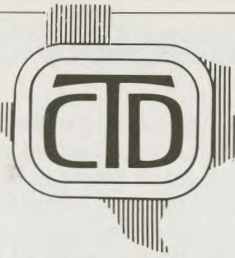


COALITION OF TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES



Spring 1986

NEWSLETTER

Federal Cutbacks Slash Disabled Citizens

There are over 36 million citizens with disabilities in the United States; over 2.4 million Texans have some kind of disability. The unemployment rate among disabled persons nationally is an astounding 65 per cent. Underemployment is even higher. For decades disabled persons have struggled against prejudice, poverty, lack of access and limited opportunities to be able to do the things that many persons take for granted: to move freely in their communities; to have a home of their own and perhaps a family; to have the chance for a decent education, a job; and to access public information and communication channels such as magazines, television and telephones. Most of all disabled people have been struggling to be able to choose how they will live their own lives. Over the past decade disabled citizens have begun to make some real headway in gaining programs and rights to assist us as we work to become productive members of our communities.

The proposed federal cutbacks will have devastating effects on the progress that has thus far been made by disabled people. And the worst part of it is that most of the programs which are being cut will in the long run wind up costing our communities more money while drastically reducing the quality of life for millions of Americans.

The civil rights that disabled Americans have gained, for the most part, are tied to federal dollars. The Office of Revenue Sharing is an avenue through which most communities receive federal funds, and therefore assure that these communities do not discriminate. The Gramm-Rudman cut backs will mean \$180 billion dollars will be sequestered from ORS funding nationally with \$210 million lost to Texas. President Reagan's 1987 budget will zero out funding for this office and thus cut off one of the major avenues for assuring equality for persons with disabilities.

Education is often called the key to a person's future. This is no less true for disabled children. Yet Gramm-Rudman will cut the education for handicapped children \$60 million, President Reagan's budget \$107 million dollars. Thousands and thousands of children will be denied quality education which will eventually mean they will be less able to get jobs, to take care of their personal affairs and will have to depend on public welfare, exactly the reverse of what Americans claim they wish to pay for.

Cuts in medicaid and medicare will mean elderly and disabled persons, who are now able to live in their own homes with some personal care assistance, will have to return to institutions. Again the return to dependence and greater expense the public, but are we to let these people die in the streets?

HUD 202 programs which provide funding for housing for people who are elderly and/or disabled, and which have months to year-long waiting lists in most Texas cities will, under Gramm-Rudman, be cut \$28 million dollars in this first round. The President's 1987 budget allots only \$30.3 million dollars for existing programs and nothing for new projects for two populations which are growing yearly. Section 8 Housing, another program that serves thousands of disabled persons, will have \$1.4 billion sequestered under Gramm-Rudman in 1986.

Public transportation is critical if disabled persons are to be able to get to work, to school, etc. Yet President Reagan plans to zero fund UMTA in his 1987 budget, and it will receive a

\$160 billion cut under the 1986 Gramm-Rudman cut back's. The Small Business Administration, with its Handicapped Assistance Loans, will receive identical treatment to UMTA under Reagan.

The centers for independent living, of which there are five here in Texas, provide a myriad of services to increase the independence of disabled people. An innovative program Title 7, which funds these centers, and which has changed millions of Americans' lives for the better will be cut \$1.7 in 1986 and \$17 million under the President's budget. The list goes on. There can be no doubt that the disabled community is being dealt a severe blow. Is this what Americans wish on one in every ten of their fellow citizens?



Here's my penny for a common sense budget.

It may not be much, but it's more than all the taxes paid last year by 50 of the largest, most profitable U.S. companies, and hundreds of millionaires.

CTD is participating in the Campaign for a Common Cents Budget. See article on page 4 and enclosed envelopes.

INSURANCE:

Who Will Pay?

There has been a lot of publicity about insurance and tort "crisis". These matters are critically important to those who need to buy insurance, and those who are injured, become disabled and are forced to go to court to receive compensation.

There is a general agreement that insurance is either very expensive or absolutely impossible to obtain for many businesses today. However, there is disagreement as to the cause and solution to the problem.

