



News

OCTOBER 1986



CTD's 9th Annual Convention in Dallas was, by all accounts, a huge success. "I am re-energized" one of the conference attendees said as she left the workshop on networking, and another was strategizing about CTD's proposed public transit legislation after the workshop on Legislative Lobbying. The Tort Reform and Liability Insurance workshop raised many new issues both for attendees and presentors. "Voting Rights and Voter Registration" focused on ways of enforcing the state and federal legislation.

Resolutions passed covered: funding for human services, handicapped parking fines, deafness designations on license plates, CTD's Long Range Plan; tort reform and insurance reform, retaining TCB, TCD, TSB and TSD as separate state agencies; planning and coordination for services for developmentally disabled persons, public school education and integration, clarifying the transportation component of the Texas Human Resources Code, implementation of the Long Range State Plan for Texans with Disabilities and support for eleven issues identified at the Fourth Symposium on Deafness. A resolution on housing availability was tabled until the next board meeting for rewording. The resolutions will be printed in the next CTD Quarterly Newsletter and copies can be obtained by sending the CTD office a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Board members elected this convention are: Bob Kafka - President, Steve Johns - Vice President, Alan Meyer - Treasurer, Pat McCallum - Secretary, and Betty Huffman, Jim Parker, Willie Mae Clay, Margaret Robinson and Jerry Zenor - at large Board Members. Due to other commitments Jerry Hassell resigned from the Board. CTD Board members remaining on are: Frank Lozano, Donna McBee, and Kevin Tracy. CTD wishes to thank Jerry Hassell, Tom Morrisison, Tom Kimball and Judy Wingard-Westbrook for their dedicated service on the CTD Board.

CTD thanks go out to several other individuals and organizations without whose help this event would not have been the success that it was. Commendations go to: Association for the Disabled, Steve Johns, and DCIL for coordinating and finding all our help; Holiday Inn Brookhollow for friendly accomodations of our needs; Kris Herron and the other volunteers for their able assistance, Linda Cavell and Atlantis/ADAPT for their capable handling of the transportation needs; Ann Jones and The "Big D" Barber Shop Quartet Chorus for the fine banquet entertainment; Barbara Ramirez (Parker) for the excellent cover of our program book; Bonnie Day for our most successful exhibit hall; and last but by no means least, CC Davis and the interreters Chris Mlynek, John Aintablian, Linda Ven Rooy, Kay Branigan, Georgann Pearson and Van Gunn who were, according to the evaluations, the hit of the convention.

DISABLED AND ABLE TO VOTE - POLLING PLACE ACCESS

Federal and State voting access laws will be in effect on Election Day, November 4th. Is your polling place accessible this election? If not please call CTD. We need your information to work on proper enforcement of these laws. Call 512/443-8252 V/TDD.

GOVERNOR WHITE MET WITH CTD AND OTHER
ADVOCATES TO DISCUSS HUMAN SERVICE NEEDS

CTD recently organized a meeting of several human service advocacy groups and Governor Mark White. The meeting, held at the Governor's mansion, was part of CTD's effort to promote better coordination and planning of human services in Texas. Advocates pointed out that there is a great need for interagency planning to eliminate gaps and duplication of services, as well as to maximize Texas' capture of federal dollars. A special study, similar to that done in the area of Education two sessions ago, was discussed as well as on going meetings with the Governor. The need for more emphasis on community based programs, on demographics information and on researched, informed decision making in planning for human services were all stressed. The Governor agreed there was a need for better coordination and agreed to work with CTD and the other groups toward this goal.

GOODBYE TO TEXAS COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF?

That's right... they are at it again. Preliminary staff reports from the Sunset Commission are recommending TCD be placed within the Texas Rehabilitation Commission as the Texas Council for the Deaf, with a status similar to that of the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities. The new Council for the Deaf would advise on TRC's deaf services and the Board of Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) would be combined into the Council. The public hearing originally scheduled for November 7 may well be delayed, as the final staff report will not be finished until then. To get a copy of the staff report and to find out the new public hearing date, time and location call the Sunset Commission at (512) 463-1300. Call on your TDD and see how accessible they are.

FUN*RUN FUN*RUN FUN*RUN FUN*RUN FUN*RUN

CTD is holding our Annual Fun*Run November 23rd from 8am to noon at St. Stephen's School (just off loop 360) in Austin. This year looks to be the best yet with more runners and more sponsors than ever before. We will have rowers and a bike rider as well as the usual assortment of runners, walkers, joggers, skippers, rollers, hoppers and even a few who expect to be crawlers. It's a lot of fun and CTD encourages all our members and friends to come on out. If you can not make it you can sponsor Bob Kafka, our President, with the enclosed form. Be warned though, Bob has been in intensive training and expects to do twenty laps.



Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

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