

COALITION OF TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES NEWSLETTER

Volume V, Number 1

Winter 1982 • 83

CTD Platform

Editor's Note: These six resolutions passed by the 1982 CTD Delegate Assembly in San Antonio are the legislative efforts which the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities will actively support during the 68th Texas Legislature. To conserve on space, this editor has summarized the resolutions by only reprinting the "action to be taken" and omitting the reasons for the action. Copies of the resolutions in their entirety may be obtained from the CTD office.

ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities strongly urges the Texas Legislature and the Office of the Governor to act to establish a mechanism and guidelines to provide for greater accountability of transit systems to the public, in general, and to disabled ridership, in particular; and ... that a comprehensive and objective study of the transportation needs of disabled Texans be undertaken, without delay, in order to develop a long-range master plan to adequately address those needs.

DEAF/BLIND SEMI-INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAMS

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities recommend to the Texas Legislature and the Governor's Office, the support for funding of Texas Commission for the Deaf's deaf/blind semi-independent living programs in the amount of no less than 1.5 million dollars over the next biennium.

EXTENDED REHABILITATION SERVICES

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities will actively support the Texas Rehabilitation Commission's line item request of 3.1 million dollars for 1984 and 3.5 million dollars for 1985 for the Extended Rehabilitation Services.

INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTERS

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities expresses its full and enthusiastic support of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission's independent living centers line item request of 1.35 million dollars for 1984 and 1.5 million dollars for 1985.

TRC'S '84-'85 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

The 1982 CTD convention expresses its full and enthusiastic support for the Texas Rehabilitation Commission's state legislative appropriations request of 38.2 million dollars for 1984 and 49.3 million dollars for 1985.

VOTING ACCESS

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities urges prompt preparation and passage of legislation at the state level which would effectively guarantee full accessibility for disabled voters throughout Texas in all elections—municipal, county, state or federal.

TO FIND OUT THE STATUS OF BILLS IN THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE AFFECTING DISABLED TEXANS, CALL: 1-800/252-9693

Disability Rally Day



A series of events will occur in Austin on Disability Rally Day, February 1-2, 1983, to exhibit the unity and strength of the DISABLED BUT ABLE movement. The movement will be promoting support of legislation before the 1983 Texas Legislature affecting many physically, mentally and developmentally disabled Texans.

The first event will be a legislative briefing informing the participants on the bills being introduced into the House and Senate, appropriations requests and committee rosters. This briefing will be the afternoon of February 1st at the Hyatt Regency. A formal reception honoring legislators and key state officials will occur in the evening at the same hotel. After the formal reception, consumer groups throughout the state are making plans to take their own local legislator to dinner.

On February 2nd, the Texas Legislature will recognize Disability Rally Day and disabled Texans with a formal presentation of resolutions signed by many disabled Texans and friends of disabled Texans in the Senate and House Chambers during the morning session. The rally will begin at noon on the Capitol lawn. Finally, various groups and individuals are urged to meet with their local legislators after the rally.

Groups sponsoring the Disability Rally Day prior the deadline include the following: Advocacy, Inc.; Association for Retarded Citizens/Texas; Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Coalition on Mental and Developmental Disabilities; Deaf/Blind Multi-handicapped Association of Texas; Disabled Student Services Office, The University of Texas at Austin; Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped; Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities; Mental Health Association in Texas; Spina Bifida Association; Texas Association for Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities; Texas Committee of Organizations for the Handicapped; Texas Council of Community MHMR Centers; Texas Easter Seal Society; Texas Occupational Therapist Association; Texas Society for Autistic Citizens; Texas Speech, Language and Hearing Association; and United Cerebral Palsy of Texas, Inc. Other groups may have become co-sponsors since this article was written before the December 15, 1982, deadline.

Each organization and individual should make plans to attend. For additional information, contact the CTD Austin office at 512/447-2807 or 512/447-3380 (V/TTY) or the Rally Day Steering Committee at 5555 North Lamar, Suite K-109, Austin, Texas, 78751, or 512/475-5543.

