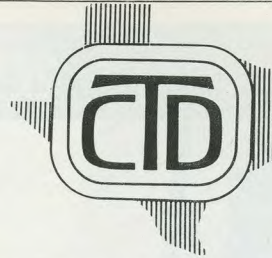


COALITION OF TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES



Winter 1984-85

NEWSLETTER



Rep. J.J. Pickle addresses the 7th Annual Delegate Assembly.

THE CTD DELEGATE ASSEMBLY AND BEYOND...

by Marshall Mitchell

FROM all indications, CTD's 7th Annual Delegate Assembly was an overwhelming success. We conducted more business in less time than ever before. We had knowledgeable, interesting speakers on relevant topics. We had more member organizations represented than ever before. We considered and passed more resolutions than ever before, almost double the amount passed last year.

All of these facts are proof that we're growing. At its meeting Friday before the Delegate Assembly the CTD board approved several new member organizations bringing our total to 74. That's almost 20 more members than CTD has ever had! Over half of them were represented at the Delegate Assembly. I'm excited about our new growth!

However, we still have room to grow. For example, Amarillo now has 6 member organizations but has the potential for at least 6 more. Almost every city in Texas has parent and service organizations that can and should join CTD. We simply have to get out and recruit. Our potential is limitless. Together we can make a difference.

I was glad to see that the member organizations openly expressed their concern about a board decision. The board works to develop projects, policies and procedures that it thinks represent the best interest of the members. Only one time a year do the member organizations get together to express their opinions.

As far as anyone can tell, CTD has never officially established an election procedure either by board or Delegate Assembly action. The procedure adopted by the board and used at this Delegate Assembly proved to make the election less confusing, smoother and fairer. It took less than 15 minutes to conduct the election, it resulted in the most even geographical and disabilities representation ever. We have 3 board members from San

THE CTD DELEGATE ASSEMBLY & BEYOND...continued on page 2

CTD'S LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

by Judy Wingard-Westbrook

ON behalf of the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, the Legislative Committee has established the following priority areas to be the basis of CTD's 1985 Legislative Platform. The committee based the priority areas upon the resolutions passed by the 1984 Delegate Assembly and other issue papers formulated by CTD in past years.

The two major areas of concern which the Committee addressed in the Platform are: (1) community-based programming and (2) accessibility for disabled persons in all areas of life.

This chairperson would like to let the readers, member organizations and individual members know that the following platform is a philosophical sketch of what CTD will be supporting. The bills, their descriptions and their numbers will be listed in the Spring issue of the CTD Newsletter and other legislative alerts which the Committee feels immediate action is needed by CTD's members and member organizations.

It is hoped that each member organization will have chosen by now its five people who can respond to a Legislative Alert by testifying in person or writing a letter to their legislator.

With your help, CTD's Legislative Platform can become a positive force in getting legislative for all disabled Texans from the 69th Texas Legislature.

See you on Rally Day March 25th and 26th!

COALITION OF TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

1. Community-Based Programs and Other State Agencies' Services
 - A. Texas Department of Human Resources (TDHR)
 1. Priority: To promote increased funding for TDHR's Special Services to the Handicapped line item.

Rationale: The Special Services to the Handicapped line item is the only specific funding source for programs for disabled persons. These programs have included shared attendant programs, independent living skills training, interpreter services, and all other disability related categories. This line item is underfunded and causes regions to have inadequate money to meet the needs of the growing population of disabled Texans.
 2. Priority: To promote increased funding for all TDHR's line items that support community-based programs and works toward de-institutionalization.

Rationale: Community-based programs are a right of disabled persons, as well as being more cost-effective and beneficial to the disabled individual. Institutionalized programs are debilitating to the rehabilitation process and assures continued dependency on public assistance. Studies show that disabled individuals living in the community with adequate support services are more likely to reach their highest level of potential.
 3. Priority: To promote increased funding for community-based attendant care programs (i.e., respite care, homemaker, home health, personal care services, sitters) and support for the \$2.2 million pilot shared attendant line item.

Rationale: Attendant care is one of the crucial issues determining the level of independence of severely disabled persons and their families. Without adequate programs that will meet the attendant needs, a person

CTD'S LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM continued on page 6



Antonio, 3 from Dallas, 2 from Houston, 2 from El Paso and 1 from Austin, Amarillo, and Big Springs. I sincerely appreciate the final decision by the delegates to support the board's decision.

We have a lot of work ahead of us with the state legislature in session in 1985. Please respond to our appeals to write letters in support of or opposition to proposed legislation. Only if we speak out can we make a difference.

