEA)



<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=2147497817>



# Parent Companion

The Parent Companion is a website connecting Texas parents to information, inspiration and resources for children from age birth to 5 years of age.

- Videos
- Publications
- Resources



**PARENT  
COMPANION**  
FIRST FIVE YEARS

Available in English & Spanish

<http://www.parentcompanion.org>





# Postsecondary Education



- Achieving in Higher Education with Autism/Developmental Disabilities (AHEADDD) – coaching, mentoring & personal advocacy for college students who have: Asperger's Syndrome, ADD, High-Functioning Autism, Learning Disabilities, and Non-Verbal Learning Disability.

<http://www.aheadd.org/>

- College Autism Spectrum - provides support for students on the autism spectrum and the schools and colleges they attend.

<http://www.collegeautismspectrum.com/>

- HEATH Resource Center Clearinghouse – provides information for students with disabilities on educational disability support services, policies, procedures, adaptations, accessing college or university campuses, career-technical schools, and other postsecondary training entities.

<http://www.heath.gwu.edu/>

- Think College - this website provides resources for students, families, and professionals supporting youth with intellectual disabilities explore postsecondary education options.

<http://www.thinkcollege.net/>





# Respite Resources

Texas Respite Coordination Center - provides resources for caregivers that include a statewide database of respite providers, educational materials and resources.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/taketime texas/index.html>



## Other possibilities

- Faith Based Organizations
- Family & Friends
- Provider Agencies



# Self-Determination

**Self-determination** describes a person's right to the same opportunities and a person's control over aspects of his life that are important to him.

The 4 Principles of Self-Determination

- **Freedom**... to plan a real life
- **Authority**... over resources
- **Support**... for building a life in the community
- **Responsibility**... to give back to your community

Video: Credo for Support by Norm Kunc  
<http://www.broadreachtraining.com/videos/credo.htm>

# Dignity of Risk

“**RISK**, leading to failure and success, is the ultimate route to learning and pride in oneself. By denying this opportunity to *anyone* in our society, we limit their ability to grow into their full potential.”

-- Unknown

Weighing the benefits: There is DIGNITY in Risk

[http://www.arcnetc.org/uploads/Weighing\\_the\\_Benefits\\_There\\_IS\\_Dignity\\_in\\_Risk\\_1.pdf](http://www.arcnetc.org/uploads/Weighing_the_Benefits_There_IS_Dignity_in_Risk_1.pdf)

Harvard Law School on Disability: Promoting the Human Rights of People With Disabilities

<http://www.hpod.org/>

ADAPT – a national grass-roots organization that organizes disability rights activists to engage in nonviolent direct action to assure the civil rights of people with disabilities to live in freedom.

<http://www.adapt.org/>

Autistic Self-Advocacy Network (ASAN) – a non-profit organization ran by and for autistic people.

<http://autisticadvocacy.org/about-asan/>

I'm Determined – a website for parents, youth and professionals on self-determination.

<http://www.imdetermined.org/>

Kids As Self-Advocates (KASA) – a national grassroots project created by youth with disabilities for youth.

<http://fvkasa.org/index.php>

National Youth Leadership Network (NYLN) - a youth-led disability rights nonprofit organization.

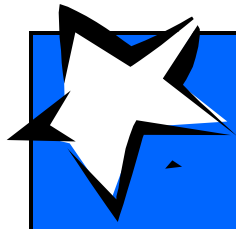
<http://www.nyln.org/>

Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) – a non-profit organization by and for self-advocates.

<http://www.sabeusa.org/>

The Self-Determination Group – a group led by and for people with disabilities(14+).

<http://www.communitynowfreedom.org>



# Special Education Resources



Education Service Centers (ESC) - provide leadership, training, and technical assistance to school districts, parents and community members in their region, including assistance in the area of special education for students who have a disability.