Where do the Children go?

by Julie Oliver
ARCIL'S Financial/Legal Advocate

Parents of three severely disabled teenagers were given notice by the Hillside Manor Nursing Home located in Gatesville, Texas, in early November that the children had to leave the facility by the end of that month. The administrator, Odonell Newton, reported that the three children—all high level quads on respirators at least for portions of the day—require additional care above the care for an adult in a regular nursing home setting; therefore, the nursing home is losing money by helping these young people.

When the nursing home opened its doors to these youngsters a year and a half ago, the parents and service providers working with them thought a miracle had just occurred because throughout the state of Texas, no facilities had been willing on a long-term basis to take these children who have severe physical limitations with no mental retardation. There are a few facilities within Texas who will care for children with both mental retardation and severe physical limitations.

For two of the teenagers, the major problem in finding an appropriate placement is funding. According to the nursing home administrator, these two are under a government health insurance program commonly known as Medicaid. Medicaid does not pay for children at the skilled nursing facility level which is \$36.25 per day, but does reimburse facilities for the care of children at the intermediate care facility level of \$29.01 per day. Hence, the funding criteria for Medicaid is not based on the actual care needed for a child. Even if the children could obtain a skilled nursing care status, Mr. Newton believes the amount of reimbursement could not cover the cost of caring for these youngsters. He estimates the cost to be \$50 a day.

Obviously, these youngsters are falling between the cracks in the system. There is no appropriate long-term placement, especially when their family may not have the financial resources and/or the physical stamina to care for them on an around the clock basis day in and day out. With improved medical technology, one is likely to see more children and families encountering similar problems as the above three families.

At the very least, the state of Texas needs to create a financial incentive for nursing care facilities to accept residents such as these three youngsters. And at the very most, the state of Texas needs to initiate funding for the creation of programs designed specifically for severely physically disabled children on a long-term basis. If the state does not lead the way in finding a solution to this problem, all Texans may be asking "Where do the children go?"

Free UP-TO-DATE-INFO On Federal Legislation Available

Congress has funded the establishment of the Bill Status Office in Washington, D.C., which provides information on the status of any bill and resolution in the House of Representatives and Senate. The office can supply computer printouts of all bills and resolutions pending on a specific topic. The printout has a brief description of each bill along with its sponsors, bill number, date introduced and the congressional committee it was sent to. If you are interested in a particular bill, this office can provide current information on which committee it is presently in, whether or not it has been passed, if the President has signed it.

You can reach the Bill Status Office by calling 202/225-1772 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. EST, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to LEGIA OFFICE, Room 650, House Annex 11, Washington, D.C., 20515. Information can also be obtained from the Bill Status Office by contacting your senator or representative. All information is provided free of charge.

CTD's Survey of Voters

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities has undertaken a survey of voters with disabilities. This survey was designed to provide usable data in determining how the average disabled citizen is affected by his/her disability in the voting process as well as needed changes in the voting procedures. It will also ascertain whether new legislation is needed to improve the access of citizens with disabilities to the voting process.

This survey is being coordinated through CTD's Central Office with the assistance of volunteers around the state and the four independent living centers in Austin, El Paso, Houston, and San Antonio. A detailed analysis of the survey's results will be given to CTD's membership. For further information about the survey, contact CTD's Central Office at 512/447-3380 or 512/447-2807 (V/TDD).

**1.2 MILLION TEXANS
DISABLED
BUT ABLE TO
VOTE**

1982 Delegate Assembly Resolutions...

Editor's Note: In addition to the six platform resolutions, the 1982 CTD Delegate Assembly passed five resolutions which the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities will actively support. The resolution expanding the Texas Worker's Compensation Act was tentatively approved by the Assembly with the stipulation that the proposed new legislation be reviewed thoroughly prior to CTD's formal endorsement. Again to conserve on space, this editor summarized the resolutions by reprinting the "action to be taken" and omitting the reasons leading up to the action taken. Copies of the entire resolutions may be obtained from the CTD office.