We will be working toward the following Goals and Objectives for 1985:

1. Promote legislation at the state and federal level that will benefit disabled Texans.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Create and update a legislative platform listing bills which CTD supports.
2. Follow bills on our platform through the legislative process.
3. Solicit support from CTD members.
4. Continually educate state and federal legislatures on the issues affecting disabled Texans.
5. Secure authors and sponsors for bills addressing issues of greatest concern to disabled Texans.

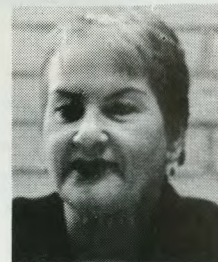
2. Increase disabled Texans' awareness of the legislative process and issues of concern to disabled Texans.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Distribute information on how bills are brought before the House and Senate.
2. Distribute a list of committees, their members, and their purposes.
3. Distribute information on how best to approach and influence legislators.
4. Conduct 5 legislative forums throughout the state.
5. Publish frequent legislative alerts.

THE CTD DELEGATE ASSEMBLY & BEYOND...continued on page 5

CTD VISTA OF THE YEAR



Ms. Patricia (Pat) McCallum, VISTA Volunteer placed through CTD with the Deaf-Blind Multi-handicapped Association of Texas (DBMAT) was awarded the CTD VISTA of the Year Award. Pat was nominated by Dellinda Henry, president of the DBMAT and Dennis Dildy, on behalf of San Antonio Citizens concerned about Handicapism, the San Antonio Chapter of the Deaf-Blind and the Education Service Center Region 20 Community Based Services Program.

The purpose of the CTD VISTA of the Year Award is to recognize a VISTA Volunteer for outstanding work to CTD and a member organization. The criteria for selection for the award was: the VISTA Volunteer has worked towards the development of the CTD VISTA project goals and objectives; and has worked towards mobilizing community resources and increased the capacity of the disabled community to solve its own problems.

The following information, which is only a small portion of the information received from Dellinda Henry about Pat McCallum's work, clearly demonstrates why she was selected to receive the CTD VISTA of the Year Award.

Ms. McCallum assists parents of deaf-blind children and deaf-blind individuals themselves to problem solve. She teaches them how to be advocates. Ms. McCallum represents deaf-blind issues to other disability groups across the state in order for the disabled to work together on common issues. Countless hours have been devoted to meetings (formal and informal) with state agencies and social service providers in developing and improving relationships, services, coordination between agencies/programs, and consumer involvement.

Ms. McCallum has worked almost everyday of every month to further the cause of the Deaf-Blind Multi-Handicapped Association of Texas and the Coalition of Texans With Disabilities. Ms. McCallum believes wholeheartedly in the human potential of the Deaf-Blind Multi-Handicapped. She provides advocacy for individuals who cannot provide their own advocacy. She trains people to advocate for themselves when they are able to do so.

CTD EDITORS' NOTE

The CTD Newsletter is edited and published quarterly by the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, a state-wide cross disability consumer group. Any member who wishes to submit future articles for publication should send them to:

Judy Wingard-Westbrook CTD
and P.O. Box 4709
Jean Langendorf, Co-Editors Austin, TX 78765

The following are publication dates and deadlines for submitting articles:

April 15th Newsletter February 24, 1985
July 15th Newsletter May 24, 1985

CTD AWARDS

CTD MEMBER ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

THE San Antonio Citizens Concerned About Handicapism was awarded the CTD Member Organization of the Year Award.



San Antonio Citizens Concerned About Handicapism (SACCH) has been deeply involved, during the past year, with disability rights issues by providing membership to the VIA-Trans Advisory Committee, the mail out of voter registration cards to all members as well as a survey and forum concerning both the city council and legislative candidates.

In the realm of public awareness, SACCH has delivered materials concerning CTD's "Disabled, But Able to Vote" to 3 television stations and 12 radio stations. This, was in addition to placing the story with the local newspapers.

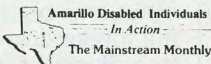
SACCH has been involved in developing membership and grass-roots through a 12 hour, 4 evening leadership training course and a week-end planning retreat. Also, two neighborhood groups are in the organization stage while two other neighborhood groups have organized and are active.

SACCH membership has taken an active role in organizations such as Insight, San Antonio Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, advisory committees of the city's Handicapped Access Committee and Region IX Texas Department of Human Resources.

In order to guarantee that the issues important to CTD/SACCH membership be known, the SACCH Newsletter is mailed monthly to all interested parties including such public officials as city councilmen, county commissioners, legislators and congressmen. SACCH has held adequate fund raising activities to guarantee the appropriate monies needed to maintain the organizations' activities are constantly available.