- divided by region - 20 regions
- provide for the joint training of parents, and special education, related services and general education personnel
  - Find your ESC [http://www.tea.state.tx.us/regional\\_services/esc/](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/regional_services/esc/)
  - Special Education Contact by Region <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=2147497535>



Partners Resource Network – a non-profit agency that operates the Texas network of Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI)

*My child has  
I.E.P. and I am not  
afraid to use it!*

*\* I.E.P. – Informed  
and Empowered  
Parent*

PATH Project

ESC Region 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

PEN Project

ESC Region 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

TEAM

ESC Region 1, 2, 3, 4, 20

<http://www.partnerstx.org/>

Center for Parent Information and Resources – a source of information and resources to support families of children with disabilities.

<http://www.parentcenterhub.org/>

SPEDTex – provides answers to questions about special education to stakeholders across Texas through phone, email or live chat.

<http://www.spedtex.org/>

Texas Education Agency – Rules and Regulations

[http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum\\_and\\_Instructional\\_Programs/Special\\_Education/Programs\\_and\\_Services/Special\\_Education\\_Rules\\_and\\_Regulations/](http://tea.texas.gov/Curriculum_and_Instructional_Programs/Special_Education/Programs_and_Services/Special_Education_Rules_and_Regulations/)

Texas Project First - created by parents, for parents... this website - a project of the Texas Education Agency provides information to parents and families of students with disabilities.

<http://texasprojectfirst.org/>



Texas State Board of Education Educator Certification  
official record of educator certificates

<https://secure.sbec.state.tx.us/SBECONLINE/virtcert.asp>

## The Arc of Texas

- Annual Inclusion Works! Conference

[http://www.thearcoftexas.org/site/PageServer?pagename=events\\_inclusion\\_conference](http://www.thearcoftexas.org/site/PageServer?pagename=events_inclusion_conference)

- IDEA, the Manual for Parents and Students about Special Education Services in Texas co-authored by DRTx (English and Spanish)

[http://www.thearcoftexas.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ARC\\_Idea](http://www.thearcoftexas.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ARC_Idea)

The Inclusive Class – information, resources and a weekly podcast on inclusive education

<http://www.theinclusiveclass.com/>



The Legal Framework for the Child-Centered Special Education Process – summarizes state and federal requirements for special education by topic.

<http://framework.esc18.net/display/Webforms/LandingPage.aspx>

Wrightslaw – information provided about education law, special education law, and advocacy for children with disabilities via

- website
- newsletter
- publications
- workshops



<http://www.wrightslaw.com/>



# Statewide Non-Profit Organizations

- ADAPT of Texas – the Texas chapter of National ADAPT, a grassroots disability rights group.  
<http://www.adaptoftexas.org/>
- Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD) – a member-driven advocacy organization in Texas.  
<http://www.txdisabilities.org/>
- NAMI Texas – an affiliated chapter of the National Association on Mental Illness, a grassroots mental health education, advocacy, and support organization.  
<http://www.namitexas.org/>



- Community Now! - a statewide organization passionately committed to creating inclusive communities for all Texans marginalized because of disability. <http://communitynowfreedom.org/>
- Texas Appleseed – the state chapter of the Appleseed organization, a network of 17 public interest justice centers in the US and Mexico. <http://www.texasappleseed.net/>
- Texas Parent-to-Parent – a statewide non-profit developed for parents by parents. <http://www.txp2p.org/>
- The Arc of Texas – an affiliated chapter of Arc US, a membership driven organization serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. <http://www.thearcoftexas.org/>

# Texas Council on Developmental Disabilities

TCDD is one of 56 state councils on DD in the US that receive federal funds through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and are funded by the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

DD councils work to ensure that people with developmental disabilities have opportunities to:

- live in the community of their choice
- be independent
- have jobs
- have other services and supports needed for full participation in community life



<http://www.tcdd.texas.gov/>

# Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)



DARS services include, but are not limited to

- Autism Program
- Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services
- Division for Blind Services
- DRS Rehabilitation Technology and Resource Center
- Early Childhood Intervention Services (ECI)
- Independent Living Services and Centers
- Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
- Specialized Tele-Communications Assistance Program (STAP)
- Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/>



