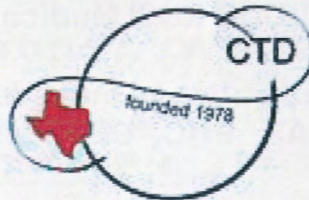




Joint Convention of the
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities and the
Brain Injury Association of Texas



Austin, Texas
April 9 -11, 2007

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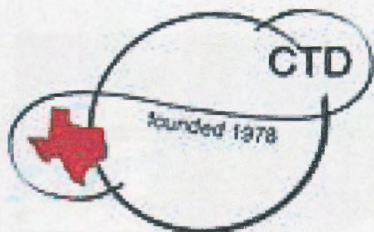
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Attorneys are also available to speak to groups in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.



April 9, 2007



Ken Carden
ADA attorney
Dallas, TX

Welcome to the 29th Annual Convention of the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities. This year's convention is meeting in Austin in April to coincide with the meeting of the Texas Legislature.

By meeting now, we have a chance to influence the direction this state will take for the next two years.

And there is much work to do! Waiting lists for community services are outrageous (and not receiving any funding at this writing), attendant care wages are dismal, voter accessibility needs improvement, and the ADA waiver bill – it is hard to believe that the State of Texas still contends that it is immune from suit in federal court when it discriminates against its citizens with disabilities. We will be discussing these and other issues in the next few days – both here and with members of the Legislature.

So again, welcome, and let's go out and make a difference!

Ken Carden
President, CTD



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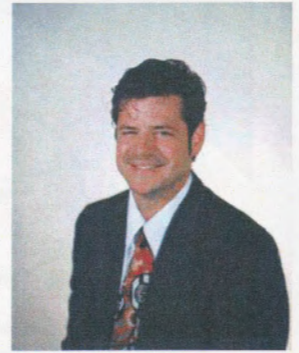
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Brain Injury Association of Texas

April 9, 2007

Welcome to "Think Tank"!

We are honored you are joining us for BIA/CTD's annual conference. Being two of Texas's most experienced and respected advocacy associations naturally creates some mutual synergies as our memberships mingle and share life experiences. Together, with one voice, we will be heard at the Capitol.

Formed in 1982 and currently with over 250 members, the BIATX arose from a mutual sense of frustration and helplessness experienced by families in the search for appropriate facilities and support to return loved ones who sustained brain injuries to maximum functioning potential. The BIATX strives to meet the urgent need to develop programs for public awareness and education, to support research and rehabilitation, provide public policy advocacy and to provide family guidance through information and referral services.

We raise awareness of brain injury treatment and prevention through successful public service announcements and events. We host professional and survivor seminars across the state to emphasize best practices in the field of rehabilitation. We won legislation protecting and have secured funding for Texans with brain injuries. And we answer literally hundreds of survivor and family requests for information every month.

Thank you for being here and please do not miss out on making it to the Capital this Wednesday to talk to your elected officials. Enjoy your time in the "Tank"!

Eric Makowski
President – 2007 BIATX

316 W. 12th Street, Ste 405, Austin, TX 78701
Telephone: (512) 326-1212 Toll Free: (800) 392-0040
Fax: (512) 478-3370 Email: info@biatx.org

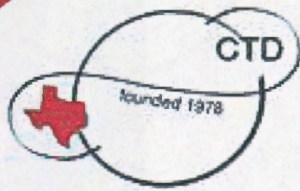
BIATX Walk for Thought

November 2006 at Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

The second annual Walk for Thought, hosted by the Brain Injury Association of Texas and sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega, was held Nov. 18, 2007. The three-mile walk raised \$16,000 through individual and team donations and spread an awareness of

brain injuries
throughout our
community and state.