Insurance companies and big businesses claim that the insurance problem is due to a huge explosion in court cases and in the size of settlement the injured parties are receiving. Their proposed solution is to limit the ability of the injured person to sue for compensation (this kind of law suit is called tort law). Through tort reform, they are requesting a limit or cap be put on pain and suffering compensation, that lawyers not be allowed to represent clients on a contingency basis (in which they would get a percentage of the money their clients won, but nothing if their clients lost) and limiting the degree of liability of those who are found at fault.

If the insurance companies wishes are adopted as policy, what will happen to people who are disabled by accidents,

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Discrimination Still a Problem?

On May 26, 1983 the State Board of Insurance adopted rules prohibiting discrimination in providing life and health insurance to persons because of physical or mental disabilities. These rules, which were patterned after the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' model regulations were published in the Texas Register in April of that year for public review. On the last day of the 1983 regular session the Texas Legislature moved to "prohibit discrimination against the handicapped in any line of insurance" according to then State Insurance Board member Carole (Rylander) McClellan in a speech made in June of 1983. "An amendment to the Insurance Board Sunset Bill contains this language:

"An insurer who delivers or issues for delivery or renews any insurance in this state may not refuse to insure, refuse to continue to insure, limit the amount, extent or kind of coverage available to an individual, or charge an individual a different rate for the same coverage solely because of handicap or partial handicap.

"An exception is provided, as our previously-adopted resolution, for situations where refusal, limitation or rate difference is based on 'sound actuarial principles or is related to actual or reasonably anticipated experience.'"

A study was done by the State Board in 1979 to investigate problems disabled consumers were having in obtaining insurance. Roughly 28,000 letters were sent out and 1,500 disabled persons completed a 20-page questionnaire according to State Board data. Insurance concerns had to do with liability, affordability, employment and access to information. These issues cut across all types of insurance: auto, homeowners, health, life and workers' compensation. Witnesses to public hearings held by the Board testified that disabled consumers were treated as an artificial class of unhealthy individuals. A number of specific areas of concern were brought out through these surveys and hearings including inavailability of auto and health insurance, inappropriately excessive costs and vague explanation of coverage and denial of coverage.

It is interesting that the legislation mentioned above was supposed to address these problems. Yet CTD often hears that insurance discrimination is still a problem for disabled Texans. Have you or has someone you know had problems with insurance recently? Are there gaps in the protection given by current laws? Are there problems with enforcement? If CTD is to effectively advocate for your needs we need to hear your stories.

How To File A Complaint About Insurance Discrimination

Editor's Note: *Insurance discrimination is a fact of life for many Americans with disabilities. The following article was written for the National Center for Law and the Deaf Newsletter. While it speaks specifically to discrimination against persons who are deaf, the information can be generalized to people with other types of disabilities.*

An insurance agency has told you that you must pay a higher premium because of your deafness. No other reason has been given to justify this higher rate. Is this discriminatory? What can you do about this?

Almost all states have insurance commissions that regulate and oversee insurance trade practices within their states. They have the authority to investigate consumers complaints to see if a discriminatory act has taken place. They also establish regulations for the insurance industry. Insurance companies must also file all rate "classifications" with the commission for approval or disapproval. Insurance companies are permitted to distinguish between different "classes" of people for example, the class of people with bad driving records. But they must be able to show a rationale for their rate classifications. The commission also oversees the licensing of insurance agents and brokers, who must pass tests to show they are qualified to sell and issue insurance policies.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in insurance because of your deafness, you can request by letter that

the insurance commission in your state investigates your complaint. You should explain what happened. The commission will need:

1. your name and address.
2. the name and business address of the insurance agent.
3. the kind of policy involved.
4. the reason for the higher premium, different terms or the refusal to sell you the insurance, and
5. the date it happened.

You may want to contact us for relevant studies as to the risk factors of deafness. The insurance commission will then investigate your complaint. The commission will contact the insurance company to see what their explanation is. If the insurance company does not have a good reason for its different treatment of you, the commission can require that the company treat you as it does other policy holders who are not deaf.