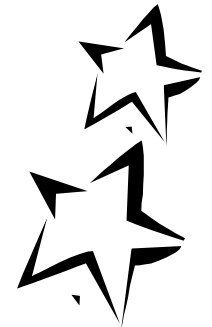


# Texas Department of State Health Services - Mental Health Services



DSHS Children's Mental Health serves children ages 3 through 17 with a diagnosis of mental illness (excluding a single diagnosis of substance abuse, intellectual disability, autism or PDD) who exhibit serious emotional, behavioral or mental disorders and who:

- Have a serious functional impairment; or
- Are at risk of disruption of a preferred living or child care environment due to psychiatric symptoms; or
- Are enrolled in a school system's special education program because of serious emotional disturbance





Children's Mental Health services include, but are not limited to...

- Screenings
- Assessment
- Crisis Hotline
- Crisis Intervention Services
- Respite Services
- Safety Monitoring
- Crisis Transportation
- Children's Crisis Residential Services
- Crisis Stabilization Unit

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhsa/mh-child-adolescent-services/>



# Texas Health Steps



The Texas Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program for children birth – 20 who receive Medicaid



Medical

Dental

Case Management

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/thsteps/about.shtm>

Comprehensive Care Program (CCP) - an expanded program of Texas Health Steps covers services that are not usually allowed or more limited under Medicaid for the adult population.

[http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/thsteps/services\\_ccp.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/thsteps/services_ccp.shtm)

# Texas Statewide Resources on Autism



Texas Autism Advocacy – a Yahoo group for people wanting to share information or get information about interventions for autism and related disabilities in Texas.

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/Texas-Autism-Advocacy/>

Texas Autism Conference – a statewide conference coordinated by ESC-Region 2 for parents, school personnel and other professionals working with individuals within the Autism spectrum.

<http://autism.esc2.net/>



Texas Autism Research and Resource Center – (TARRC) – a project of DADS, TARRC's primary purpose is to coordinate resources for individuals with an ASD and their families

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/tarrc/about/index.html>



Texas Council on Autism and PDD – the Council makes recommendations to the agencies providing services to persons with autism and other PDD, and advises the legislature about legislation needed to develop and maintain quality intervention and treatment services.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/autism/>



# Transition Services

- Is a coordinated set of activities for the child with a disability that is designed to be within a results-oriented process, that is focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child with a disability to facilitate the child's movement from school to post-school activities.
- Is based on the individual child's needs, taking into account the child's strengths, preferences, and interests.

Guideposts for Success – provides information for youth and families on the transition process.  
<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/guideposts>

Life After IEPs – transition resources for youth and families.  
<http://lifeafterieps.com/about/>

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability (NCWD Youth) – provides guides, manuals and other materials on transition.  
<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/topic>

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition (NCSET) – technical assistance and information on secondary education and transition  
<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/topic>

National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center – a national technical assistance and information center on Indicator 13 and summary of performance.

<http://www.nsttac.org/>

Texas Statewide Transition Conference – sessions focus on evidence-based practices that result in a smooth transition from school to adult life for youth with disabilities.

<http://ttc.tamu.edu/>

Transition in Texas – a website for students, parents, educators and agencies on transition.

<http://www.transitionintexas.org/Page/1>





# UCEDD in Texas

University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service work to accomplish a shared vision that foresees a nation in which all Americans, including Americans with disabilities, participate fully in their communities.

Center on Disability and Development at Texas A&M University

- Bridge to Career in Human Services Certificate Program
- PATHS Certificate Program
- Texas Advanced Leadership and Advocacy Conference (TALAC)
- Texas Transition Conference

<http://cdd.tamu.edu/>

## Texas Center for Disability Studies at the University of Texas at Austin

- Community Training and Service
- Faith Based Experience
- Resource Center on Supportive Housing
- Military Family Supports
- Self-Advocacy

<http://tcds.edb.utexas.edu/>

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\* **The Institute for Person Centered Practices** is a collaborative initiative of both centers and part of the Learning Community for Person Centered Practices.

<http://person-centered-practices.org/>