CTD MEMBER ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR continued on page 4

NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR



THE CTD Newsletter of the Year Award was presented to *The Mainstream Monthly*. Published 10 months out of the year by the Amarillo Disabled Individuals In Action and edited by Carli Scales, *The Mainstream Monthly* provides information about issues affecting persons with disabilities and produces an up-to-date calendar of various organizations meeting dates and places.

The goals of *The Mainstream Monthly* are: to break down communication barriers between organizations and Panhandle residents, create an information network for those in isolated areas, and motivate individuals to work toward projects affecting their lives. Many of the articles in the newsletter ask the disabled community to speak out on issues and ideas. The articles give the facts, and many local people react to this information publicly. *The Mainstream Monthly* acts as a resource and clearing house of information about issues and ideas. *The Mainstream Monthly* acts as a resource and clearing house of information about issues from other newsletters to inform over 300 individuals in and around the Amarillo area.



Peg Nosek, PhD
accepts the CTD
Meritorious Award
for Justin W. Dart, Jr.

CTD MERITORIOUS AWARD

THE 1984 CTD Meritorious Award was presented to Justin W. Dart Jr. Justin Dart has been active in supporting and promoting disability rights issues and in creating a National Policy for Persons with Disabilities.

He used his own resources to personally visit all fifty states to secure verbal and written policy suggestions from hundreds of disabled persons. He compiled and edited the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities endorsed by President Ronald Reagan at the White House on January 4, 1984.

Justin Dart displayed dedication and leadership as chairman of a statewide committee as it changed its name from "Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped" to Governor's Committee of Disabled Persons" and as it moved from the Texas Employment Commission to the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. He served as Committee Chairman for two years. Justin Dart is a national representative for the League of Disabled Voters.

Justin Dart has underwritten successful fund raising events for the Austin Resource Center for Independent Living. He is an ever ready advisor to ARCIL's Board of Directors. Justin Dart has made available to advocates for disabled persons such awareness materials as posters, leaflets, bumper stickers and buttons.

The CTD Delegate Assembly unanimously passed the following resolution submitted by the San Antonio Citizens Concerned About Handicapism:

WHEREAS, no other person in the State of Texas has contributed more to the understanding of the independent living concept for persons with disabilities, also; the cause and right of independent living and full and productive participation has been championed by this national advocate;

WHEREAS, this leader has unselfishly contributed of his time, skills and personal resources to the independent disability rights movement at the local, state and national levels;

WHEREAS, the newly established Coalition of Texans with Disabilities Meritorious Award is to recognize an individual who has made a significant contribution to the independent living and disability rights movement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the first CTD annual Meritorious Award be presented by unanimous assent of the CTD Delegate Assembly to:

JUSTIN W. DART JR.

Further, be it resolved that the President and Board be directed to seek permission from Justin Dart that all future CTD Meritorious Awards be called "THE JUSTIN W. DART MERITORIOUS AWARD".



SELF-HELP CENTER FOR THE DEAF ESTABLISHED



NATIONAL SELF-HELP CENTER FOR THE DEAF/HEARING-IMPAIRED

by Art Asebedo

THE National Self-Help Center for the Deaf/Hearing-Impaired, Inc., a non-profit organization, began on June 1, 1984, through grants from the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities and the Texas Dept. of Human Resources, with office space provided by the Texas School for the Deaf.

The Program will assist emotionally-disturbed deaf/hearing-impaired individuals to reduce isolation, develop a positive self-image, and to alleviate or eliminate emotional problems by providing self-help support groups to them and their families. All direct services to the deaf are provided by volunteers.

The Self-Help Center for the Deaf works with local communities through their Councils, to develop a self-help program for the deaf in their areas. Each Council, with assistance from the Self-Help Center, develops community resources, informs the public-deaf community about the program, establishes a referral system, recruits and trains volunteers, implements support groups, maintains records of client participation in support groups and volunteer activity/hours, and assists in the evaluation of the program. The Self-Help Center provides Councils with a Comprehensive Program Development Manual and a Volunteer Training Manual. The intent is that the local Councils invest their resources, people, time, and energy into the development of the self-help program for deaf people in their communities so that the program gets a solid foundation for continuation and growth. The program will become an additional program component for sponsors.

During the current fiscal year, the program will be established in Amarillo through the Panhandle Council of the Deaf, in Austin through the Travis County Services for the Deaf, and in San Antonio through the San Antonio Council for the Advancement of Services to the Hearing-Impaired and the San Antonio Independent Living Services.

Clients may self-refer to the program or be referred by the Texas Department of Human Resources, Texas Rehabilitation Commission, and local organizations serving the deaf. Clients in the program who have special needs which could best be served by another agency or organization will be referred with follow-up.

