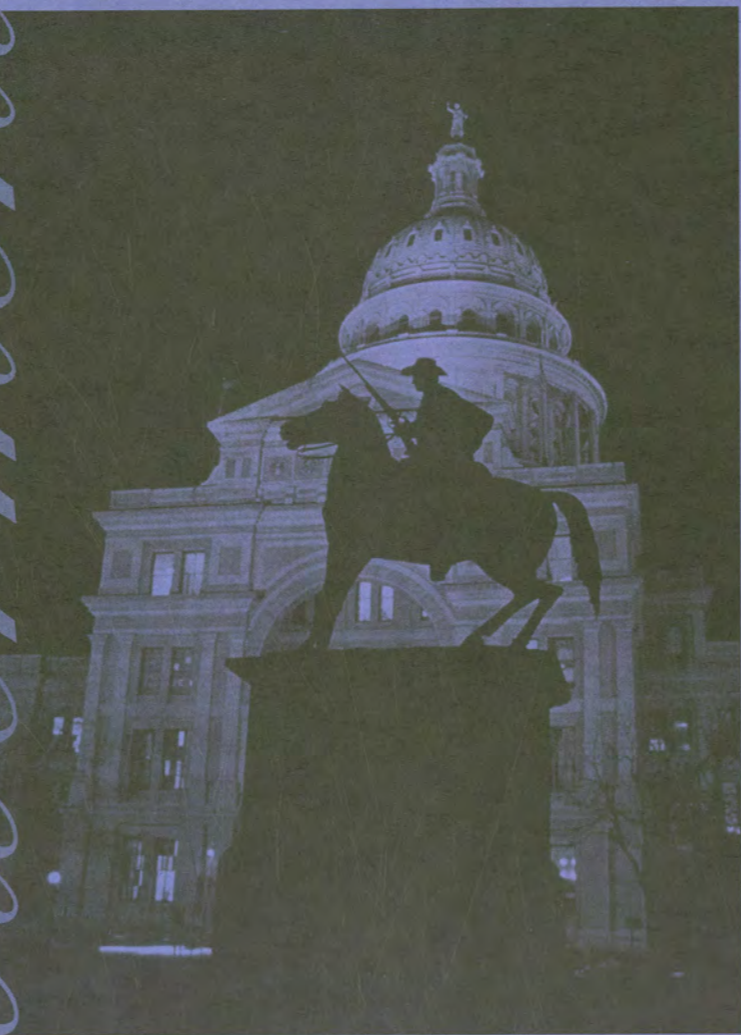




Empowerment



EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ACTION

A Capitol Idea

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
19th Annual Delegates Assembly
February 8-10, 1997

Doubletree Hotel
6505 Interstate Highway 35 North Austin, Texas

imagination, innovation, accessibility, equivalency, commitment
foresight, ability, enthusiasm, experience ...

Vision is more than a word.



Larger cab companies with tell you how great they are.

Austin Cab & PT Services:

Mobility is our business



Low-floor Taxicabs

Liftvan Charters

478-2222

929-3344

American Express & Charge Accounts Encouraged

you have a choice

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

PERSONAL ASSISTANCE: One "floating" personal assistant is available to assist you with toileting and eating during conference activities. Other needs can be addressed at the registration desk.

CHEMICAL SENSITIVITY AWARENESS: Please limit smoking to outside the hotel or your guest bedroom. We have not had a specific request, but we would prefer that individuals do not wear colognes.

TROUBLE SHOOTERS: Volunteers will be posted at the doors of the meetings to respond to such things as, concerns about room temperature, path of travel problems, answering questions, providing sighted guides.

ENTERTAINMENT SATURDAY NIGHT: We moved our reception so that everyone may have the chance to enjoy the **Charlie King** Concert benefiting ADAPT of Texas. A friend of the disability rights community, Billboard magazine praises his ability "to remind us of the resilience of the human spirit." He will be play from 8-10 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church. Tickets will be \$10.00 at the door. Interpreters for the deaf are provided. Capital Metro will provide free accessible shuttle service to the concert and back to the DoubleTree. The Shuttle will load at 7:00 in front of hotel and will return after the concern concludes around 10:00 p.m. If you are driving: Take I 35 South to 290 West (right) to Lamar, left on Lamar, right on North Loop Left, left on Grover (deadend into parking lot of First Unitarian Church at 4700 Grover).