Sometimes it is a good idea to send a letter of complaint to the president of the insurance company. You can do this at the same time you write to the insurance commission. Tell the president of the company the same things you told the insurance commissioner, and that you have sent a letter of complaint to the insurance commission.

State insurance commissions are listed in the state government office section in your telephone book.

Pay *continued from page 1*

malpractice, defective products or other events in which there is another party who is actually at fault? We all are aware that public assistance is limited at best, and growing more limited as dollars become more scarce. Their chances of finding a job are more limited since unemployment among disabled adults nationally is over 60%. Even if they can find a job, chances are great their earning power is reduced. The recent Harris poll shows that half of all disabled persons aged 16 and over have a household income for 1984 of \$15,000 or less, as compared to 25% of non-disabled persons' households having an income in the same bracket. The list of limits our society places on disabled persons is long and includes access to transportation, to communication, to education, to social relationships, to jobs and to much, much more. While social programs are being cut,

it now seems the leaders of our state are looking to cut off another limited means for certain individuals to deal with the costs of adjustment to this new way of life.

While there is no doubt there are some unscrupulous lawyers and "victims of accidents" who sue at a chance, it seems extreme to make all who are damaged in accidents pay for the indiscretions of the unscrupulous few. Tort cases are often the only and usually the last means of getting compensated for huge medical bills and adjustments to dramatic changes in their lives. In addition, contingency fees are a means by which less wealthy individuals can afford a lawyer.

The facts do not point to a legal system problem. The number of law suits has remained relatively stable over the past 25 years. Most plaintiff's awards are small, half are under \$8,000 according to data from 1979 (the last year data is available). Personal injury claims, when adjusted for inflation, remained

continued on page 4



Editor's Note: *The CTD VISTA Volunteer program has ended after nearly five years. CTD and our member organizations have benefited from the hard work of over 50 individuals who have served as VISTA Volunteers. We are proud to have had the VISTA Volunteer program which as involved such dedicated individuals working to further the CTD message of cross-disability cooperation and communication. The following article presents one volunteer's view of her year of service and the benefits she received.*

By Kaye Branigan

On April 15, 1986, my term as CTD VISTA volunteer will end. I have tried to reflect over the past year's experiences and would like to share those with others.

Prior to becoming a VISTA, the only disability with which I had any working knowledge was the deaf community. Having been an interpreter for the deaf for over a decade, I saw the VISTA position as a bridge to the unknown with other disability groups. Let me provide a brief backdrop to my VISTA employment.

I remember how I felt the first time I personally met with Marshall Mitchell (Mr. Mitchell at the time). I felt so awkward about discussing interpreting with that "unfortunate" gentleman in that wheelchair. What in the world could have happened to him? Was he born handicapped? Did he have an accident? How does he do his job here at the college? Can he write? How does he get here? Surely he is not married. All these and a few other negative ideas were racing across my mind as I hurriedly agreed to sign appropriate papers and get on with my familiar job of interpreting for deaf students. Then, as I left, I stretched forth a hand for a handshake. "Oh, no!" I thought too late. That man is not capable of giving me a handshake. Oh, well, just fake it and get out of here. And that's what I did. I got on the elevator and felt a rush of blood to my face. Hopefully, I thought, the next time I would be attuned to his disability and not require so much from him.

Why, you may ask, am I telling you all this in print no less? Because, from my later experiences and observations with people like myself, meeting a person with a disability, I have seen the same awkwardness in their dealings, the same red faces, the same hurry up and get through this situation the best way I can, and the same negative attitudes as I had on the first day with "Mr. Mitchell."

Almost a year after our initial meeting, I was contacted by Marshall to consider becoming a VISTA for CTD. Taken by surprise, and knowing nothing of the VISTA program, but having a willingness to learn about cross-disability, I accepted the challenge.