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Not pictured



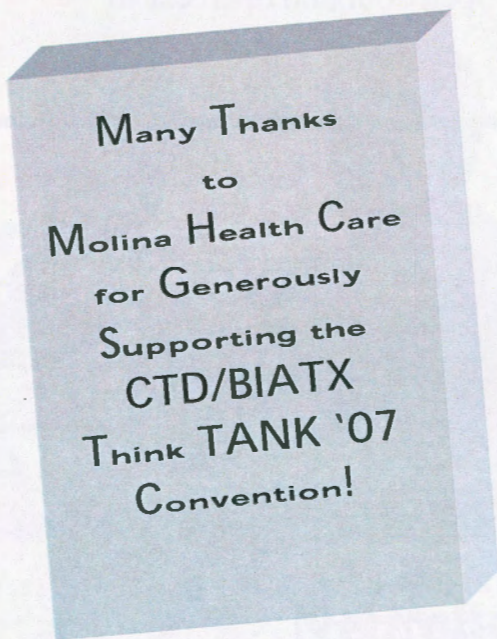
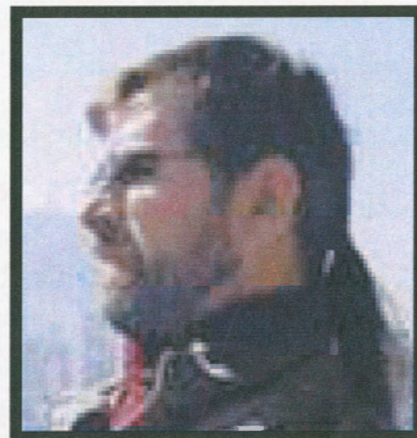
Think Tank! '07

Monday Evening Convention Reception: World Traveler/Adventurer Gene Rodgers

Help CTD welcome Austin native, Team Everest member, & extreme sports participant, Gene Rodgers!

Since being paralyzed from the shoulders down at 17, Gene has enjoyed extreme sports in 39 countries.

Get ready for an exhilarating multi-media presentation that you won't soon forget!



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Keynote Speaker
Texas Representative Patrick M. Rose
Chair, House Human Services Committee

Representative Patrick Rose and disability advocates have a strong working relationship. In the 79th Texas Legislative Session in 2005, Rose authored HB2819 that mandated that all state web sites and telecommunications be accessible to people with disabilities and HB134 which preserved a funding stream for the Comprehensive Rehab Services program that provides additional therapies to people with traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries.

This year in the 80th Session, Representative Rose has been appointed Chair of the House Human Services Committee, a key position on numerous bills of interest to Texans with disabilities and where he maintains an open door and open ear to disability advocates.



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

**AMCPD Wishes CTD the Best of Luck
 On their Think Tank 07 Convention
 in Austin!!!**

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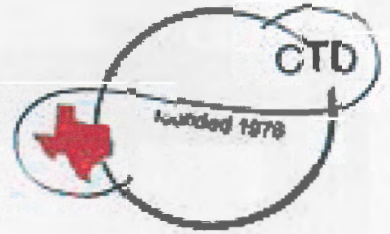
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Critical Issues for Texans with Disabilities – 2007 Texas State Legislature

Find out who your legislators are at www.cotwd.org and following the Raise Your Voice! links.



1: Funding to reduce the waiting list for community services for people with disabilities

Background: 87,000 people w/ disabilities who are eligible for Medicaid waiver programs remain on a waiting list for attendant care & other community services. Texas provides only enough funding to serve just 1/3 of eligible people, leaving a waiting list as long as nine years.

Impact: Budget writers in the Senate & House failed to recommend any funds to reduce the waiting list. **Advocates:** contact legislators to ask for funds to reduce the waiting list by 20% over two years.

2: Increase wages for community attendants

Background: Attendants provide personal attendant services to people with disabilities to allow them to remain in their own homes. Current average wage is \$6.32 per hour with no benefits.

Impact: Senate Bill 1, the state budget, under the Department of Aging & Disability Services and included in provider rates for community services. Advocates should contact their legislators to ask for an increase in wages to at least \$9 per hour with benefits.

3: Restore ADA civil rights to be free from discrimination based on disability

Background: The Americans with Disabilities Act is 1990 landmark federal civil rights legislation. It prohibits discrimination against people w/ disabilities in employment, public services, public accommodations, telecommunications. Texas asserts sovereign immunity from suit under the ADA. If you experience discrimination on the part of a state entity, you have little/no recourse.

Impact: SB 447 and HB 1299 would waive the state immunity from the ADA and end this disgraceful practice. Contact your legislators to support these bills.

4: Necessary Funds for Centers for Independent Living (CILs)

Background: CILs are community-based, non-residential nonprofits, providing direct services that promote independence & community integration for people w/ disabilities. Services include: housing, financial, employment, medical services, personal care. The CILs relocate people from institutions to the community & help those at high risk of institutionalization.

Impact: Funding of Exceptional Item 3 in DARS Legislative Appropriations Request (SB1) allows operation of 2 new CILs in unserved areas. Funding of Exceptional Item 4 brings some under-funded ILCs at nationally-recognized standards. Total funding is only \$1.8 million. A return on investment analysis: \$5.4 million in taxpayer money would be saved by this expenditure.