Clients will be considered eligible when they are identified as having substantial functional limitations in at least three of the major life activities listed: receptive and expressive language, learning, self-direction, capacity for independent living, economic self-sufficiency. There is no cost to the client. All services are provided by volunteers.

For additional information about the Self-Help Center for the Deaf, call or write:

1-800-252-7034 (Toll Free Number)
512-443-3323 (Local Number)
P.O. Box 33039, Austin, Texas 78764

WORLD WITHOUT WORKSHOPS

by Ann Gilbert

BILL WINKLEY, Executive Director of the El Paso Lighthouse for the Blind, was one of six professionals nationally invited to present papers at the Helen Keller Seminar held at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel in New York during the week of October 22, 1984. Winkley, who serves on the National Advisory Committee on the Middle Years for the American Foundation for the Blind, presented his paper entitled, "World Without Workshops". His proposal is that sheltered workshops for the blind are a form of discrimination against handicapped people and, therefore, should be phased out. Instead, he recommends innovative rehabilitation programs such as the enclave that is conducted by the Lighthouse with Convertors Division of American Hospital Supply. Lighthouse Board President, Sandi Kahn states, "The enclave concept for blind people as developed by the El Paso Lighthouse enables our clients to have a very normal work environment and at the same time have the security of being clients of the agency. The incredibly open and creative attitude of Convertors has made all of this possible. Under Bill's leadership we have been able to conceptualize the entire process and put it into action. The success we have realized has motivated us to share this with others of the 102 workshops for the blind around the country. Hence, Bill's paper." Winkley states that he had some concern about presenting the paper, in that he is proposing the dismantling of a system that is currently providing over \$200,000,000 worth of goods and services to the federal government. Says Winkley, "Certainly the dismantling of such a system is threatening to many people, some of whom will find themselves without jobs. The sheltered workshop system has been appropriate for fifty years in the history of rehabilitation in this country; however, there are now other and better ways of realizing the rehabilitation and full integration of blind persons. We should not hold on to a dinosaur for reasons of affection, but should instead always be looking for new options to realize our ultimate goal of total integration."

In addition to its vocational programs, the Lighthouse conducts a Radio Reading Service for print handicapped El Paso area residents, a Low Vision Center for partially sighted individuals, an Elderly Blind Training Program for people 55 years of age and older who are having severe visual problems, and an Aids & Appliances Store. Persons interested in learning more about the Lighthouse and its programs of service are invited to call (915) 532-4495.

—continued from page 3 CTD MEMBER ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

SACCH has provided support to CTD, during 1983-84 in many ways. The 1983 Delegate Assembly elected 4 SACCH members to its Board, while another member held the honor of past president of CTD. As a project of SACCH, two CTD Vista volunteers have been assigned to the offices of San Antonio Independent Living Services. Also, SACCH has taken a leadership role in the area by supporting CTD projects such as Jog-a-Rama and "Disabled, But Able to Vote".

ABC HONORED



PROJECT ABC RECEIVES TOP AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

PROJECT ABC was recently honored with the top award for excellence in a five-state region from the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Marian Sokol, Project ABC Director, says, "It's truly an honor, especially since it was bestowed upon us rather than sought."

The program was chosen primarily because it provides outstanding referral assistance for children with developmental disabilities while involving volunteers and the private sector.

"There is a push from the federal government to get volunteers involved because of planned cutbacks in funding," says Lauro Guerra, program specialist with the Administration on Developmental Disabilities, which selected Project ABC for the award.

Project ABC, which was initiated under the auspices of the San Antonio Coalition of Children, Youth and Families, is a model program dedicated to identifying and securing help for the many handicapped and high risk babies in the San Antonio community. Its primary purpose is to provide a link between parents, service agencies and health care providers. This goal implies cooperation, and more than 100 agencies are linked to this early intervention effort with more than 1,000 babies referred to help since the program began more than a year ago.

—continued from page 2 THE CTD DELEGATE ASSEMBLY & BEYOND...

3. Reach 100 member organizations by the 1985 Annual Convention.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Recruit new members through letters, calls and visits.
 2. Assist communities to start new advocacy organizations through VISTA program.
 4. Increase involvement with the private sector.
- ### OBJECTIVES:
1. Continue the business surveys about employment policies.
 2. Contact businesses to explain CTD's purposes.
 3. Support local participation in Job Fairs, seminars and other information sharing events with businesses.
 4. Encourage local organizations to participate in the CTD consumer Access Award program.
 5. Appoint an Advisory Committee to work closely with the private sector.
 6. Encourage CTD members to become involved with local Chambers of Commerce, committees and convention bureaus.