Surely, I thought, I would learn something through VISTA. Within that year I have received at least the equivalent to a BD (Bachelor's in Disabilities). I was driven with a desire to meet as many types of disabled persons as I could, interview them, visit with them, get to know them personally, take an active interest

in their lives, learn how they overcame certain barriers, how they are still overcoming some of the same barriers. I wanted to know about the laws relating to disabled persons, how we got them, who advocates for them, why there is a lack of enforcement of these laws? Now that my VISTA term is nearly over, I have just touched the tip of the iceberg.

I have had the great privilege of meeting successful and brilliant people with disabilities. Some of these same people were ones I thought, because of the severity of the disability, could not possibly be employed, much less possess masters and doctorate degrees. Naive? Yes. Uninformed? Yes. Though I sought to serve the needs of the disabled, I became the greatest beneficiary.

VISTA has afforded me the opportunity to go beyond Amarillo and see productive disabled citizens advocating for disability rights. I have met an attorney who is blind and been in awe of the years of study he encountered through the use of braille and tapes; a federal architectural and communications barriers specialist in Washington, D.C. who is profoundly deaf; a fellow VISTA Volunteer who is both blind and deaf and communicates with the entire world with the touch of a hand; and a gifted pianist who because of dyslexia cannot unscramble the lines and notes of a staff, but plays excellently. I have seen the president of a state-wide coalition conduct an advocacy program, pull together a state-wide convention, and write hundreds of letters to congressional, state and federal officials on the subject of advocacy for disabled citizens from a wheelchair. I have talked with state and federal employees in prominent positions who have risen above severe cerebral palsy to perform their jobs with great competence. I met a person three foot in stature who stands tall on the issues related to the disabled community and is past president of a national organization for little people; paraplegics who are mechanics, compete in 10K races from a wheelchair as well as play basketball, not to mention the scores of other disabled citizens who are making a contribution daily.

History continues to repeat itself. Women's suffrage, blacks' equal rights, equal job opportunities for men and women. Have we not all benefited from these historical events? The rights of disabled citizens will continue to require protection through laws in existence and laws yet to be passed.

As I exit the VISTA program, I am left with a deep concern for disabled Americans. It is a select number of disabled persons who have taken the risk to be involved in the issues. Yet, millions of disabled persons enjoy those long fought for privileges without regard to why they are able to do so. They have not risked, they are not involved. They, like myself, remain "handicapped" on the issues.

What is my last desire as a VISTA? To see more action from the disabled community itself, even to the point of civil disobedience. At a recent statewide symposium on deafness in Austin, I heard profound statements from great deaf leaders calling the deaf to action for their rights. Many of those rights have been lost due to lack of enforcement. Why? Because the deaf have not challenged those who make the laws, the hearing, to guarantee those rights through enforcement. Who, then, will do their job? Who will be their voice? Will it be left to the hearing world to decide what is best for the deaf? These same questions must be confronted by each disabled person. If you, as the disabled person, are not advocating for your own personal rights, you will assuredly lose them. The disabled must make themselves continually visible to our lawmakers, or you will not continue to exercise your rights. No one, except the disabled person, knows what they need. Only you can voice that to legislators.

Support the Common Sense Budget Penny Envelope Campaign

CTD has joined with numerous other organizations around the state and the nation to support the Penny Envelope Campaign for a common sense budget. Enclosed are envelopes you can send to your federal Representative and Senators.

One way you can put a human face on how federal dollars are used in your community is to take pictures of programs and people who will be hurt by federal budget cuts, with a message about the program on the back. You may want to send them in the campaign envelope. . . or organize a campaign to collect hundreds of pictures. Send them to your member of Congress or present them in person.

The Campaign for Common Sense offers a way to tie on-going local and state organizing into a national strategy initiated by the Coalition on Human Needs. The ultimate goal is

for national leaders to hear a message with the following four principles:

1. No cuts in human investment programs and restoration of programs basic to human needs.
2. A reduction is wasteful defense spending.
3. New tax revenues with tax reform which shifts the burden from low and middle income people to individuals and corporations who do not now pay their fair share.
4. The repeal or modification of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings which has goals that are too drastic and places an unfair burden on human investment programs which have already experienced severe budgetary cuts.