6: Preserve accessible voting for people with disabilities

Background: Texas Secretary of State Roger Williams implemented the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), installing accessible voting machines & reqs for accessible polling places. Bills eliminate these rules from most elections, disenfranchising those who have achieved basic voting rights.

Impact: Oppose unreasonable efforts to reduce HAVA voting rights and tell your legislators to check with CTD on which bills make sense and which are harmful.

CTD CRITICAL ISSUES, CONT.

6: Guarantee structurally modified personal vehicles for people w/ disabilities remain available.

Background: TxDOT laws threaten Texas Mobility Dealers (TMD) from helping Texans w/ disabilities wanting to drive/ride in their own vehicles.

CTD's Chase Bearden with Texas Paralyzed Vets and Lone Star Adaptive Automobile Dealers Association after a successful meeting with legislators on our mobility bill (see left).

TMDs are small independent companies that assist Texans w/ disabilities that require specially modified vehicles for their independent transportation needs. Current Texas law prohibits a Texas mobility dealer from the inventory or display of new motor vehicles, effectively sounding the death knell for this specialized service to people with disabilities.

Impact: Tell your legislators to support SB174 and HB2216 which will allow this important transportation option to continue for Texans with disabilities.

Find out who your legislators are at www.cotwd.org - follow Raise Your Voice! links.



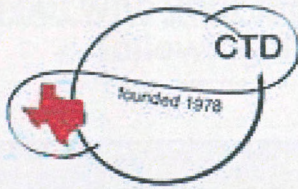
Senator Juan Hinojosa speaking on the ADA bill he is sponsoring for CTD, Feb. 2007. House sponsor Rep. Mark Strama are in the background (far right).

CTD and other disability advocates support the Road to Freedom bus Nationwide ADA tour!



CTD's ADA Press Conference draws extensive news media and raises awareness of the State's claims of Immunity from the ADA.





Think Tank '07!
Joint Convention of the
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities and the
Brain Injury Association of Texas
April 9-11, 2007, Radisson Town Lake, Austin, Texas

Monday —April 9, 2007

8:00 am-5:00 pm Pre-Conference AACBIS Training to become a Certified Brain Injury Specialist
 Jim Misko, PhD

Monday Evening

4:00-5:30 pm On Site Registration at the Radisson and Exhibitor Set-Up
 5:30-8:00 pm Informal Reception with Gene Rodgers, World Traveler/Argonaut

Tuesday— April 10, 2007

9:00-10:00 am **Opening Plenary and Welcome:** Ken Carden, CTD Board President
 And Eric Makowski, BIATX President
Keynote Speaker: *Vision for Human Services in Texas*
 State Representative Patrick Rose, Human Services Committee Chair

10:00-10:30 am Break/View Exhibitors

10:30-11:45 am **Concurrent Breakout Sessions:**

ADVOCACY BREAKOUTS:

Critical Bills for Texans with Disabilities - 2007 State Legislature:

Dennis Borel, Bob Kafka, Colleen Horton, Laurie Vanhooose,
 active cross disability advocates at the Capitol

The Community Attendant Crisis in Texas:

Cathy Cranston, Personal Attendant Coalition of Texas

CONTINUING EDUCATION BREAKOUTS:

Do You See what I See? A Multidisciplinary Approach to
 Vision Assessment and Rehabilitation Among Patients with Brain Injury

Kia Eldred, OD, Nicole Hooper, OD, Erika Anderson, Med, CLVT,
 Tonya Mennem, OTR

**Building the Medical and Educational Relationship: Transitioning Back
 Back to School, Penny McClard, MS**

Think Tank! '07, agenda, cont.

12:00-1:30 pm BIATX Awards Luncheon
Speaker: State Representative John Davis, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Human Services Chair

1:45-3:00 pm **Concurrent Breakout Sessions:**

ADVOCACY BREAKOUTS:

Critical Bills (encore):

Dennis Borel, Bob Kafka, Colleen Horton, Laurie Vanhooose,
 active cross disability advocates at the Capitol

How do I Work and Not Lose my Social Security Benefits-Medicaids Buy In:

Jonas Schwartz, MS

CONTINUING EDUCATION BREAKOUTS:

Making Connections After Brain Injury: a Social Peer Mentoring Program

Margaret Stuchen, PhD, and Jason Ferguson

Sexual Disinhibition and Social Skills: Behavioral Interventions for Persons w/ TBI-