Thank you for making the 7th Annual Delegate Assembly a great success. Remember, we changed the name to "Annual Convention." Start thinking Annual Convention in Amarillo in September, 1985.



JOGGING FOR DOLLARS

by Bob Kafka

WHAT do Amarillo, Austin, and El Paso all have in common! The answer is joggers for CTD. CTD member organizations took to their respective tracks in late November and early December and held CTD's second annual state-wide JOG*RAMA.

This fun filled fund-raising event gave member organizations an opportunity to raise funds for themselves as well as for CTD. Though the overall turnout was lower than expected, the people who ran enjoyed themselves and benefited CTD.

Randy Snow, L.A. Olympic 1500 Meter Silver Medalist came to Austin to see how many laps he could do in one hour. It seems like he ran all day but he averaged 40 laps an hour. Wow! Thanks Randy and the TRC staff who sponsored him.

COMMENTS HEARD ON THE TRACK*

Daisy Palmer (Austin)-"I'm ready for the Olympics!"
Dave DiElsi (Austin)-"I bet you've run before."
Marshall Mitchell (Amarillo)-"Golly, 3 more laps and I get a bag."
Kenny Hosen (Austin)-"Anybody see a bus!"
Gene Ormsby (El Paso)-"I bet they don't do it this way in Austin!"
Dwain McMahan (Amarillo)-"13 is my lucky number."
Bill Johnson (Dallas)-"Is this the way to Central America?"
Virginia Roberts (Austin)-"Who picked the jogging music?"
Jim Parker (El Paso)-"Who says I need a racing chair!"
Randy Snow (Austin)-"What do YA mean no medals!"
*Believe it or Not!

CTD wants to extend its appreciation to the many people who spent their time coordinating the Jogs and finding the runners. These are the people who deserve the credit. Thanks.



Marshall Mitchell fundraising for CTD.



Consumer Access Award

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities
on behalf of the 1.7 million disabled Texans
recognizes and commends

for significant efforts to make
this business's products and services
accessible to disabled consumers

PRESIDENT, CTD

DATE

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT CTD CONSUMER ACCESS AWARD PROJECT

by Sharon Gardner

YOUR local neighborhood businessman, at your request, has just put in a new ramp and widened its check out aisle. You know this small step in the right direction will never qualify for a Governor's Commendation, but still you feel the owner deserves more than just a verbal thank you for his efforts.

Now there is a way to let him know that disabled persons all over the state appreciate his efforts even though they may never live close enough to shop there. The CTD Consumer Access Award is specifically designed to help you express appreciation and give positive reinforcement to businesses in your community which go out of their way to make products or services accessible. This may mean braille menus, reserving handicapped parking spaces, making home deliveries, having a TDD, or any number of other considerations.

If you wish to nominate such a business, you may obtain a nomination form from your local CTD member organization or the CTD Central Office. After completing the form, you must get it approved and signed by your nearest CTD Board Member and then mail it to the CTD Central Office. CTD will send you a very nice 8 x 11 certificate made out to the recipient.

How you present it is up to you. This is your opportunity to raise public awareness and get some name recognition for your local disability organization. You may want to frame it, notify your local newspaper, and have a small ceremony. Or have a banquet and present several at the same time. The publicity you generate will not only make the recipient eager to do more for disabled consumers, but will also motivate other businesses to do likewise.

—continued from page 1 CTD'S LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

is unable to pursue education and employment, as well as social and recreational activities.

B. Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC)

1. *Priority:* To support a level of appropriations of \$2.1 million in 1986 and \$2.8 million in 1987 of state funds for the Independent Living Center program of TRC.

Rationale: The Independent Living Centers are an innovative program where disabled people provide employment placement, attendant care services, housing location and legal and financial advocacy to other disabled people in a community setting. Independent Living Skills Training allows individuals to acquire the skills necessary to work and live independently in the community and avoid institutionalization. The provision of state funds would allow current centers to maintain their present service levels, as well as expansion to now underserved areas of the state (e.g., the Valley, the Panhandle, and East Texas).

CTD PASSES RESOLUTION CONCERNING USE OF FREE MAILING PRIVILEGE

AT the Seventh Annual CTD Delegate Assembly the following resolution submitted by the American Council of the Blind of Texas was passed:

WHEREAS: Information has been received recently that certain member organizations of the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities have been improperly sending mail free matter for the blind or handicapped which does not conform to postal regulations, and
WHEREAS: Abuse of such a privilege frequently results in loss of that privilege. Millions of talking books are sent free to blind and handicapped persons on a regular basis which becomes the primary source of reading, pleasure and passtime for them. This is one of the greatest privileges available for persons with a reading handicap, and

WHEREAS: Congress recently considered with-holding funds for the program of free matter for the blind and other handicapped persons, but reconsidered after strong opposition was expressed by numerous organizations for the blind and physically handicapped; and
WHEREAS: Postal regulations in the Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) 135 delineates eligibility for free matter for the blind or physically handicapped persons.

