



**A**RLINGTON

**H**ANDICAPPED

**A**SSOCIATION

Divine

Originals

- Define the needs of the handicapped*
- Develop and implement solutions*
- Serve Arlington and the surrounding area*



These are the aims of the Arlington Handicapped Association. Membership is open to anyone interested in helping meet the handicapped person's social, physical and environmental goals. Founded in 1976 as a non-profit organization, the AHA has grown to more than 80 members, more than half able-bodied. A board of directors is elected annually.

Dallas-Fort Worth offers a variety of specialized services for the handicapped, but most agencies and non-profit organizations respond only to narrow, specific needs. The AHA is working to bridge this services gap. Among its proposals:

- Adult day care
- Apartment complexes with attendants for the severely disabled
- Assisting the city establish a transportation system
- Successfully prompting Arlington to set aside \$300,000 in community development funds for city-wide improvements aimed at the handicapped

The first item is already being handled by the AHA-sponsored Day Enrichment Center. Currently operating two days a week at the Meadow Lane Baptist Church, 1901 Meadow Lane, it would be expanded and added to apartments under a proposed multipurpose Service Center. A presentation is available for organization and club meetings. Call (817) 460-6691 for more information.



One of the AHA's first actions was a survey to determine the problems encountered by handicapped persons. The results were compiled into a priority list:

1. Adult day care
2. Low-cost physical therapy
3. Wheelchair lift bus service
4. Apartment complex with attendants
5. City ordinance to make apartments accessible
6. Designated parking areas
7. Auditorium/stadium seating accessibility
8. Park/swimming pool accessibility
9. Pay telephone accessibility
10. Business accessibility
11. Curb-cut ordinance
12. Government building accessibility

Most physically disabled persons want to contribute actively to society. They can be reasonably independent and live with dignity — *if* their community is committed to providing access and opportunity wherever possible. The Arlington Handicapped Association believes each city has the duty to encourage and provide a means for its handicapped residents to take a vital role in decisions which shape their lives.

## **MEETING**

**7 p.m.**

**first Monday each month**

**First Presbyterian Church**

**1200 S. Collins**

ARLINGTON HANDICAPPED ASSOCIATION



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