Michael Mozzani, PhD

3:00-3:30 pm Coffee/Snack Break, View Exhibitors

3:30-4:45 pm **Concurrent Breakout Sessions:**

ADVOCACY BREAKOUTS:

Traumatic Brain Injury Legislative Update, JoAnne McGee, Ph D

3:30-4:30: Self Determination Advocate Panel, Imagine Enterprises, and;

4:30-4:45: CTD Consumer Directed Services Agency Info/Q&A:

Jodi Park and Linda French, CTD, Judy Telge with Coastal Bend ILC

CONTINUING EDUCATION BREAKOUTS:

Accessing the Community Through Use of Technology

Becky Saterbak, M.A. CCC-SLP, April Yorke, M.S. CCC-SLP

Brain injury, premature births, and high order multiple pregnancies associated with infertility treatment: a preventable problem

John Phelps MD, JD, PLLC


Continued, next page

Think Tank! Agenda, cont., Tues. afternoon

- 4:45-5:15 pm Break/Meet with Exhibitors
- 5:15-6:15 pm General Continuing Education: The Future of Neuro-Rehabilitation
Jim Misko, PhD
- Tuesday Evening** **On Your Own:** Explore Austin or walk to the many downtown food/fun sites!

Wednesday—April 11, 2007

- 9:00-9:15 am **General Session:** Brief Overview: ‘Advocacy 101’
- 9:15-10:15 am **Legislative Advocacy 101 Strategies Panel: Legislative Aides,**
along with Dennis Borel and Jonas Schwartz
- 10:15am-12:30pm **VISIT with your LEGISLATORS at the State Capitol**
- 12:30-1:45 pm **Box Lunch Provided** at the Sturgeon Room, Plaza Level, **TSTA Building,**
316 W. 12th St., one block **West** of the Capitol
- 1:45 pm **Conference Adjourned**
- 1:45-3:00 pm Exhibitor Tear Down
- 2:00-4:30 pm BIATX Board Meeting



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Think Tank! '07

BIATX Legislative Update



DARS CRS Waiting List

The HHSC LAR Exceptional Item should fund the CRS waiting list at \$7.4 million.

Creation of the Office of Brain Injury

The state office will effectively provide public information about brain injuries and available community resources.

Fund the CBA and CLASS Medicaid Waiver Waiting Lists

Funding gaps in long-term services tear families apart.

Help Returning Vets

Raise the CRS program cap from \$10 million per annum to \$30 million per annum to provide adequate healthcare and rehabilitation services to returning veterans.

Eliminate the 24-Month Waiting Period For SSDI Beneficiaries (HCR 35)

Nobody should have to wait for their healthcare coverage.

Oppose HB 727

People choosing not to wear a motorcycle helmet must be held accountable for the consequences of their actions—not Texas!



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- 1 Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Services

Neurology Services

- 2 Neuropharmacological Management
- 3 Nursing Services
- 4 Behavioral Management
- 5 Physician Assistant
- 6 Nurse Practitioner

Rehabilitation Services

- 1 Speech Therapy
- 2 Physical Therapy
- 3 Occupational Therapy
- 4 Cognitive Therapy
- 5 Psychological Services
- 6 Neuropsychological Eval
- 7 Safety Evaluations

Vocational/ Educational Services

- 1 Job Readiness Training
- 2 Job Coaching
- 3 Community Placement

Touchstone's Scope of Services

- 1 Short-term, post-acute residential
- 2 Neurobehavioral rehabilitation
- 3 Long-term or life care
- 4 Physical rehabilitation programs
- 5 Bilingual staff and services
- 6 Outpatient services
- 7 Day Programs

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BIA TX Exhibitors

Center for NeuroSkills	ResCare Premier
CORE Health Care	The Transitional Learning Center at Galveston
Evercare	Pate Rehabilitation
Mary Lee Foundation	Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation
Touchstone Neurorecovery Center	
NeuroRestorative Specialty Services @ UTHCT	

BIA TX Patron Partner

CORE Health Care provided funding for ten Traumatic Brain Injury survivors.

BIA TX Silver Partner

Pate Rehabilitation

BIA TX Booster Partner

NeuroRestorative Specialty Services provided funding for five Traumatic Brain Injury survivors and families to attend Think Tank '07.

BIA TX 2007 Awardees

TOM DEAN HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Bruce Todd

PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Anne Marie Moreault, Ph D

SURVIVOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Jaime Garza

EXTRA MILE AWARD

Desiray Dixon

LEGISLATIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD

TX State Representative John E. Davis

EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM AWARD

Bruce Hight, Editor, Austin-American Statesman

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*Best Wishes
For a successful 29TH Annual Convention!*

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Thanks for supporting
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Mikail heads to Beaumont!

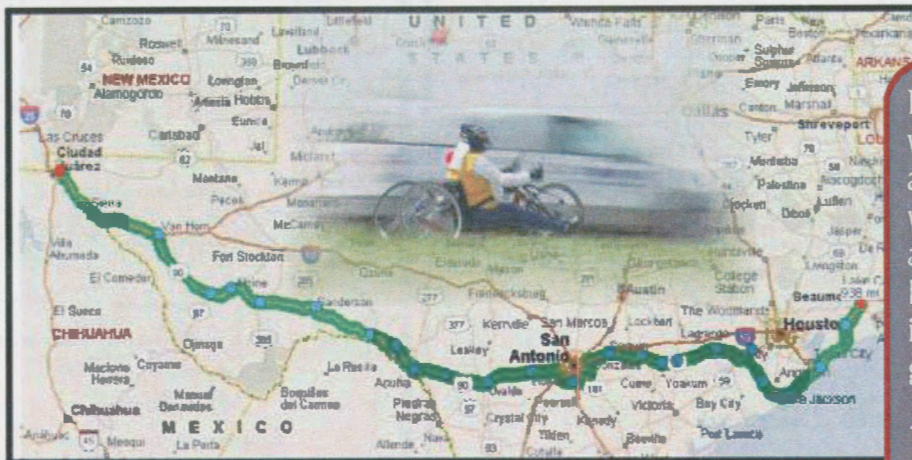
Think Tank! '07



March 4, 2007 -Mikail kicking off the El Paso Marathon, starting point for the 950 mile hand cycling trek across Texas

Legless Lizard Tour de Tejas

CTD's Legless Lizard Tour de Tejas is a 950 mile hand cycle ride from El Paso to Beaumont by CTD uber-member Mikail Davenport raising awareness of the need for increased attendant wages, accessible voting, ensuring Texas does not have sovereign immunity from the ADA and reducing the wait for community-based services.



Mikail Davenport is wheeling all the way across Texas. It's his way of drawing attention -- not to himself -- but to injustice in the state government.
 --Inclusion Daily Express, International Disability Rights News Service

CTD's Legless Lizard Strikes National Media Chord

Month-long Event Captures Public Imagination, Focus on Disability Issues

He plans to bike from El Paso to Beaumont without the use of his legs!

--TV channel 2, Chicago, IL

Mikail Davenport, 58, has post-polio syndrome and he's a cancer survivor. Tuesday (March 4, 2007)

Davenport kicked off a 950-mile, 25 day cycling tour to prove that having a disability is not a death sentence.

--TV channel 2, New York, NY

"Legless Lizard Tour de Tejas," named for a blind, legless reptile that survives unaided in the wild.

--Austin American-Statesman

...to send a message to state legislators dealing with issues of people who have disabilities.

--TV channel 3, Philadelphia, PA

... wants Texas to waive its immunity from the Americans with Disabilities Act.

TV channel 5, Green Bay, WI

"We saw what he was doing, and we said 'my God, he is coming through Seguin,'" said Dwyer. "We thought we would show some support for him."

-- The Gazette-Enterprise, Seguin, TX

It's all an effort to put a human face on disability issues in front of the [state] legislature,

--The Austinist website

"All in all, people with disabilities are no different from able-bodied people," Davenport said. "And that's the key."

--TV channel 2, Los Angeles, CA

Because he makes 25,000 arm rotations per day on the hand cycle, his biceps and triceps are almost always sore. When the pain from his post-polio symptoms became unbearable, he'd jump off the bike and scream.

--Galveston Daily News

See cotwd.org for full media coverage!



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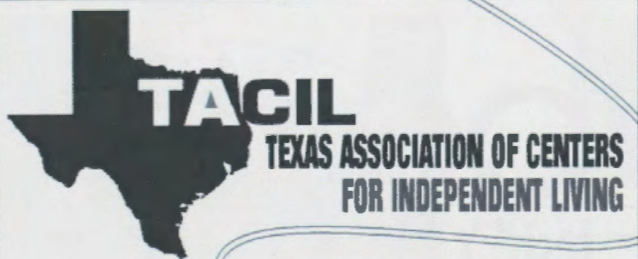
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Think Tank! '07



Online

TACIL represents Texas Centers for Independent Living in promoting dignity, equality, inclusion and independence of all Texans with disabilities.

www.tacil.org



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OUR MISSION:

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- **Brain Injury Services** - 24-hour supervised program with Vocational Retraining (VR) and Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services (CRS).
- **Developmental Disabilities** - Intermediate Care Facility offers intensive training for living skills, self help, and pre-vocational skills.
- **Affordable Housing Program** - 111 Apartments for low, very low income persons. Priority is given to homeless mothers with children and the disabled.