ENTERTAINMENT SUNDAY NIGHT: You've heard of "Politically Incorrect?" Well, we have "Disability Incorrect" with John Castillo. He and singer Ed Browning will entertain you just a short time, then give you time to get to know each other or catch-up.

CAPITOL DAY MONDAY MORNING: A continental breakfast will be available beginning at 7:30 a.m. and a briefing at 8:00 a.m. in the Phoenix South room at 8 a.m. Free, accessible shuttle to the Texas Capitol will start loading promptly at 8:15 a.m. and again at 9:00 a.m. The rally will start at 11:00 on the North lawn in front of the Supreme Court. Visit your legislators before the rally. Shuttles will return to the DoubleTree at 11:45 and 1:p.m. If you plan to drive to the rally you may park at the CTD office building (316 West 12th St. TSTA building). If you have room in your vehicle to give someone a ride it would be greatly appreciated.

SHORT NOTES: Upon reservation and availability the DoubleTree Hotel lift-equipped shuttle will take you within a 3 mile radius of the hotel.

Justin Dart has asked supporters of the Solidarity 2000 agenda to wear blue ribbons this year. You may pick up a ribbon at the registration desk.

President's Letter

CTD MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

Welcome to Austin and to the CTD 19th Annual Delegate Assembly. We should all be proud that CTD continues to be the oldest coalition of consumer-directed organizations in the United States.

The Coalition represents fifty member organizations controlled by people with disabilities, their members and 1500 CTD individual members and PAS Task Force participants.

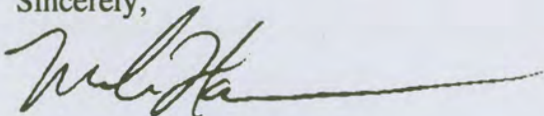
Your resolutions and participation at the annual convention provide direction to the coalition's Board of Directors. Our cross-disability consumer-controlled coalition provides us with real power when we talk with state and national leaders. The board and staff can not function effectively to represent your interests without your participation.

With your participation, as individuals and organizational members, the Coalition can continue to fight for your civil rights.

We need to continue to work together on all policies, programs and civil rights that affect our rights for integration.

Thank you for attending the "Empowerment Through Action-A Capitol Idea" conference. I hope that the events during the convention will benefit each and everyone.

Sincerely,



MARK HAMMAN
PRESIDENT

1997 Assembly Donors

Volunteers

Dolores Gonzales

Sign Language Interpreters

Christine Mlynek and Kelly Presser

Accessible Transit

Ron Means - Para Cab

Nancy Crowther - Capital Metro

1996 Major Funders

Texas Planning Council for Development
Disabilities

Southwestern Bell Corporation

Weir Foundation

CTD Crossroads Charity Bingo - Austin

Staff of CTD

Laura Brown

PAS Task Force Project Coordinator

Brette H. Browning

Advocacy Coordinator

Belinda Carlton

Executive Director

DeNae Goodman

Administrative Assistant

Dallas Patterson

Convention Coordinator

Maria Tamez

PAS Task Force Project Assistant

1996-97 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

Mark Hamman
President
2717 Summer Ridge Rd
Corpus Christi TX 78714
512-992-4366 (H)
512-855-8326 (W)
512-855-6771 (FAX)
800-374-6477 ext. 3732

Redge Westbrook
Vice President
1856 Tom Bolt Drive
El Paso, TX 79936
915-592-3921 (H)
915-544-3022 (W) ext.225
915-544-3789 (W-FAX)

Dolores Salazar
Secretary
2831 Taylor
El Paso, Tx 79930
915-566-4319
915-755-7687 (W-Marc)
ext.251

Bruce James
Treasurer
9520 Broun St
Beaumont, TX 77707-1106
(409) 781-6666 (Work)
(409) 860-5655 (Home Fax)

President, Mark Hamman had the honor of meeting James Brady in Washington, D.C. when he represented CTD at the Solidarity 2000 gathering.

At-Large Positions thru November 1996

Richard Villa
2402 N. McArthur Apt
1302
Irving, TX 75062
972-258-7709

Angel Ramos
8210 Columbia Dr.
Rowlett, TX 75088
214-412-0511 (H-TTY)
214-412-0908 (H-FAX)
409-468-1215 (W-TTY)
409-468-1342 (W-FAX)

At-Large Positions thru November 1997

Christine Pacetti
7418 Wineberry
San Antonio, TX 78240
210-523-0544
210-673-7777 (W)
210-673-1205 (W-FAX)

Chairs

Redge Westbrook
Nominations and Resolutions

Dolores and Marc Salazar
Redge Westbrook
By Laws

Christine Pacetti
Legislature

Mark Hamman
Bruce James
Fundraising

Richard Villa
Telecommunications Chair

Christine Mlynek
Delegate Affairs
1821 Santa Anna
San Antonio, Tx 78201
(210) 734-5850
(210) 699-3311
(210) 696-0231 (FAX)



1994-1999 STRATEGIC PLAN

Mission Statement: The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities is a coalition of individuals and organizations controlled by Texans with disabilities representing cross-disability needs and working together to eliminate all barriers to equal and full participation in life.

Strategic Plan Visions

- VISION 1 -** Strong effective leaders provide direction and support at state and local levels.
- VISION 2 -** CTD has stable and diversified funding sources sufficient to implement the memberships Strategic Plan.
- VISION 3 -** CTD's members communicate and share needs, goals, and human resources.
- VISION 4 -** CTD is recognized as the most influential advocacy force for Texans with disabilities.
- VISION 5 -** All progressive groups controlled by people with disabilities are members.

Cross-Disability Priority Issues

- ISSUE 1 -** Personal Assistant Services
- ISSUE 2 -** Health Care Reform
- ISSUE 3 -** Employment
- ISSUE 4 -** ADA and Other Civil Rights Laws
- ISSUE 5 -** Transportation
- ISSUE 6 -** Housing
- ISSUE 7 -** Advocacy for School-aged Children

CTD Past Presidents

Pat Pound	1978-1980
Bob Geyer	1980-1981
Bobby Simpson	1981-1981
Larry Johnson	1982-1983
Marshall Mitchell	1983-1985
Bob Kafka	1985-1987
Steve Johns	1987-1988
Larry Correu	1988-1989
Margaret Robinson	1989-1990
John Murray	1990-1991
Jerome Wright	1991-1993
Dave Cullum	1993-1994
Cheryl A. Hurst	1994-1995
Redge Westbrook	1995
Mark Hamman	1995-1996

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ACTION - 1996

MOBILIZING GRASSROOTS

CTD committed at the beginning of 1996 to work in full cooperation with state and national level advocates as a means to harness our unified strength against threats to our rights and services. We joined allies in fights to preserve ADA, IDEA, HUD, MEDICAID and MEDICARE and tried to provide you, the membership, with the tools to be strong advocates. The internet communications we received from Justin Dart and JUSTICE FOR ALL, United Cerebral Palsy National, Americans with Disabilities Vote is a tool we will want to replicate with as many of our members.

In 1996, CTD provided training and worked with 161 local leaders on building relationships with local media to increase effective and appropriate coverage of our seven major issues. This initiative has proven successful: several articles and TV newscasts were published this year as a direct result of this initiative. CTD added teams in Dallas, Ft. Worth and Denton and provided ADA Title III Implementation individuals with disabilities in these cities with training on Title III, how to conduct an accessibility and how to negotiate for compliance.

ADVOCACY TOOLS

Seven Major Issues Affecting Texans with Disabilities and Recommendations is a resource for media, members and all Texans and overviews our seven issues, laws impacting them and makes recommendations for resolution. The issues are personal assistance services, health care, employment, ADA and civil rights, transportation, housing, and advocacy for school-aged children. The format for the seven issues came from Achieving Independence which Belinda Carlton helped write as a participant in the National Summit on Disability conducted by the National Organization on Disability this past May. We get calls and compliments on this document every day.

Recruitment, Management, and Training of Personal Assistants: A Handbook for People with Disabilities. This handbook was developed in response to a need for user-friendly information on this topic. Valley Association for Independent Living (VAIL) has volunteered to translate the handbook into Spanish.

Working the Maze: An Overview of Personal Assistance Services in Texas. The updated "Working the Maze" has been in such high demand, it has gone through two reprints to date since its publication in October 1996.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

The CTD Personal Assistance Services Task Force developed a legislative proposal to create a "voucher" option in the Client-Managed Attendant Services program at Texas Department of Human Services and the Personal Attendant Services program at Texas

Rehabilitation Commission. Representative Harvey Hilderbran, Chair of the House Human Services Committee, will be the House sponsor. This year is the best opportunity we have seen to pass voucher legislation -- the House Committee on Human Services report on Long-Term Care recommends use of a "voucher" for personal assistance as a means to make services more consumer-controlled, and potentially less costly.

STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDED PROGRAMS

A key victory was won when continuation of **Frail Elderly** funds that provided over 20,000 with personal assistance services was approved earlier this year. CTD's PAS Task Force participants were instrumental in helping secure this victory. Toward the end of 1996, the Legislative Budget Board held hearings on each state agency. CTD provided testimony on the major health and human service agencies' budgets, and alerted you, our membership to also provide testimony. Despite reported "budget surplus" in the state budget, **recommended funding levels are far below the need.** The Texas Legislature is in full swing and we must have strong advocacy efforts at a local level to educate your state legislators on the importance of funding for community-based programs and civil rights enforcement.

MEDICAID

Texas will implement later this year the STAR+PLUS pilot, an attempt to integrate acute/primary health care with long-term services. The CTD PAS Task Force has worked closely with the state Medicaid office to monitor this pilot's development, and ensure that consumer-driven personal assistance services is included, and choice and control is not lost. CTD also provided input into the development of managed care consumer protection rules developed by the Texas Department of Health and Texas Department of Insurance.

CTD advocated its position on block grants to Congress and the Senate, and urged your action. Attempts to "block grant" Medicaid, thus ending this entitlement program, failed. One major concern was the push to give states the right to define "disability" as it relates to eligibility for services. This issue could resurface in this year's proposals under the guise of increasing "flexibility." Our national colleagues tell us that Congress will not try block grants again - at least not in this next session. However, watch the President's "per capita" cap proposal, which sets a spending cap on people based on an average cost for others in the same category. We believe a per capita cap could prove harmful to those who have a higher level of need for services.

CIVIL RIGHTS

This year, CTD joined forces with advocates across Texas and the U.S. to successfully defeat the national Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations draft report which called the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act unfunded mandates and called for essentially dismantling their protections. CTD kept members alerted and joined the national fight to maintain the integrity of IDEA during its reauthorization. Congress adjourned without closure, and IDEA reauthorization will be a fight again this year.

On July 25th we had a **great celebration of the 6th Anniversary of the ADA**, a march and press conference in the Capitol Rotunda where issued challenges to business, media, advocates and leadership.

CTD worked with Advocacy, Inc. to make recommendations for the revision and strengthening of the **Texas Bill of Rights for the Disabled**, found in Chapter 121 of the Texas Human Resources Code. We hope the Texas Legislature will enact these changes into law.

Senator Sibley, sponsor of the 1995 **bill requiring new and renovated churches to comply with the Texas Architectural Barriers Act**, changed his mind and said it was not his intent to make churches accessible. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation was ordered to stop implementing the law. CTD worked with the Texas Baptist General Convention, the 7th Day Adventists, and Advocacy, Inc. this past year to try to maintain the integrity of the law, but at this point the forces of darkness are winning.

The board of directors of CTD voted for the organization to join Diane Emery, a Texan with cystic fibrosis, in her fight for non-discrimination. The board joined CTD in a complaint to the U.S. Department of Justice that the **continuation of allowing smoking within the Texas Capitol is discrimination** under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Before the U.S. DOJ could act, state leadership made the decision to put up NO SMOKING signs in the Capitol. The board also decided to sit on a steering committee to look into a disability and religion conference, another area where our rights are not being fully realized.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

Since establishing an 800 number in 1995, we have seen a rapid growth in the amount and complexity of information and referral calls. The majority of calls concern the Americans with Disabilities Act implementation and compliance issues, accessible and affordable housing, and rights of students with disabilities. Other common calls include questions about and problems with personal assistance services and, of course, where to apply for disabled parking placards.

CTD ADMINISTRATION

This year, CTD produced an updated brochure as a marketing and informational tool, and updated our data base. A recent mailing included an advocate data form needed to give us more accurate and detailed information on our grassroots constituency, including what you are willing to contribute as an advocate. Our charity bingo operation at CROSSROADS BINGO, continues to provide the organization with a steady core income. This past year, CTD realized over \$100,000 from this operation. The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities survived the U.S. Congress budget-cutting ax and funding for the PAS Task Force continues. Southwestern Bell telephone continues their long-time support of the organization. We thank every advertiser in the program book for their support of CTD and the expenses associated with a disability conference -- interpreters, personal assistance services, real-time captioning, alternative formats, accessible transportation. And, of course, we thank each and every member of CTD for your membership dues and your volunteer contributions of advocacy and expertise.