Department of Human Resources Service Coordination

Be it resolved that:

1. TDHR provide for an effective method of disability coordination at the State office level.
2. Each TDHR Region develop an effective disability coordination method which is compatible with the above mentioned State office method.
3. Each TDHR insure appropriate communication with urban and rural citizens with disabilities (Eq, an advisory committee composed of disabled persons).

Futhermore, be it resolved that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to all appropriate State offices and regional staff and/or program areas within TDHR.

Equal Education Opportunities

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities advocates the preservation of free and appropriate education for all disabled people as established in the original regulations for P.L. 94-142 and Section 504.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be sent by the President of CTD to each of our Texas State School Board of Education members. It is also futher resolved that CTD urge these Board Members to preserve all State regulations that promote equal education opportunities and due process rights for disabled students.

Expansion of Texas Worker's Compensation Act

Be it resolved to pass legislation in the state of Texas which further insures and expands the right of persons with work related injuries to such appropriate rehabilitation and closely related services as they may require after injury in order to achieve gainful employment or capacity for living independently in the least restrictive and least costly living alternative.

Governor's Long Range Planning Group for Texans with Disabilities

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities endorses the efforts of the Governor's Long Range Planning Group for Texans with Disabilities and offers, upon recommendation of the CTD Board, to actively support recommendations made by the Planning Group for action in the 68th Session of the Texas Legislature.

Vista Program

Be it resolved that CTD and its member organizations contact the appropriate governmental agencies in support of the VISTA program and for its continuance past April, 1983.



Pat McCallum

CTD's Star Vista

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities is featuring Patricia McCallum as the star Vista volunteer for this issue. Although Mrs. McCallum has been active in the Deaf Blind Multi-handicapped Association of Texas for the past seven years, she officially joined the CTD/DBMAT organization as a VISTA on April 1, 1982. The issues affecting the deaf/blind community are very close to Mrs. McCallum's heart because she has a deaf/blind son living in a Dallas residential sheltered workshop.

A founder of the Deaf Blind Multihandicapped Association of Texas, Mrs. McCallum is a recognized leader and spokesperson for the deaf/blind multi-handicapped movement in the state of Texas. She was instrumental in getting CTD to pass the resolution supporting the funding of semi-independent living programs for deaf/blind individuals.

As the Chairperson of the Interagency Task Force for future services for deaf/blind persons, Mrs. McCallum recently testified before the Governor's Long Range Planning Committee's public forum in Dallas. During her stay at the DBMAT, Mrs. McCallum has developed a resource brochure to educate professionals and other interested persons in the needs of the deaf/blind individuals and what resources are available to them at this time.

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities wishes to officially recognize Pat McCallum's dedication and determination and to thank her for the accomplishments she has achieved for the deaf/blind community. Our hats are off to you.

CTD Legislative Update

As you read this article, significant action is occurring in the Texas Legislature which will impact the quality of life for many Texans with disabilities through changes in funding for various services and programs affecting the disabled community. As of December 1, 1982 (the date on which this article is being written), important events have already taken place which will adversely affect the future of independent living programs in the state of Texas.

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission included in their state budget a request for necessary funds to operate the existing independent living centers in Texas after the termination of federal funding for the CIL programs. In the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) hearing last December, the LBB made many favorable recommendations for TRC's overall budget requests. However, approval of state funding for independent living programs was not recommended by the LBB. The primary reasons for the LBB's lack of recommending funds for independent living programs in TRC's budget are the following:

1. Many legislators and the LBB staff do not understand specifically what independent living centers are and the valuable services they provide.
2. Several other agencies have requested state funding utilizing the term "independent living" and the LBB is confused as to what independent living programs and centers actually mean.

Therefore, the above LBB's lack of action places the future survival of independent living programs in great jeopardy.

If you are interested in seeing independent living centers continuing in the state of Texas, the following steps should be taken:

1. Contact your local state senators and representatives emphasizing your support of independent living centers while explaining that independent living centers have the following criteria;
 - a. They are programs established by federal legislation and have been funded with federal dollars through the Rehabilitation Services Administration.
 - b. They are developed around the concept of "consumer control" with the majority of Board and staff members consisting of appropriately qualified persons with disabilities.
 - c. They are designed to serve many types of disabilities through the provision of services such as: peer counseling, advocacy, information and referral, attendant care, housing assistance, and job placement.
2. Urge your state senators and representatives to support the Texas Rehabilitation Commission's line item request for funding of Independent Living Centers at the level of 2.0 million for 1984 and 2.5 million for 1985.

Your personal visits, letters and telephone calls to senators and representatives are absolutely necessary to assure the survival of independent living programs. The disability movement has the strength to be successful in this effort, but only if each and everyone of you is willing to get actively involved. For further information, contact the independent living centers in Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Houston or San Antonio.

Support A.C.C.D.

Do you want a national organization that speaks and advocates on behalf of all disabled Americans? Do you want up-to-date information on national issues facing persons with disabilities? If you do, have you considered becoming a member of the American Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities? For \$15 a year, you can support our national spokespersons and will receive the ACCD NewsNet, the monthly newsletter. To join, send a check or money order to the following:

ACCD
1200 15th Street
Northwest, Suite 201
Washington, D.C. 20005

Proposals For 1983 Convention Due:

Cities desiring to host the CTD 1983 Convention must submit their proposals to the CTD office in Austin without delay. A decision on the location of the 1983 Delegate Assembly will be made by the CTD Board at their quarterly meeting on January 29-30, 1983, in Austin. The proposals may be mailed to: CTD, Post Office Box 4709, Austin, Texas 78765; or brought in person to the Board meeting which is open to anyone.

CTD DELEGATE ASSEMBLY 1982

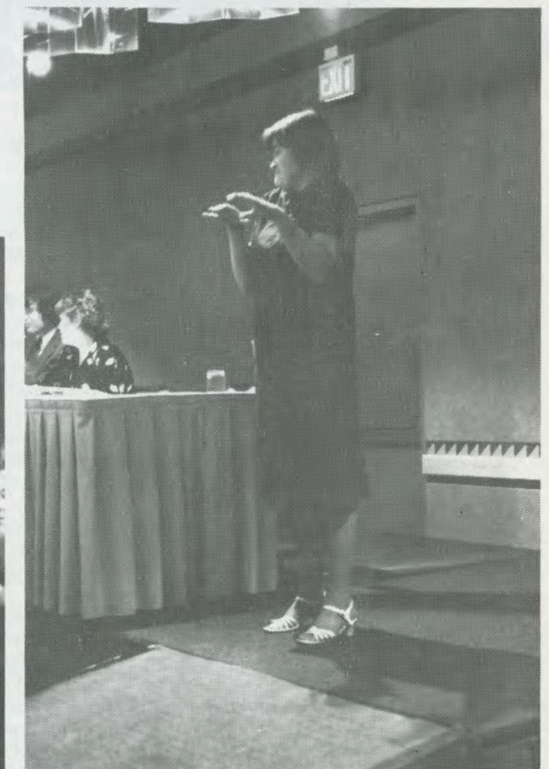
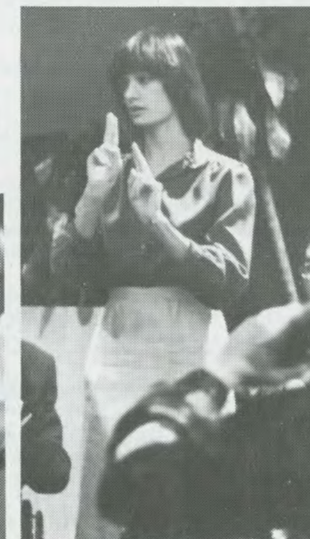
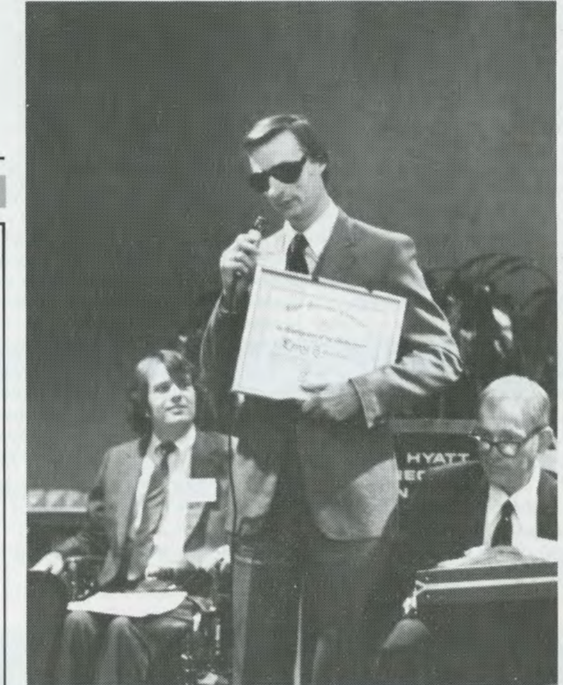
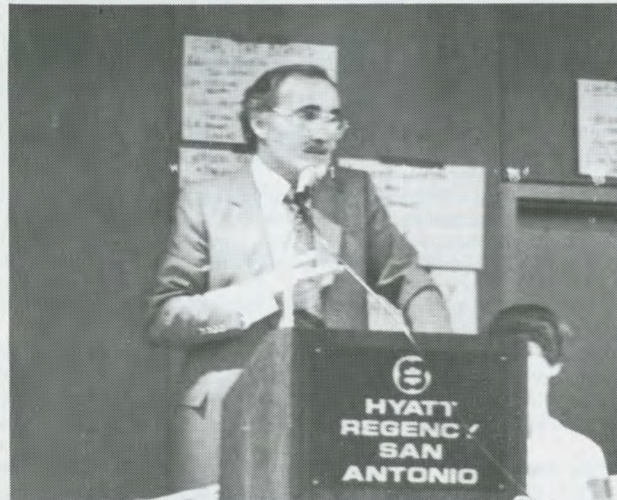
We Are CTD

by Larry Johnson, President

CTD is not an organization; it is a movement. It is people who are concerned that the rights and legitimate needs of disabled Texans may not be ignored.

CTD is not a Board of Directors or a once-a-year assembly of disabled folks and their friends. It is people who write letters, make phone calls, appear at hearings, share information, listen to and care about the problems and the dreams of disabled persons. It is people who act and interact to improve the quality of life for 1.7 million Texans with disabilities.

We of CTD have set for ourselves a tremendous task. Let us stop and ask: Dare we dream to have "equal opportunity" in this world? Dare we hope to remove the barriers and prejudices which block our participation and submerge our spirit? Dare we try to unite our efforts toward a common goal? Are we strong enough? Are we committed enough? Are we "together" enough?



You can be a Lawmaker!

by Pat Pound

Many of you reading this article probably do not think of yourselves as lawmakers. However, the majority of laws listed on the books are the result of an ordinary citizen encountering a problem and wanting the legislature to solve that particular problem through legislative means.

For example, suppose during the last election you had difficulty voting because the five steps at the polling place were too steep for your manual wheelchair. Therefore, you voted by the "curb-side" method, but you were dissatisfied with the effectiveness of the process.

Thus, you and your newly elected legislator, which you have contacted after the election, decide a bill should be drafted requiring all polling places in the state of Texas be accessible to persons in wheelchairs. Together you and your legislator work as a team—the legislator drafts and sponsors the bill while you agree to speak before disability organizations and other organizations (ie.: Gray Panthers) interested in supporting and promoting such a bill because it means changing the location of polling places, you and your legislator contact them and discuss the issues surrounding the bill.

Before the legislative session begins in January, the legislator has a bill which he/she introduces into the legislative session, otherwise known as pre-filing. The legislator also notifies you of the committee assignments and public hearings.

Your accessible polling place bill is assigned to the Human Resources Committee in the Senate, and its companion bill is placed in the House of Representatives' Elections Committee. To gain more support for the bill, you contact other disabled persons and friends of disabled persons who are constituents of the committees' members to ask them to talk with their respective legislators about the issue. Since you have very little advance notice on the committee hearing time, you must get persons who will agree to testify to the advantages of the bill can either be reported to the House or Senate for action or be assigned to a subcommittee for more study which means almost sure death for your bill.

Fortunately, after some debate, the bill is reported out onto the floor of the House and Senate for a vote. Your work is only beginning. You must now contact everyone you know who will voice their support of the bill to their legislators. You breathe a sigh of relief—the bill passes in both houses and awaits the Governor's signature. Finally, letters from various constituents must be sent to the Governor urging him to sign the bill. With the Governor's signature on the bill, you have become a successful lawmaker!

For more in-depth information on how a bill becomes a law in Texas, contact your local legislator or attend the Rally Day activities (see Disability Rally Day, Front Page).



Technology and You...

Editor's Note: Many persons have a hard time keeping up with the technological advances affecting their own disability. This column is being created to inform the readers on the technology from a "cross disability" viewpoint. This article will focus on the tactile communicator for deaf/blind communication, while future newsletters will feature technological advances for other disabilities. The following description of the tactile communicator comes from the November, 1982 issue of the San Antonio Citizens Concerned about Handicapism (SACCH) newsletter.

The tactile communicator is a radio paging system transmitting basic lifeline information to deaf/blind individuals. This paging system uses a pocket-size receiver and a transmitter about the size of a clock radio. The transmitter is installed in a permanent location of the house and sends out signals that are felt as vibrations by the person carrying the receiver. Information is received only by feeling different vibrations in the small "box-like" receiver.

An individual carrying the battery-operated receiver, which can be clipped to a belt or tucked in a pocket, feels a single vibration at half-second intervals for a fire alarm, two pulses at intervals of 2½ seconds for the doorbell and two pulses every four seconds for the telephone. The fire signal overrides the other signals when it is on. These codes recommended for the above uses; however, they can be used for other purposes.

The transmitter's two uncoded channels can accommodate a range of other items, such as an oven timer, a burglar alarm or a detector for water leaks. A baby cry signal will be added in the near future. A call button on the transmitter permits the user to tap out coded messages to a deaf or deaf/blind individual in the same house or yard.

The receiver, containing a specially designed low power motor and cam assembly which produces the vibratory sensation for the wearer, has a battery saving circuit that turns the receiver on for five milliseconds to test for the presence of a signal. If no signal is detected, the receiver turns itself off for 100 milliseconds; thus, extending the life of the battery by 20 times and allowing a standard 9-volt alkaline battery to power the receiver for more than 75 hours continuously.

This system is designed by the Research Department of the Helen Keller National Center, and sells for \$300. For more information, contact Herb Cohen, Helen Keller National Center, Research Department, 111 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point, New York 11050.

Good News for Disabled

Many disabled people might join other Americans who have taken to the hiking and jogging trails, if they know which trails are accessible. The Texas Trails Association and the Austin Resource Center for Independent Living (ARCIL) have been working on a system of identifying accessible trails in Texas. Bob Kafka has developed a draft survey for trail access. A small group representing the Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Trails Association, Sierra Club and ARCIL are currently testing the useability of the survey.

After the instrument is perfected, training materials will be developed and presented to the Texas Trails Association April meeting in Austin. The Association will then encourage groups such as the Sierra Clubs to utilize the surveyed trails when they go on outings. Disabled persons will be asked to accompany members of the Sierra Clubs on potentially accessible trails to finalize the survey.

The results of the survey will be published in a brochure describing the accessible trails in Texas. For more information about the accessible trails and/or the trails in Texas. For more information about the accessible trails and/or the trail survey, contact Pat Pound or Danny McBeth at ARCIL. 512/473-2684.

Publications Available at CTD's Office

CTD Program Book, 1982 (Free)

CTD Newsletter (Limited copies, Free)

CTD Voting Packet (Free)

Transportation Review (Free)

TDD at Attorney General's Office

The Consumer Protection Division of the Texas Attorney General's Office has a TDD phone for communicating with deaf persons. Persons with hearing impairments who have consumer complaints or questions about consumer protection laws should call 512/475-0885 (TDD).

CTD Reaches You...

Editor's Note: The CTD officers and board members are tentatively assigned to the following organizations to act as a liaison between the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities and the member organizations. Assignments were based primarily on geographic area and can be changed if a board member or an organization is not satisfied with the arrangement by contacting Marshall Mitchell, Vice President, at P.O. Box 734, Amarillo, Texas 79105 or 806/376-5111.

Larry Johnson, President
Goodwill Rehabilitation Services-
San Antonio/Reclamation Inc.
San Antonio Insight Inc.

Lee Kitchens, Treasurer
Texas Tech Coalition of Texans with
Disabilities/West Texas Rehabilitation
Center-Abilene

Bobby Simpson, Past President
ARCIL/Texas Advocates/Texas Jaycees
Campus-Gonzales Assn./Texas
Rehabilitation Counseling Assn.

Marshall Levett, Member
El Paso Lighthouse for the Blind
El Paso Opportunity Center
Handicappers of El Paso/West Texas
Association for the Handicapped-El Paso

Judy Wingard, Member
Goodwill Industries of Austin
Open Door School (Project
Normalization-Austin)

Marshall Mitchell, Vice President
Amarillo Indoor Sports Club
Amarillo Pan Handle Council for the
Deaf/Association of Disabled Individuals
in Action (ADIA)/People's Association
for Life Services (PALS)/West Texas State
University Handicapped Student Assn.

Jerry Hassell, Member
Texas Association for the Deaf
Travis County Services for the Deaf

Dennis Dildy, Member
Access Brownsville for a Liveable
Environment-Brownsville/Bexar Co.
Easter Seals Society-San Antonio/SACCH
San Antonio College Handicapped
Services

Vickie Harris, Member
American Council for the Blind-Houston
Coalition for Barrier Free Living-Houston
Southwest Wheelchair Athletic
Assn.-Houston/Spina Bifida
Association of Houston

Pat Pound, Secretary
MIGHT-III/Texas Association for Autistic
Children Texas Association for Children
and Adults with Learning Disabilities

Tom Morrison, Member
Arlington Handicapped Assn.-Arlington
Deaf-Blind Multi-Handicapped Assn.
Muscular Dystrophy Assn. of Dallas
Temple Mayor's Committee on
Employment of the Handicapped

Mike Swoboda, Member
Hill Country Citizens Concerned for the
Handicapped/North East Assn. for the
Deaf-San Antonio/San Antonio Council
for the Advancement of Services for the
Deaf

Joyce Tepley, Member
Association for Individuals with
Disabilities (AID)-Dallas/LAUNCH
Inc.-Commerce/Opportunities in Tyler
Spina Bifida Assn. of Dallas

Join CTD

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to cross-disability communication, cooperation, and coordination. The Coalition promotes the social, education, physical, and mental well-being of disabled Texans. The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities brings together people and organizations with similar goals in a united effort to represent all disabled Texans to government, the private sector, and the general public. Membership in the Coalition enables organizations and individuals to enhance their effectiveness in improving the quality of life for Texans with disabilities.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ (Organization or Individual) Date ____/____/____

Address _____ (Street Address or Post Office Box)

_____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Name of contact person for organization _____

Membership category applied for:

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____
State Local Individual Associate

Mail application and dues to: CTD
P.O. Box 4709
Austin, Texas 78765

Name of Organization _____

Estimated Membership _____

Estimated percentage of members with disabilities _____

Percentage of Governing Board _____

Does the organization have non-profit status? _____

Is the organization a state organization? _____

If yes, does the organization have chapters in at least two cities? _____

Is the organization a regional and/or local chapter of a state organization? _____

If yes, what organization? _____

If the organization a regional and/or local chapter of a national organization? _____

If yes, what organization? _____

Organizational Purpose (Goals, Objectives, Population Served) _____

FOUR CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE

State Organization Members are non-profit organizations composed primarily of persons with disabilities and their adherents; have chapters in at least two cities; are not regional chapters of a state organization having membership in CTD. Dues are \$50.00 annually.

Local Organizational Members are non-profit organizations composed primarily of persons with disabilities and their adherents; are not a chapter of a state organization having membership in CTD. Dues are \$25.00 annually.

Associate Members are organizations wishing to support the work of CTD but which do not meet the above qualifications for state or local organizations. Dues are \$25.00 annually for local and \$50.00 annually for state.

Individual Members are persons wishing to support the work of CTD. Dues are \$5.00 annually.

Annual Subscription to CTD newsletter (non-members only) \$5.00.

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Vice President**
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8929 Viscount, No. 118
El Paso, Texas 79925
(915) 591-0800

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Houston Center for
Independent Living
6910 Fannin, Suite 120
Houston, Texas 77030
(713) 795-4252

New Transitional Living Facility

The Austin Resource Center for Independent Living (ARCIL) has developed a model transitional living program for Texans with severe physical disabilities. The program, known as Herndon House, is designed to promote and enable the movement of severely physically disabled individuals from extremely dependent living situations, such as nursing homes, residential schools, and staying with the family, to comparatively independent living situations.

Herndon House will serve five clients who have severe physical limitations. The primary services are skills training in the following areas: attendant management, consumer affairs, mobility and transportation, educational/vocational opportunities and preparation, living or housing arrangements, socialization, time management, sexuality, functional everyday activities and other independent living activities.

Each person in the program will have his/her own individualized living/learning plan he/she will be working on with the ultimate goal of living as independently as his/her potential will allow. The training must be completed, thus moving into a more independent setting, within a relatively short period of time—not to exceed one year.

Much of the construction and renovations for the house were accomplished with funds from a CDBG grant with the City of Austin. Other grants, including those funded by the Developmental Disabilities Program, the City of Austin and Travis County have provided the funds for the actual program and day-to-day operation of the facility. Clients will only be required to pay approximately \$100 a month for the purchase of food.

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

ACCESS BROWNSVILLE • contact: Penny Metcalfe
address: P.O. Box 3742, Brownsville, Texas 78520
The members advocate for the integration of disabled persons into society, and promote a positive and progressive attitude towards disabled Brownsville citizens. This local association is also eliminating environmental and attitudinal barriers in the Brownsville area.

AUSTIN RESOURCE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (ARCIL) • contact: Bobby Simpson
address: 2818 San Gabriel, Austin, Texas 78705

ARCIL, an active member organization in CTD, is a community-based, nonprofit corporation which provides information and referral, community outreach, peer counseling, job development, financial/legal advocacy, attendant referral, and housing counseling to persons with physical and/or mental impairments which constitutes a severe limitation in their ability to live independently.

EL PASO OPPORTUNITY CENTER (EPOC) • contact: Marshall Levett
address: 8929 Viscount, #118, El Paso, Texas 79925

EPOC, an active CTD member organization, is an independent living center providing the following services to persons with severe physical and/or mental disabilities: independent living skills training, peer counseling, information and referral, financial/legal advocacy as well as some employment and housing counseling.

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION OF DALLAS • contact: Patricia Scott
address: Commerce Plaza-Hillcrest
12880 Hillcrest Suite 208 Dallas, Texas 75230

The Muscular Dystrophy Association of Dallas, a local associate member of CTD, provides services to many persons with neuro-muscular diseases in a clinic setting. The Association's world wide research program represents the largest efforts in advancing the knowledge of neuro-muscular diseases and finding treatments and cures for them.

TEXAS ADVOCATES • contact: Kevin P. Tracy
address: 833 Houston, Austin, Texas 78756

The Texas Advocates, a CTD state organization, is a group of mentally retarded adults living in Texas communities dedicated to the concept of self-advocacy for all retarded citizens.

CTD's Editor's Note: The CTD Newsletter is edited and published quarterly by the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, a statewide cross disability consumer group. Any member who wishes to submit future articles for publication should send them to: Judy E. Wingard, Editor, ARCIL, 2818 San Gabriel, Austin, Texas 78705.



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