Scope & Purpose - Service for adults includes a transitional apartment program for mentally and physically impaired men and women, a sheltered workshop, a geriatric facility, a rehabilitation center for brain injured adults, and affordable housing in a community setting. The concept of work having value is taught to children, adolescents, and adults in school, counseling, vocational training, and in daily living skills training.



Mary Lee Foundation
1139 Lamar Square Drive
P.O. Box 3174
Austin, Texas 78764
Ph 512 443 5777 Fx 512 444 9949
Website maryleefoundation.org
Email marylee@maryleefoundation.org



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National Council on Independent Living Conference
Washington, DC May 2006

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- *Advocacy (Individual & Systems)
- *Deaf Support Services
- *Social Security Benefits Counseling
- *Gateway to Abilities
- *Easy Living Home Texas
- *IL for Katrina Evacuees
- *Leisure & Social Activities
- *One-on-one Braille mentoring
- *Sensitivity Training
- *Specialized Telecommunication Devices
- *Relocation from Institution to Community

CTD's collaborative advocacy on the ADA culminated in an amazing public awareness event! Bob Kafka with ADAPT (far right), Dennis Borel with CTD (addressing the crowd), Senator Hinojosa and State Rep. Mark Strama in the background.



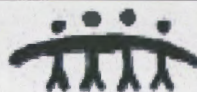
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Martha Oliver
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of each month
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Call number for location.



The Arc
of San Antonio

Serving People With Developmental Disabilities

Access Resource Choice

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www.arc-sa.org

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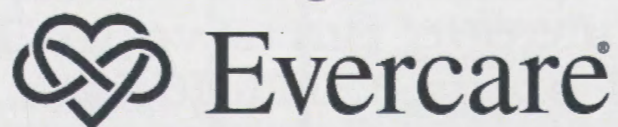
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PROGRAM

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Your Health Plan ■ Your Choice

CTD Self Directed Services

You're the Boss!
CTD Acts as Your Agent!

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD) always strives to increase choice and expand opportunities for people with disabilities living or wishing to live in the community of their choice.

You've likely heard about a service delivery option called Consumer Directed Services. Well, the name has changed to "Self-Directed Services" but the services are the same!

CTD's Self Directed Services Option is now available for people who qualify for attendant care and other services in the following Central Texas counties:

Travis, Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Hayes, Lee, Williamson

CTD's SDS Agency will:

Screen your employees/therapists for:

- legal status
- criminal backgrounds

Assist you with:

- setting and adjusting your annual budget

Handle the following:

- administrative related work
- payroll duties
- cut paychecks to employees
- interface with the Texas Workforce Commission and IRS
- maintain tax related files for you and your employees

You will:

- Have flexibility with your budget
- Be the employer of record
- Hire, supervise, train attendants and back ups of YOUR choice
- If necessary, fire attendants, back up attendants

Set the pay rate for attendants:

You can ***increase their pay, pay for holidays off, give a bonus or raise*** at a certain point in their employment.

All of these freedoms allow you to ***have who you want in your home, give them incentives to stay on the job/ reduce turnover.***

Questions?

Contact CTD's Self Directed Services Coordinator: Linda French

512.236.1070

lfrench@cotwd.org



**SDS-Your Agency
of CHOICE**

Integrated Healthcare

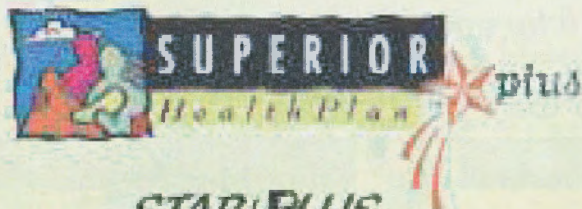
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People with disabilities and the elderly encounter unique challenges to achieving their goals. At Superior HealthPlan, our goal is to ensure that access to quality healthcare is not one of them.

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- Language interpretive services
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- Adult daycare with activities and regular monitoring
- Housekeeping and personal care
- Short-term relief for caregivers
- Home modifications and transportation assistance



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