135 For the Blind and Other Handicapped Persons
135.1 Conditions. The following conditions are applicable to articles mailable free of postage under this section:

- a. Except as provided in 135.21 the matter is for the use of the blind or other persons who cannot use or read conventionally printed material because of a physical impairment who are certified by competent authority as unable to read normal reading material.
- b. No charge, or rental, subscription, or other fee, is required for such matter or a charge, or rental, subscription, or other fee is required for such matter not in excess of the cost thereof.
- c. The matter may be opened for postal inspection.
- d. The matter contains no advertising.

135.2 Items Mailable Free

.21 Unsealed letters sent by a blind person or a person having a physical impairment as described in section 135.1a in raised characters or in 14 point or larger sight-saving type or in the form of sound recordings.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Coalition of Texans with Disabilities in meeting assembled this 14th day of October, 1984 express concern about this situation and encourage all CTD member organizations to conform to the regulations. Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be published in the CTD newsletter and distributed to all members.

2. *Priority:* To support an increase in state funding for the TRC General Vocational Rehabilitation program so that state funds constitute 43.8% in 1986 and 49% in 1987.

Rationale: Vocational training and support services have served approximately 67,000 disabled persons. Until recently, the majority of these funds were received from the federal government. With the advent of the current administration, fewer funds are coming from the federal government, requiring a higher level of state match necessary to keep the current level of services. The value of these rehabilitative programs are a \$10.40 increase in lifetime earnings for every public dollar spent. This is one of the most cost-effective programs in the state.

3. *Priority:* To support an increase in Extended Rehabilitation Services (ERS) appropriations to \$2.9 million in 1986 and \$3.2 million in 1987.

CTD'S LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM continued on page 7—

Rationale: The ERS program serves moderately to severely handicapped persons who are unable to receive services under the regular rehabilitation program for competitive employment. The current ERS budget serves 500 people, which is only approximately one-tenth of those who could be served and become productive citizens. This type of work environment, coupled with appropriate independent living skills training, could save tax dollars by removing individuals from a more institutionalized setting.

4. *Priority:* To support the continued existence of the Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons (GCDP) as a separate entity at the funding level of \$328,000 in 1986 and \$360,000 in 1987.

Rationale: GCDP has a broad representative from the public with an emphasis on involvement of disabled persons. Its focus is to promote action at the community level. It is a program-oriented body. GCDP is regarded by many disabled persons as an official body representing their interests to the Governor. No other agency has the same mission as GCDP, and its continued existence at appropriate funding levels is of vital importance to the disabled community.

5. *Priority:* To support state funding for a TRC demographic survey to identify disabled people in Texas at a level of \$1.5 million in 1986.

Rationale: Data on disabled persons is scattered at best. What figures there are usually extrapolated from a few sources (like the census) which often are questionable in accuracy. Without accurate figures, planning and evaluation for services, facilities, etc., can be neither accurate nor responsive. This would be a one time expense, the benefits from which could be realized over several years.

C. Texas Commission for the Deaf (TCD) and Texas School for the Deaf (TSD).

1. *Priority:* To support full funding for TCD and to promote funding for programs for the deaf.

Rationale: The nature of deafness requires specially skilled staff and specific programs to meet the deaf individual's unique needs. A separate state agency appropriately funded is essential for the delivery of certain services particular to deafness. All other state agencies who provide services to the increasing number of deaf people must continue and be adequately funded to meet increasing needs.

2. *Priority:* To support full funding for TSD.

Rationale: TSD has successfully served deaf pupils for the past 128 years and has an excellent staff who are certified and specially trained to teach deaf pupils. They are graduating productive, tax-paying deaf citizens and need appropriate funding to continue to meet their needs.

3. *Priority:* To create the exempt position of Deputy Executive Director.

Rationale: To maintain close contact with local school districts throughout Texas and parents of deaf children who refer their children to TSD for placement, the Executive Director must travel the state frequently. A Deputy Executive Director is needed to serve in the absence of the Executive Director and to assist in administrative responsibilities.

4. *Priority:* To amend Section III 16(6) of the Appropriations Bill to include free meals for houseparents when they are supervising students.

Rationale: Currently, legislation allows TSD to provide free meals only to teachers who supervise children. TSD adheres to this legislation. However, as a 24-hour residential facility, TSD adheres to this legislation. However, as a 24-hour residential facility, TSD needs to have authorization to provide this same benefit to houseparents who supervise students.