1996 CTD STATEWIDE DISABILITY AND THE MEDIA INITIATIVE

The goal of the 1996 CTD Disability and the Media Initiative was to develop good working relationships with the local media in the communities represented by our advocacy teams and to increase accurate and appropriate media coverage of people with disabilities and CTD's seven priority issues. The leadership also set a goal to continue their efforts to fulfill the ADA Title III Implementation.

The Media and Disability Initiative was developed by local team leaders who convened in Austin prior to the 1996 Assembly to report their progress on the 1995 ADA Title III Implementation Campaign and strategize on what actions the advocacy teams could take next to fulfill the CTD Visions. Through a formal process, the Delegates to the 1995 Assembly in Corpus Christi adopted the proposed initiative and made commitments to its completion. CTD staff organized and conducted trainings in the locations where there are CTD teams working to fulfill the goals of the 1995 Statewide ADA Title III Implementation Campaign team or a Personal Assistance Services Task Force.

1996 Media Teams and Leaders

McAllen - Maria De La Rosa
Austin - Brette Browning
Lubbock - Clint Jordan
Dallas - Brian Loiacono
Fort Worth - Allen Cole

Denton - Terri Rheult
Houston - Susan DeVault
San Antonio - Christine Pacetti
Julio Hinojosa
El Paso - Dolores and Marc Salazar
Alfredo Juarez

The local teams organized their trainings by securing trainees and local media to participate in a panel. Central to this initiative was the research and writing of the "**Seven Major Issues for Texans with Disabilities and Recommendations.**" This document was used in the trainings, given to media and has now been widely distributed to CTD members and other stakeholders.

Success of the 1996 Media Initiative

- * establishing relationships with local media reporters, editors and news directors
- * educating media on how our seven major issues concern everyone
- * addressing the need to include the disability perspective in coverage of mainstream issues
- * providing local expertise and resources on disability issues
- * moving media away from portraits of individuals with disabilities as "pitiful or special"

Three Texas reporters, Tony Lopez-KTBC Austin Fox Channel 7, Yvette Armendariz and David Crowder-El Paso Times, provided outstanding coverage of disability issues and will be recognized for their contributions at the 1997 Awards Luncheon.

On Saturday afternoon, the Advocacy Coordinator will layout the proposal and recommendation that the Media and Disability Initiative be continued for 1997.

Saluting....
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
"Empowerment through Action"



TEXAS

Paralyzed Veterans Association

TEXAS PARALYZED VETERANS ASSOCIATION

805 Chelsea Blvd., Suite B

Houston, Texas 77002

1-800-933-4261

19th ANNUAL DELEGATES' ASSEMBLY AGENDA

Saturday - February 8

PHOENIX ROOM SOUTH

- 11:00 - 2:00 **REGISTRATION**
- 1:00 - 5:00 Delegate Assembly
Resolutions, Legislative Agenda Decisions
Board Elections, 1997 Treasurer's Report
- 5:00 - 7:00 **REGISTRATION**
- 7:00 **SHUTTLES DEPART TO CHARLIE KING CONCERT**
- 8:00 - 10:00 **CHARLIE KING CONCERT** at First Unitarian Church - tickets \$10.00
at the door

Sunday, February 9

PHOENIX ROOM SOUTH

- 8:00 - 9:00 **REGISTRATION**
- 9:00 - 9:15 **WELCOME ADDRESS**
- 9:15 - 9:40 **PERSPECTIVES ON LEADERSHIP** - Stephanie Thomas
Organizer, ADAPT of Texas
- 9:40 - 10:30 **CAPITOL DAZE - THE 75TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE PROCESS** -
Mike Bright, Executive Director, The Arc of Texas
- 10:30 - 11:30 **PANEL OF LEGISLATORS - HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**
Texas Representative Glen Maxey (Dist. 51)
Texas Representative Elliott Naishtat (Dist. 49)
Texas Representative Sherri Greenberg (Dist. 48)

PHOENIX ROOM NORTH

- 12:00 - 1:30 **AWARDS LUNCHEON** - Jim Comstock-Galagan, Executive Director,
Advocacy, Inc.

19th ANNUAL DELEGATES' ASSEMBLY AGENDA

PHOENIX ROOM SOUTH

- 2:00 - 3:30 **LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS ON CTD SEVEN PRIORITY ISSUES**
*Personal Assistance Services - Laura Brown & Kathleen Desilva, PAS
Task Force
*Healthcare - Nancy Epstein, Disability Policy Consortium
*Employment - Ed Browning, Texas Commission for the Blind
- 3:45 - 5:30 **LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS, continued**
*ADA & Other Civil Rights Laws - Belinda Carlton, Coalition of Texans
with Disabilities
*Transportation - Nancy Crowthers, Capital Metro
*Housing - G.K. Sprinkle, Texas Association of Community Development
Corporations
*Advocacy for School-Age Children - Denise Brady, The Arc of Texas

DOVERS ROOM

- 7:00 - 9:00 **RECEPTION / ENTERTAINMENT**
"Disability Incorrect" with John Castillo
Ed Browning

Monday, February 10

CAPITOL DAY

- 7:30 - 8:00 **Continental Breakfast** - Phoenix Room South
- 8:00 - Load Shuttles and Depart for Texas Capitol
- 9:00 - 11:00 **VISITS WITH INDIVIDUAL LEGISLATORS**
- 11:00 - 11:30 **RALLY/PRESS CONFERENCE**
Capitol Grounds North Side of Capitol in front of Supreme Court Building
- *Supreme Court Justice Greg Abbott
 *Senator Mike Moncrief (Dist. 12)
 *Texas Representative Harvey Hilderbran (Dist. 51)
 *Texas Representative Robert Junell (Dist. 72)
- 11:45 - 1:00 Shuttles Return to DoubleTree

MEMBERSHIP

Benefits of Membership

Organizational CTD members receive:

* CTD Newsletter, PASWORDS and Action Alerts on legislation, advocacy, workshop, and training issues (available on cassette, braille, computer disc, large print and/or Spanish upon request).

* Opportunity for input into the activities and decisions of our statewide disability organization by becoming a member of a local CTD ADA Implementation Team, a local PAS Task Force, a board and/or committee member.

* Voting Privileges to elect Board Members, to propose and vote on Resolutions which direct the activities of CTD, by-laws changes, and approval of the annual budget at CTD's Annual Convention.

* Local organizing and training provided on priority issues and disability rights.

* Listing in CTD's Annual Convention program book of disability organizations statewide.

Membership Classifications:

Consumer Member Organizations may be either a national, regional, state or local consumer organizations which: 1. Has a governing board is comprised of 51% persons with physical, mental and/or sensory disabilities;

A consumer organization has activities and/or services which advance disabled persons and is a recognized non-commercial Texas organization or enterprise.

State Consumer Member Organizations must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- * Chapter or offices in at least two Texas cities,
- * Regularly convened meetings in at least two Texas cities,
- * Significant statewide membership,
- * Regular activities dealing with statewide issues,
- * Chapter or office in Texas that services a local or regional affiliate of a national organization.

Associate Member Organizations may be either a national, regional, state, local or student organization

which satisfies all but the consumer governance qualification for a consumer member organization.

Affiliate Member Organizations may be either a national, regional, state, local or student organization or agency which wishes to support the work of the Coalition and does not meet the qualifications for a Consumer or Associate Member Organization.

Corporate Member/Individuals are any organizations or individuals which support the work of CTD and wish to become part of an organization dedicated to ensuring full and equal participation in life for Texans with disabilities.

Family Members are for families with more than one individual CTD member.

Corporate Categories

Lone Star \$2,000 and up
Republic \$1,000 - \$2,000
Alamo \$1,000 and under

Yearly Dues

Statewide Organization* \$ 200
Local Organization* \$ 100
Individual \$ 15
Family \$ 20

*All applications for organizational membership must be approved by the Board of Directors.

Voting Rights

State Consumer Member Organization 5 votes
Local Consumer Member Organization 3 votes
Local or State Associate Member Organization 2 votes
Local or State Affiliate Member Organization 1 vote
Individuals in a Caucus of Ten 1 vote

Delegate Responsibilities

1. Approve and terminate membership as set forth in Article III
2. Approve the annual budget
3. Elect board members
4. Elect coalition officers
5. Establish policies of the coalition

1996 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

ADAPT

1339 Lamar Sq. Dr. #B
Austin, TX 78704
Attn: Bob Kafka
512/442-0252
Fax 442-0522

Adults and Children W/ Learning Disabilities

8929 Viscount #112
El Paso, TX 79925
Attn: Ann Lemke
915/591-8080

Advocacy, Inc.

7800 Shoal Creek Blvd. #171E
Austin, TX 78757
Attn: James Comstock-
Galagan
512/454-4816
Fax 512/323-0902
800/252-8783(TTY)

Advocacy, Inc. Regional

7800 Shoal Creek Blvd. 142-S
Austin, TX 78757
Attn: Roberta Roque
512/454-4816
Fax 512/302-4936
800/315-3876

Advocacy, Inc. Regional

207 Cage
Pharr, TX 78577
Attn: Enrique Torres
210/783-8400
Fax 210/783-7979
800/880-8401

Advocacy, Inc. Regional

7457 Harwin Dr. Suite 100
Houston, TX 77036
Attn: Mary Faithful
713/974-7691
Fax 713/974-7695
800/880-0821

Advocacy, Inc. Regional

1420 W. Mockingbird Ln #290
Dallas, TX 75247
Attn: Betty Black
214/630-0916
Fax 214/630-3472
800/880-2884

American Council of The Blind of Texas

905 Martin
Houston, TX 77018
Attn: Ed Bradley
713/697-2424

ARC of Texas

PO Box 5368
Austin, TX 78763
Attn: Mike Bright
512/454-6694
Fax 512/454-4956

Austin Resource Center for Independent Living

5555 N. Lamar Blvd. Suite J-125
Austin, TX 78751
Attn: Ron Rocha
512/467-0744
Fax 512/467-2417

Austin Recourse Center for Independent Living- San Marcos Branch

400 W. Hopkins Suite 101
San Marcos, TX 78666
Attn: Susan Gibson
512/396-5790
Fax 512/396-5794

Brain Injury Association of Texas

6633 Hwy 290 East Suite 301
Austin, TX 78723
Attn: Ted Thayer
512/467-6872
Fax 512/467-9035

Crockett Resource Center For Independent

P.O. Box 875
Crockett, TX 75835
Attn: Vera Randle
409/544-2811
Fax 409/544-7315

Easter Seals

919 West 28 1/2 Street
Austin, TX 78705
Attn: Susan Boklund
512/478-2581
Fax 512/476-1638
Bokberts@aol.com

Grupo Dignidad Igualdad y Oportunidad (Grupo DIO)

P.O. Box 27074
El Paso, TX 79926-7074
Attn: Jose Lara
915/771-7232

Handicapped Resource Association

1635-W. Division
Arlington, TX 76012-3821
Attn: Rosalie Wells
817/469-1977
Fax 817/461-2334

Houston Center for Independent Living

7000 Regency Square Blvd. #160
Houston, TX 77036-3209
Attn: Sandra Bookman
713/974-4621
Fax 713/974-6927

Houston Council of the Blind

P.O. Box 130402
Houston, TX 77219-0402
Attn: Michael Garrett
713/668-0024
Fax 713/688-0079

**Independent Living
Resource Utilization**
2323 S. Shepard Suite 1000
Houston, TX 77019
Attn: Earl Walden, Jr.
713/520-0232
Fax 713/520-5785

**Lifetime Independence
For Everyone, Inc.**
1301 Broadway
Lubbock, TX 79401
Attn: Craig Wall
806/749-5433
Fax 806/749-2618
806/749-5438 (TTY)

**Lone Star Chapter -
Paralyzed Veterans
of America**
3925 Forest Lane
Garland, TX 75042
Attn: Jack Hasenyager
800/583-5252
Fax 214/276-5350

Multiple Sclerosis Society
2211 Norfolk Suite 825
Houston, TX 77098-4044
Attn: Patricia Bertotti
713/526-8967
Fax 713/526-4049

REACH of Dallas
8625 King George, Suite 210
Dallas, TX 75235
Attn: Dale Phefferkorn
214/630-4796
Fax 214/630-6390

REACH of Denton
405 S. Elmo Suite #202
Denton, TX 76201
Attn: Charlotte Stewart
817/383-1062
Fax 817/383-2742

REACH of Fort Worth
1205 Lake St.
Fort Worth, TX 76102-4501
Attn: Charlotte Stewart
817/870-9082
Fax 817/877-1622

Reclamation, Inc.
2502 Waterford Dr
San Antonio, TX 78217
Attn: Don Culwell
512/833-4946

Resource Utilization Network
1705 S. Highland
Amarillo, TX 79103
Attn: Barbara Rowland
806/358-3991
Fax 806/358-6252

**San Antonio Disability
Advocates**
3635 Southeast Military
San Antonio, TX 78223
Attn: Jerome Wright
210/337-3050
Fax: 210/337-3432

**San Antonio Independent
Living Services**
8610 Broadway Suite 420
San Antonio, TX 78214
Attn: Larry Correu
210/805-0295
Fax 210/822-7249

SETLIFE
780 S. 4th
Beaumont, TX 77701
Attn: Bob Tegtmeier
409/832-2599 (TTY)
Fax 409/838-4499

**Students for an Accessible
Learning Environment**
El Paso Community College
P.O. Box 20500
El Paso, TX 79998
Attn: Tom Pugh
915/857-3670

Texas Advocates
c/o the ARC of Texas
P.O. Box 5368
Austin, TX 78763-5368
Attn: Rona Statman
512/454-6694
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Attn: Edward Browning
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512/451-8494
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**Texas Deaf/Blind
Association**
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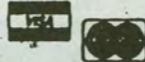
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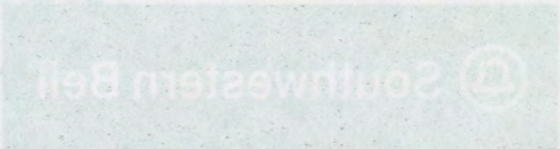
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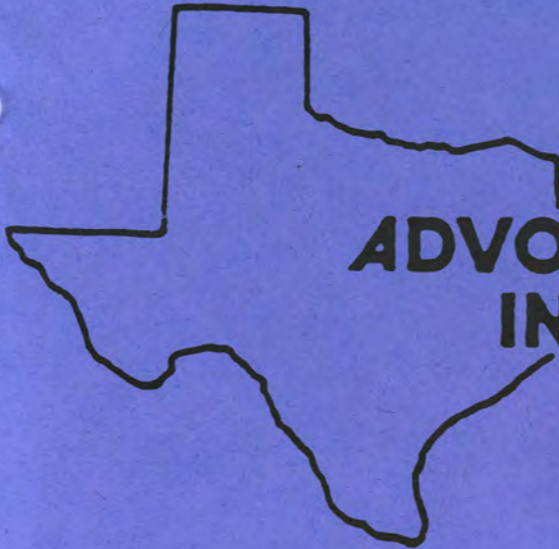
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Torchbearer Profile

Twenty-two percent of the Olympic torchbearers nationwide were people with disabilities, according to the Atlanta Committee of the Olympic Games.

I am proud to say that I ran, walked, and wheeled the Olympic torch through a small segment of downtown Dallas.

Since the passage of the ADA, I am employed—with accommodations—at Texas Woman's University. With the assistance of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, I am educated with two degrees from Texas A&M University and University of North Texas. I am an independent person constantly on the go in my racy red electric scooter.

I have many memories of growing up in Texas as a child with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis from the age of three. People around me were often insensitive, overprotective, and uneducated, focusing on my disability and not my abilities. Today, in my spare time, I sail, write, and visit wildlife areas.

I've grown personally and professionally. I've learned that I can dream, that I can pursue, and that I can achieve.



By Juliette Rizzo

Co-chairwoman, Texas Woman's University ADA Compliance Committee

Member, Denton Mayor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities

Officer, Texas Association of Mayors' Committees

President, Ms. Wheelchair Texas Achievement Program

About the Governor's Committee

The Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities promotes equal opportunities for people with disabilities through: promoting implementation of the ADA; making short- and long-range recommendations regarding policies, programs, and funding; supporting a network of community-level committees doing similar work; and issuing awards and recognition to entities that empower people with disabilities (512) 463-5739 (voice), (512) 463-5746 (TDD), 1-800-252-9600, and 1-800-735-2989 (Relay Texas).