What can you do to get involved? Beside sending in these envelopes, you can:

- Let other groups in your area know about the campaign,
- Contact local media people and let them know about the campaign and the effects budget cuts are having in your area,
- Meet with your representatives during the Memorial Day Recess (May 21-29). Because this is an election year, most members will be home more often. What better time to get your member of Congress to take a position than during an election year?

Additional envelopes can be ordered in limited numbers from the CTD central office (512/443-8252 or write us). ENVELOPES ARE FREE. To order larger amounts call 512/474-5019 or write: Texas Alliance for Human Needs, 210 Barton Springs Rd., Suite 352, Austin, Texas 78704.

Questionnaire

Test your knowledge of federal assistance programs with this quiz given by Nancy Amidei, Private Consultant formerly with FRAC and active in anti-hunger and poverty programs.

1. **Nearly 34 million Americans are living in poverty. How many poor families do you think get federal (cash) welfare?**
 All. 2/3. 1/3. None.
2. **How many poor households have earnings, and pay taxes?**
 All. 2/3. 1/3. None.
3. **What is the average period that a poor family gets welfare (AFDC)?**
 12 months. 2 years. 3 generations.
4. **What is the most common family size of families on AFDC (including adults and children)**
 2. 4. 6. 8.
5. **The average food stamp benefit per person per meal works out to:**
 18 cents. 48 cents \$2.00 Unlimited.
6. **The fraud rate in the Food Stamp Program is (trick question)?**
 2%. 10%. 50. 75%.
7. **Programs for poor people (all cash welfare, food stamps, medicaid, subsidized housing, education, etc.) take up what portion of federal spending?**
 Less than 10%. 1/3. Over 1/2.
8. **Not counting trust fund programs like Social Security, spending for poor people's programs, as a portion of all federal spending, has been**
 Out of control. Finally controlled under Reagan.
 Still rising, but slower. Going down since 1970's.
9. **Benefits to families getting AFDC welfare are, in most states:**
 Competitive with average wages. At the poverty line.
 150% above the poverty line. Well below poverty.
10. **What portion of the poor get 1 or more subsidized in-kind benefits (eg. food stamps, medicaid, housing)?**
 100%. 60% 40%. 25%.

ANSWERS: 1. — 1/3; 2. — 2/3; 3. — 2 Years; 4. — 2; 5. — 48 cents; 6 - There is no fraud rate. There is an error rate which includes agency errors. 7. — less than 10%; 8. — down since 1970's; 9. — Well below poverty; 10. — 60%

Pay *continued from page 2*

stable. Medical malpractice claims have actually decreased in recent years. In Texas, tort lawsuits (those involving personal injury) have only increased very slightly in the last four years.

Consumer advocates, such as Ralph Nadar's group, Public Citizen, have done research which shows the insurance company's poor insurance practices are actually at fault. In the late 1970's when interest rates were high, insurance companies cut their premiums to get money to invest. They were not concerned with how much they had to pay out in costs, because investment income was high enough to cover their losses. When interest rates began to fall, the companies realized they had to dramatically increase their premiums. They decided to "market the idea that there was something wrong with the civil justice system". This way they could increase their profits and limit their long term liability.

When insurance companies were asked if the requested tort reforms were made would the insurance rates go down, insurers could not promise rates would decrease.

A joint House-Senate Committee of the Texas Legislature, Co-chaired by Mike Toomey (R-Houston), is looking into insurance and tort reform. Attorney General Mattox said he plans to demand that insurance companies open their books to his anti-trust division.

Both the cause of the insurance problem and the effect of the proposed solutions on those who are disabled by accidents, defective products and similar causes need to be closely and thoroughly examined.

"A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death."

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

RESOLUTIONS

Editor's Note: In the last issue of the CTD Quarterly Newsletter, we printed the first half of the resolutions passed at the 1985 Annual Convention. Here, as promised, are the rest of the resolutions passed at that convention. For the sake of space, the whereas sections have been omitted and only the resolution and action taken have been printed. For more information on CTD resolutions see article in this issue.