D. Texas Commission for the Blind (TCB) & Texas School for the Blind (TSB)

1. *Priority:* To support the retention and adequate funding of TCB as a separate and independent agency

Rationale: The nature of blindness requires specially skilled staff and specific programs to meet the blind individual's unique needs. A separate state agency appropriately funded is essential for the delivery of certain services particular to blindness. All other state agencies who provide services to the increasing number of blind people must continue and be adequately funded to meet increasing needs.

2. *Priority:* To support full funding for TSB

Rationale: TSB has successfully served blind pupils for many years and has an excellent staff who are certified and specially trained to teach blind pupils. They are graduating productive, tax-paying blind citizens and need appropriate funding to continue to meet their needs.

E. Texas Department of Mental Health-Mental Retardation (TDMHMR)

1. *Priority:* To pursue maximum funding levels for Contract Treatment/State Grant-in-Aid for Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers and for State School Community Services Program; to support efforts to redirect funding within the TDMHMR budget to allow for the development of community-based placement for at least 450 current residents in the TDMHMR State School System.

Rationale: It is projected that over 55,000 persons with mental retardation presently need Community-Based Residential Services. Only 5,000 are currently receiving such services. Additionally, over 1,000 of the 10,000 residents of State Schools are considered in need of community placement. Current funding levels restrict the Department's ability to develop Community-Based Residential Programs. Increases in funding for Community MHMR Centers and State School Community Services Programs would help meet the need in this area. Redirection of current institution funds to develop community alternatives would facilitate the transition of current State School residents into more appropriate non-institutional, least restrictive, service placements.

WELCOME CTD's NEW MEMBERS

DEPT. OF HUMAN SOURCES (DHR) Unit 095-29

Services to persons with disabilities
P.O. Box 37120, San Antonio, TX 78237
Contact: Sharon Pinkston

HANDICAPPED ACCESS OFFICE

City of San Antonio
P.O. Box 9066, San Antonio, TX 78285
Contact: Judith L. Babbitt

HOUSTON COUNCIL OF THE BLIND

3131 Timmons Lane, Apartment #106
Houston, TX 77027

Contact: J.R. Beeson, President

INDEPENDENT LIFE STYLES (ILS)

7320 Ashcroft #214, Houston, TX 77081

Contact: Alan Meyer

INDEPENDENT LIVING RESEARCH UTILIZATION (ILRU)

6910 Fannin, 2nd Floor, Houston, TX 77030

Contact: Laurie Gerken

LONE STAR GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL

P.O. Box 9557, Austin, Texas 78766

Contact: Cindy Williams

NAT. SELF-HELP CENTER FOR THE DEAF HEARING IMPAIRED

P.O. Box 33039, Austin, Texas 78764

Contact: Jerry Zenor

PANHANDLE COUNCIL FOR THE DEAF

909 South Bivins, Amarillo, Texas 79104

Contact: Reuben McGill

SPINA BIFIDA/ABILENE

818 Elmwood, Abilene, TX 79605

Contact: Lou Briley

SPINA BIFIDA/AUSTIN

P.O. Box 181138, Austin, TX 78716

Contact: Ellen Day

SPINA BIFIDA/EAST TEXAS (Tyler)

P.O. Box 8356, Tyler, Texas 75711-8356

Contact: Sherman Clem

STROKE GROUP OF HOUSTON

12503 Mooreedale, Houston, Texas 77024

Contact: Blanco Kleen

TANGRAM REHABILITATION NETWORK, INC.

736 Smith Avenue, San Marcus, Texas 78666

Contact: David Seaton

TEXAS HEAD INJURY FOUNDATION

2600 South Gessner, Suite 410

Houston, TX 77063

Contact: Charles W. Haynes

TEXAS PARALYZED VETERANS ASSN.

GREATER AUSTIN SUB-CHAPTER

6707 A Woodward Avenue, Austin, Texas 78757

Contact: Chuck Obermyer

TEXAS PARALYZED VETERANS ASSN./PANHANDLE SUB-CHAPTER

1001 Wallace Boulevard, Amarillo, Texas 79106

Contact: Murphy F. Barnes

TEXAS PARALYZED VETERANS ASSN.

NORTH TEXAS SUB-CHAPTER

1518 Meadowbrook Lane, Irving, Texas 75061

Contact: George Cooper

TEXAS PARALYZED VETERANS ASSN.

S.E. HOUSTON SUB-CHAPTER

2002 Holcombe Boulevard 128A-101A

Houston, Texas 77030

Contact: Toby Hendrix

TEXAS PARALYZED VETERANS ASSN.