AC-85-D3 Passed

Submittor: ADAPT of Texas
Subject: Accessible Public Transportation, APTA meeting
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD, before the APTA meeting, send all CTD transportation resolutions to the Texas APTA members and FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT CTD transmit to APTA during its annual meeting in L.A. Oct. 6-11 a package of CTD's transportation resolutions.

AC-85-D4 Passed

Submittor: Ann Williams-Lemke
Subject: Education, post secondary
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD request that the State of Texas Coordinating Board of Higher Education develop a long-range policy that will assure disabled Texans access to programs and services at post-secondary levels for long-range career development to insure that disabled Texans have access to the ever-changing job market.
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: proprietary schools adopt a similar plan.

AC-85-D5 Passed

Submittor: Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association
Subject: Housing, Accessible and Affordable
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD join state-wide efforts to bring about affordable and accessible housing for disabled persons. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: a Task Force be appointed to address this issue.

AC-85-D6 Passed

Submittor: SWAA
Subject: Employment of Disabled Persons
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the President of CTD write the Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker of the House, Attorney General, heads of all the state agencies and other appropriate persons concerning our interest in the employment of disabled persons in the public sector and
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD convey its desire that they strengthen their efforts toward the elimination of employment practice that discriminates against disabled persons.

AC-85-D7 Passed

Submittor: Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association
Subject: Sunset Process
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD monitor the Sunset process of DHS, MHMR and TCD and prepare a position paper on each agency after consultation with interested CTD members to submit to the Sunset Commission and staff.

AC-85-D8 Passed

Submittor: Pat Pound
Subject: Voting
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD and the member organizations work toward successful implementation of state and federal disability voting legislation in cooperation with other entities.

AC-85-D9 Passed

Submittor: Deaf Blind Multi-Handicapped Association of Texas
Subject: Continued support of deaf blind issues
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD continue to be sensitively supportive of issues affecting persons who are deaf-blind and their families and assist them & TRC in the development and implementation of a comprehensive service delivery system which includes a continuum of appropriate life-long services.

AC-85-D10 Passed

Submittor: Gayle Owens, Advocacy, Inc.
Subject: Medical Care Advisory Committee, D.H.S.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the President of CTD write a letter to appropriate DHS staff stating CTD's position that the MCAC consumer representation be increased to the indicated Federal guideline and BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD join with other interested organizations to take action to bring this about.

AC-85-D11 Passed

Submittor: Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association
Subject: Sunset Process
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD convey by letter to the members of the Sunset Commission and the Governor's office its position that accessibility and employment for disabled Texans be included in the Sunset evaluation criteria.

AC-85-D12 Passed

Submittor: MIGHT II of Austin
Subject: Elimination of Architectural Barriers Program
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Coalition of Texans and its member organizations actively support the "Elimination of Architectural Barriers Program" through contact with legislative representatives and other individual advocacy efforts.

AC-85-D14 Passed

Submittor: MIGHT II of Austin
Subject: Transportation
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities encourage its member organizations to work with their local disabled consumer groups to develop the most effective and practical transportation system to meet the varying needs of all disabled transit users.

AC-85-D15 Passed

Submittor: MIGHT II of Austin
Subject: Respite Care for Disabled Persons
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities and its member organizations encourage the Texas Department of Human Services to provide funding and administrative support for the continuation and the statewide expansion of the respite care program in Texas. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: they work with the existing Attendant Care Task Force.

AC-85-D16 Passed

Submittor: MIGHT II of Austin
Subject: Cooperative Involvement
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities encourage its member organizations to work cooperatively with local, state and federal organizations to reach mutually acceptable solutions to the concerns and interests of all disabled Texans.

AC-85-D17 Passed

Submittor: TAD and National Self Help Center for the Deaf
Subject: Interpreters during Legislative Sessions
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD work in cooperation with TAD to encourage the legislature to set up interpreter services for deaf people.

AC-85-F1 Passed

Submittor: Gayle Owens, Advocacy, Inc.
Subject: Transitional Services
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD work with this Transitional Services Task Force in any way possible to bring about better transitional services in Texas that maximize the independence of the disabled persons.
AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: membership of the Task Force include disabled persons.

AC-85-F2 Passed

Submittor: Alan Meyer
Subject: Independent Living Centers - CTD Cooperative Efforts
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: CTD initiate a cooperative program with all the Texas Independent Living Centers to enhance grassroots statewide advocacy and legislative efforts.
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: a Task Force be created to develop strategies for these cooperative efforts.

Welcome CTD's New Members

Deaf Action Center

3115 Crestview
 Dallas, Texas 75235
 Contact: Elizabeth Criswell
 214/521-0407
 214/790-9047 (after hours)

Organized in 1978, the DAC is an agency for Deaf, Deaf/Blind and Deaf/Multihandicapped individuals in the Dallas area.

The Mayor's Committee for the Employment of the Disabled - Corpus Christi

1200 Lantana
 Corpus Christi, Texas 78407
 Contact: David Woolsey
 512/289-6501

This committee promotes public awareness and greater understanding concerning employment of the disabled.

Access Brownsville For A Liveable Environment (ABLE)

700 E. St. Charles, Apt. 902
 Brownsville, Texas
 Contact: Cecilia M. Lipsett
 512/542-8907

The purpose of ABLE is to advocate integration of handicapped persons into society and promote positive and progressive attitudes toward the handicapped in the City of Brownsville.

Dallas Mayor's Committee for the Employment of the Disabled

2121 San Jacinto L.B. 78
 Dallas, Texas 75201
 Contact: Jerry D. Cooper - Chairperson

This committee promotes public awareness and greater understanding of the employment of the Disabled.

Texas Easter Seals Society

4300 Beltway Drive
 Dallas, Texas 75244
 Contact: Adele R. Foschia
 214/934-9104

This organization provides services to persons with disabilities resulting from any cause, including physical, occupational and speech therapies.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

1616 Guadalupe - Room 201 Contact: Pat Spelman
 Austin, Texas 78701 512/870-2527
 Affiliate Member

RESOLUTIONS: How Do We Get Things Done?

(A Message from Frank Lozano, Chair Resolutions and Bylaws Committee)

Advocate organizations take official positions. These positions are presented to appropriate service organizations and supported.

Do you have an issue you think CTD should take an official position on? Does your organization need official support from CTD on an issue?

If so, submit your position or concern by sending a suggested resolution on the form provided in this newsletter to the

Resolution and Bylaws Committee at the Central office. The resolutions will be forwarded to the committee and the committee will recommend action to the Board of Directors.

Your resolutions should be submitted throughout the year—not just at the annual convention. Timing is important for us to act on any issues. We encourage your participation throughout the year.

COALITION of TEXANS with DISABILITIES RESOLUTION FORM

NAME (CTD ORGANIZATION, MEMBER, OTHER) _____ : RESOLUTION NUMBER _____

_____ : DATE SUBMITTED _____

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION _____

 WHEREAS _____

WHEREAS _____

WHEREAS _____

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT _____

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

DATE RECEIVED _____

ACTION TAKEN: PASSED, FAILED, TABLED, OTHER

Return to: CTD Central Office, P.O. Box 4709, Austin, Texas 78765

JOIN CTD — The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to cross disability communication, cooperation and coordination. The Coalition promotes social, educational, 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 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

Individual Member

- Yearly \$12.00
- Life Member \$100.00

- Please send me _____ organizational membership forms
- Please send me the CTD's newsletters on cassette tape.

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to:

CTD
P.O. Box 4709
Austin, Texas 78765

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD) Board

OFFICERS

President

Mr. Bob Kafka, P.O. Box 4709, Austin, Texas 78765
(512) 482-8543, Residence; (512) 443-8527, Office

Vice-President

Mr. Steve Johns, 1500 Marilla, 1C South, Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 254-0901, Residence; (214) 670-4014, Office

Secretary

Ms. Patricia (Pat) McCallum, 815 High School Drive,
Seagoville, Texas 75159 (214) 287-4974, Residence & Office

Treasurer

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