SOUTH TEXAS SUB-CHAPTER

655 Castle Park Drive #A101

Corpus Christi, Texas 78418

Contact: John Finnegan

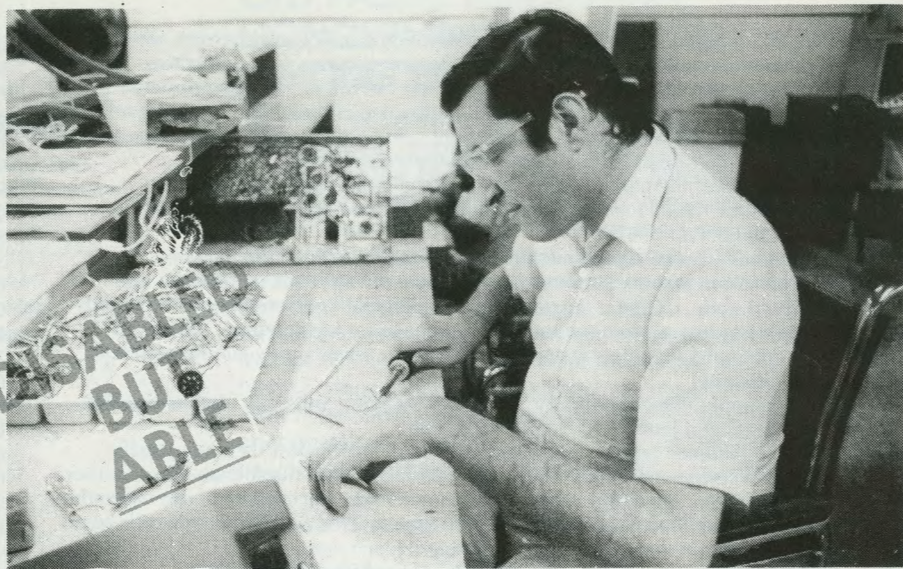
TEXAS PARALYZED VETERANS ASSN.

WACO SUB-CHAPTER

4200 North 19th Street #214

Waco, Texas 76708

Contact: Joe Driscoll



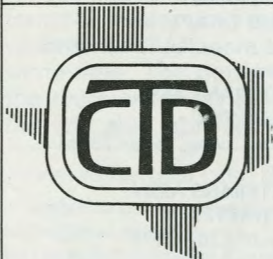
CTD BOARD

OFFICERS

- MARSHALL MITCHELL**, President, 4610 South Crockett, Amarillo, Texas 79110, (806) 376-5111
JUDY WINGARD-WESTBROOK, Vice Pres. 1504-A Braes Ridge, Austin, TX 78723 (512) 458-3803 (home) (512) 458-9121
BILL JOHNSON, Secretary, 3453 Flair, Dallas, Texas 75229, (214) 358-1898
ALAN MEYER, Treasurer, 7320 Ashcroft #214, Houston, Texas 77081, (712) 541-2436 (home) (713) 541-6662
LARRY JOHNSON, Past President, 777 Isom Road #6D, San Antonio, Texas 78216, (512) 344-0925 (home) (512) 222-6799

BOARD MEMBERS

- BETTY BROECKER**, El Paso Center of the Deaf, 1005 E. Yandell, El Paso, Texas 79912 (915) 581-3109 TDD (home) (915) 544-6032 V/TDD
LARRY EVANS, SWCID, S.C.R. Box 160-P, Big Springs, Texas 79720, (915) 263-6543 (home) (915) 267-2511
STEVE JOHNS, Project Link, 2121 San Jacinto Towers #855, Dallas Texas 75201 (214) 254-0901 (home) (214) 969-0118
LEE KITCHENS, LPA, 1518 Country Club Drive, Sugarland, Texas 77478, (713) 242-0872 (home), (713) 490-3508
TOM MORRISON, AID, 4654 Cedar Tone, Dallas, Texas 75211, (214) 330-4910 (home) (214) 767-4123
TIMOTHY NICHOLSON, TPVA, 4935 Lambeth, San Antonio, Texas 78228, (512) 684-9172 (home)
JIM PARKER, WTAH, 2708 Aurora, El Paso, Texas 79930, (915) 564-0544 (home)
WILLIS WILLIAMS, SAILS, 2803 East Commerce, San Antonio, Texas 78203 (512) 653-2356 (home) (512) 226-0054



Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

Post Office Box 4709
 Austin, Texas 78765
 (512) 443-8252

ANTHONY CERVANTEZ
 CTD/MIGHT
 PO BOX 4709
 AUSTIN TX 78765

BULK RATE
 U. S. POSTAGE
 PAID

Little Rock, AR 72201
 Permit No. 253

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED