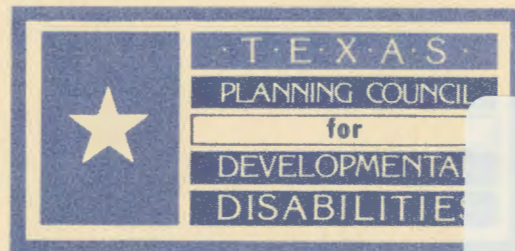


# PRIORITY SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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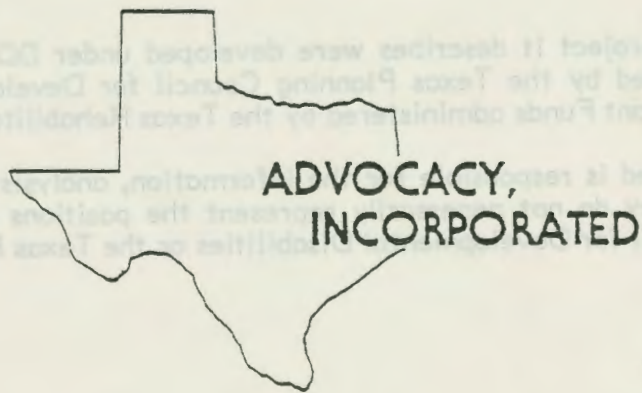


Resource Center On Independent Living  
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DISABILITY

# PRIORITY SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

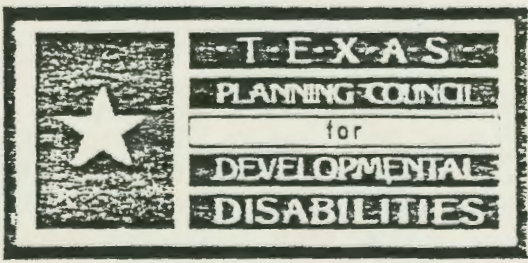
A PROJECT OF  
ADVOCACY, INCORPORATED



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DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
FOR PERSONS WITH  
PRIORITY SERVICES

A PROJECT OF  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report and the project it describes were developed under DD Grant #31P4 awarded to Advocacy, Incorporated by the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities from Texas DD Formula Grant Funds administered by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

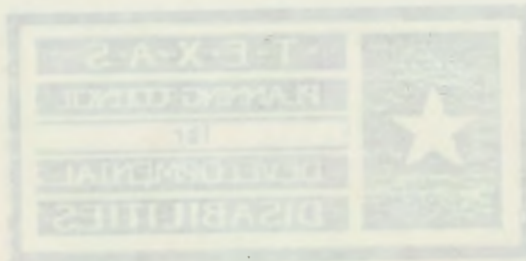
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## APPRECIATION

Our special thanks to:

### The Local Arrangements Coordinators -- Appendix IV

The ten who volunteered so many hours to arrange facilities, interpreters, transportation, registration, refreshments and publicity for all the local forums.

### The Hearing Panel Members -- Appendix V

The 88 who represented DD Council members, state agencies, Legislators, Aides, Legislative Study Committees, the Council on Disabilities and the Texas Health and Human Services Coordinating Council. They listened with patience and interest and their questions were of great assistance in helping the persons giving testimony.

### The Persons Giving Testimony -- Appendix VI

The 209 persons who presented written and oral testimony at the local Forums. Their information, ideas, and recommendations on the priority needs of persons with developmental disabilities are invaluable. We hope the summaries in this report do them justice.

### The Participants

The 820 who completed the Registration and Questionnaire Forms either at the Forums or by mail. We hope their information, summarized in this report, will help them advocate for their own priorities and participate more effectively in the network of individuals, organizations and agencies interested in promoting effective and appropriate services for Texans with developmental disabilities.



# Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities

Joellen Simmons  
Executive Director

Becky Brandon  
Chairman

Lee Veenker  
Vice-Chairman

Dear Reader:

On behalf of the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities and Advocacy, Incorporated, I am proud to share this report on "Priority Services for Persons with Developmental Disabilities." The report is the product of a year of effort to conduct a statewide series of Public Forums to gather information about the needs of Texans with developmental disabilities.

What began as a simple goal in our State Plan "to obtain input from consumer groups, citizens, service providers and elected officials" grew into a project that involved more than a thousand Texans. This final report summarizing current service needs in Texas is one major outcome of the project. Other important results include increased awareness of Council activities in all regions of the state and the opportunities for networking among consumers, providers, and state officials presented by the Public Forum experience.

The success of the Forum project is due to the efforts of many. A special thanks is extended to the Advocacy, Incorporated project staff, David Sloane, Fran Hornung, and Nanci Gibbons, for their efforts in coordinating the Forums; and to the Council staff, especially Robbie Davis who assisted in many aspects of the project. I would also like to thank those Council members who served on local hearing panels, and finally, to Lee Veenker, Vice-Chairman of the Council, who gave generously of her time in the planning and implementation of the project.

The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities has achieved its initial goal of holding Public Forums and gathering information about the service needs of Texans with developmental disabilities. The Council now will begin to develop strategies to address these needs through advocacy, improved planning, and increasing coordination with other agencies. Your comments and input are appreciated as we work together to provide quality services to all Texans with developmental disabilities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Becky Brandon".

Becky Brandon  
Chairman

mgh

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1983, the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities in conjunction with Advocacy, Inc. began planning for a statewide series of Public Forums. The goals of the Forums were to solicit public testimony on the service needs of Texans with developmental disabilities and to promote awareness about the DD Program.

Ten Public Forums were held in cities representing every region of the state. More than 800 Texans participated in the project and over 200 persons presented written or oral testimony to local hearing panels made up of DD Council members, state agency representatives, legislators and legislative aides.

When participants ranked the importance of the four priority service areas authorized under the DD Program, the majority identified the need for more alternative community living arrangement services. Persons providing testimony called for long-term, community-based residences, particularly for persons with chronic, severe and multiple disabilities. They also identified the need for attendant care as a residential support service.

Testimony offered on behalf of persons with disabilities who are living at home focused on the need for family support services, primarily in the areas of respite care, day programming and transportation.

Participants also identified needs in other priority service areas. In the area of nonvocational social-developmental services, participants recognized the need for a variety of services which help people perform daily living and leisure time activities, including continuing education programs, voluntary self-help groups and transitional services for persons "aging out" of public schools.

Testimony in the area of case management focused on the need for more systematic individualized matching of clients with services and more coordination and cooperative planning by state agencies and organizations providing services.

Testimony in the area of child development called for provision of statewide early intervention services for all children with developmental disabilities, and made specific recommendations to public and private education programs regarding students with developmental disabilities.

Finally, participants in the Public Forums were given an opportunity to identify "other" concerns. The need for vocational training and employment services was mentioned repeatedly as the largest category of "other" responses. Specific recommendations included increased funding to public schools for vocational and on-the-job training for special education students and removing work disincentives from federal and state assistance programs serving persons with developmental disabilities.

Overall, the DD Council and Advocacy, Inc. have found that Texans across the state would like the DD Program to continue its funding, advocacy and planning activities in the area of alternative community living arrangement services. Information and testimony in the remaining priority service areas and miscellaneous categories indicate that Texans participating in the Forum Project also are concerned about a variety of areas including, but not limited to, statewide early intervention services, continuing education, transportation, vocational training and employment, and improved statewide planning on behalf of persons with developmental disabilities.



## BACKGROUND

### Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities

The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities (DD Council) is a federal-state program established in Texas in 1971 whose mission is to improve the lives of persons with developmental disabilities by providing needed services in the least restrictive environment possible.

Legislation for the DD Program was originally enacted in 1963 as P.L. 88-164, the Mental Retardation Facilities Construction Act, and subsequently was amended by Public Laws 91-517, 94-103, 95-602, and 97-35 and is now known as the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act).

In 1983, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1985. This act establishes the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities as the DD Program in Texas law and also protects the rights of persons with developmental disabilities in the state.

The DD Program is a major source of funding for planning, research, and service delivery project grants. In addition, the DD Council engages in planning activities to produce a State Plan for Texans with Developmental Disabilities. Finally, the DD Council advocates on behalf of persons with developmental disabilities through participation in policy making and legislative activities.

### Advocacy, Incorporated

Advocacy, Inc. is congressionally mandated to be the state protection and advocacy system for persons with developmental disabilities under P.L. 95-602, the DD Act. Advocacy, Inc., protects and advocates for the legal and human rights of persons with developmental disabilities through: education and training services, systems advocacy and legal and protective services.

### What are Developmental Disabilities?

Developmental disabilities are defined as severe, chronic disabilities attributed to mental or physical impairments manifested before age 22, which cause substantial limitations in at least three areas of major life activities, and result in the need for services over an extended period of time. Possible limitations may occur in the areas of self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, and economic independence.

## INTRODUCTION

In September, 1983 the DD Council awarded a grant to Advocacy, Inc., to conduct a series of ten Public Forums to gather information about the needs of persons with developmental disabilities across the state. Special emphasis was placed on obtaining information about needs for alternative community living arrangement services and nonvocational social-developmental services, the two priority service areas selected by the DD Council for funding for 1984-86.

### Goals of the Public Forum Project

There were three major goals of the Public Forums:

1. To conduct a series of public hearings and a mail response campaign to gather information on service needs;
2. To develop reports on selected issues; and
3. To expand networking efforts among all consumer and provider organizations and interested individuals to improve planning and increase input into state policies that affect persons with developmental disabilities.

## METHODOLOGY

### Agenda for the Public Forums

From November, 1983 through May, 1984 a series of ten Public Forums was held. The agenda (Appendix I) for each Forum included an overview of the structure and purpose of the DD Council, a description of the four national priority service areas of the DD Program; information about 1983 state legislation affecting persons with disabilities and time for public testimony about the service needs of persons with developmental disabilities.

### Who Participated in the Public Forums?

Information about the Public Forums was mailed to approximately 2,300 Texans who had expressed an interest in developmental disabilities. They were encouraged to attend a Public Forum, if possible, or to complete a survey and return it to Advocacy, Inc., to provide data for the mail response campaign. Prior to each Public Forum, there was local radio, television, and newspaper coverage announcing its date, time and location. More than 800 persons attended the ten Public Forums. Table I summarizes information about the number of organizations and individuals who attended a Public Forum. Appendix II contains a list of agencies and organizations that registered at Public Forums.

**TABLE I**  
**Forum Participants Who Completed Registration Forms**

<u>Forum Location</u>	<u>Number of Organizations Represented</u>	<u>Number of Professionals</u>	<u>Number of Persons with Disabilities or Relatives of</u>	<u>Number of Advocates/Volunteers/Others</u>
Austin	50	29	24	25
Corpus Christi	20	21	15	13
Edinburg	16	9	25	8
Arlington	38	30	32	12
Tyler	18	36	12	7
Houston	36	28	40	6
Midland	20	21	27	4
San Antonio	18	17	17	5
El Paso	20	26	36	5
Lubbock	<u>15</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTALS	251	262	239	89

## Registration and Questionnaire Form

All persons attending the Public Forums were encouraged to complete a Registration and Questionnaire Form (Appendix III). This form requested information about the persons attending the Public Forums and their opinions about what services are needed in their communities.

All participants were given extra Registration and Questionnaire Forms in their packets. They were urged to distribute these forms to persons who could not attend the Forum but might want to respond. The form was also reproduced in the newsletters of several organizations. Notably, Advocacy, Inc. received a number of Questionnaires that had been duplicated in the United Cerebral Palsy newsletter.

As a result of these efforts, a total of 820 Registration and Questionnaires, including 230 mail-ins, were completed from November, 1983 through May, 1984.

### Persons Completing Registration Form: (820 unduplicated responses)

Professionals working with persons with developmental disabilities	377
Persons with disabilities or their relatives	333
Volunteers and Advocates for persons with developmental disabilities	43
Legislators and legislative aides	13
Other professionals	<u>54</u>
	820

The information presented in this report represents unduplicated and error free responses only. Duplication was eliminated by alphabetizing all forms by registrant name and counting only one response. If a response to any section on the Questionnaire was incorrect, the response for that section was not included. Examples of incorrect responses which were discarded are:

1. Checking three out of five items as priorities but failing to rank their order #1, #2 or #3 as required.
2. Ranking only two priority items when required to rank four items in priority order.

## NATIONAL PRIORITY SERVICE AREAS

The DD Act requires each state DD Council to provide priority services. The DD Act allows states to select up to two priority service areas for grant funding. The four possible priority service areas are case management services, child development services, alternative community living arrangement services and nonvocational social-developmental services.

- o Case Management Services: services which help persons with developmental disabilities to get social, medical, educational and other services. Example: information and referral services for families of persons with developmental disabilities.
- o Child Development Services: services which help prevent, identify and lessen developmental disabilities in children. Examples: infant/parent home training programs, education of health professionals in understanding developmental disabilities.
- o Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services: services which help people with developmental disabilities to have places to live in the community. Examples: chore service, foster care, respite care.
- o Nonvocational Social-Developmental Services: services which help persons with developmental disabilities to perform daily living and work activities. Example: programs which teach independent living and prevocational skills.

### Statewide Rankings of National Priority Service Areas

Persons attending the Public Forums were asked to rank each of the national priority service areas in order of importance to persons with developmental disabilities in their communities.

Table 2 shows how these service areas were ranked by individuals statewide, the weighted score for each priority service area, and the overall ranking of each area compared to the others.

The statewide results show that Public Forum participants ranked alternative community living arrangements as being most important in their communities. This is true for both the rankings by individuals and for the weighted scores.

For the remaining priority service areas, it is important to examine both the weighted scores and the individual rankings. Nonvocational social-developmental services ranked second and case management services ranked third. However, as Table 2 illustrates, the weighted scores for these priority areas were very similar. Child development services ranked fourth in both the overall ranking and weighted scores.

TABLE 2

Statewide National Priority Service Area Rankings  
(591 correct and unduplicated individual responses)

	No. of times ranked 1	No. of times ranked 2	No. of times ranked 3	No. of times ranked 4	Weighted Score <sup>1</sup>	Overall Rank
Case Management Services	132	137	183	142	1447	3
Child Development Services	134	85	130	233	1284	4
Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services	230	151	112	91	1688	1
Nonvocational Social- Developmental Services	94	215	165	117	1468	2
Other	1	3	1	8	23	5

Local Rankings of National Priority Service Areas

The results change somewhat when they are examined by Public Forum location. Table 3 shows priorities for services may be different depending on where one lives in Texas.

Table 3 also shows the majority of Public Forum participants at all locations ranked alternative community living arrangement services as either a first or second priority. It is, however, interesting to note that participants in Edinburg, a city in the Rio Grande Valley, ranked child development services as a first priority while respondents in Midland, a city in West Texas, and Lubbock, a city in the Panhandle region, ranked case management services as being the number one priority for their areas.

<sup>1</sup>Weighted Scores The ranking of #1 was multiplied by 4; the ranking of #2 was multiplied by 3; the ranking of #3 was multiplied by 2; and the ranking of #4 was multiplied by 1. The total weighted score for a priority service (i.e., Case Management Services) is calculated by adding the weighted scores of each ranking.

TABLE 3

A Comparison of State and Local Priority Rankings<sup>2</sup>

National Priority Service Areas	Priority Rank Numbers										
	Statewide All Forums	Corpus Christi	Edinburg	Arlington	Tyler	Houston	Midland	San Antonio	El Paso	Lubbock	
o Case Management Services	3	4	3	2	3	3	1	3	3	1	
o Child Development Services	4	2	1	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	
o Alternative Community Living Services	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	
o Nonvocational Social-Developmental Services	2	3	4	3	2	2	4	2	2	3	
o Other	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	

Other Service Areas Identified

Thirteen persons selected "Other" as a priority and identified various specific services. Table 4 shows participants in the Public Forums identified needs for vocational training and employment services (7), transportation (1), public information programs to improve community acceptance of persons with developmental disabilities (2), and opportunities for socialization and recreation (2).

<sup>2</sup> Austin Forum — The Austin Forum registration was used to test the questionnaire form and content. The questionnaire was significantly revised and therefore Austin rankings are not included.

**TABLE 4**

**PRIORITY SERVICE AREAS**

**"OTHER" Services**

#1	#2	#3	#4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• transportation services</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• vocational training (2)*</li><li>• public information programs to improve community acceptance of developmentally disabled persons</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• vocational services</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• vocational training</li><li>• sheltered workshops (3)</li><li>• habilitation and leisure activities</li><li>• opportunities for socialization for persons with mental illness</li><li>• follow-up care</li><li>• community living transitional training</li></ul>

\*Throughout this report a number in parenthesis represents the number of times that this need was identified. If there is no number, the need was identified once.

**Public Testimony**

Written and oral testimony was received from 209 persons.<sup>3</sup> Because most people testified about more than one area of concern, a total of 548 needs was identified. In order to more easily evaluate the testimony, identified needs were categorized, insofar as possible, into the four national priority service areas. In many cases a need could be categorized under more than one service area. In those instances, when it was possible, the need was grouped under one of the two current priority service areas of the DD Council, alternative community living arrangements and nonvocational social-developmental services.

Table 5 shows the number of times specific needs were identified and categorized under the four priority service areas or "other" category. Table 5 also illustrates that the greatest amount of testimony focused on the need for alternative community living arrangement services. This corresponds with the rankings of the perceived importance of these services by individuals completing the Registration and Questionnaire Form.

<sup>3</sup> See Appendix VI for a list of persons providing testimony.



**TABLE 5**

Priority Service Areas	Number of Times Identified	Percentage
Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services	349	64%
Nonvocational Social-Developmental Services	68	12%
Child Development Services	28	5%
Case Management Services	38	7%
Other	<u>65</u>	<u>12%</u>
	548	100%

**Testimony for Child Development Services**

Testimony for child development services focused on the need for statewide early intervention services, improvements in school programs, training for parents, play therapy for hospitalized children and improvements in the state Crippled Children's Program. Short summaries of this testimony are compiled below.

- o Statewide Early Childhood Intervention program for all children with developmental disabilities from birth (7)
- o Public or private educational programs that include the following characteristics:
  - operate year round (5)
  - mainstream every child regardless of handicap (3)
  - begin services immediately upon learning that a child is disabled (3)
  - have programs for children with autism (2)
  - have modified classroom equipment and supplies
  - group children with compatible disabilities
  - use American Sign Language to supplement English when this will assist children who do not having hearing impairments
- o Contracts which insure that 1) when the purchase of a wheelchair has been authorized by the Crippled Children's Division of the Texas Department of Health, the chair will be delivered within 30 days; and 2) when it is necessary to have a wheelchair repaired, the repair is completed within 30 days or a loaner will be provided at no cost (2)
- o Training for parents to learn how to participate in writing their child's Individual Educational Plan (IEP)
- o On-site comprehensive Early Childhood Intervention programming for children in residential placements
- o Play therapy for hospitalized children

**Testimony for Case Management Services**

Testimony for case management services varied widely. The largest category of responses addressed the need for individuals with developmental disabilities to receive assistance in securing those services they require. Other responses cited a need for improved statewide planning and coordination by agencies providing services. Specific recommendations

called for establishment of information and referral systems about services for persons with developmental disabilities; establishment of local area planning networks to coordinate and prioritize local needs of persons with developmental disabilities; and development of standards of eligibility for services for persons with developmental disabilities. Short summaries of this testimony are compiled below.

- o Individualized case management to insure that persons with developmental disabilities receive the services they need (9)
- o Formal statewide linkage of organizations that provide services to and advocate for persons with developmental disabilities for the purpose of maximizing their effectiveness and avoiding duplication of services (7)
- o Comprehensive multiagency planning prior to the development of community-based support services (5)
- o Data bank and/or consumer guide that contains information about all organizations and agencies throughout the state that provide services or advocate for persons with developmental disabilities (4)
- o Program to designate a single agency within each community as the "point of entry" for information, referral, advocacy and counseling for persons with developmental disabilities and their families (4)
- o Establishment of a central agency in Texas that would be charged with assessment and placement of persons with developmental disabilities in appropriate facilities (2)
- o Establishment of a consumer office that would 1) investigate alleged abuses in the treatment of persons with developmental disabilities and 2) give information about available resources which provide cost effective and appropriate treatment (2)
- o Program to analyze the major obstacles to the development and coordination of services to persons with developmental disabilities
- o A voluntary central registry that includes information about the whereabouts of persons with developmental disabilities and their capabilities
- o Information and referral services for persons in rural areas.
- o Development of statewide definition of "developmental disability" and standards of eligibility for services
- o Establishment of local area planning networks across Texas to coordinate and prioritize the local needs on a continuing basis

### Additional Service Recommendations

A number of people presented testimony that did not fit into any of the four priority service areas. Some examples of other service recommendations include increasing vocational training and employment services, establishing procedures to screen applicants for employment in programs serving persons with developmental disabilities, changing regulations of federal-state programs and maintaining the current level of services to persons with developmental disabilities.

- o Meaningful vocational training, employment and follow-up services for persons with the following kinds of developmental disabilities
  - mental retardation (11)
  - mental illness (8)
  - autism (2)
  - severe physical handicap (2)
  - mobility impairment
  - hearing impairment
  - learning disorder

- o Sustained, stable programming for current services (11)
- o Community liason workers to link persons in vocational programs to employment opportunities (3)
- o Expanded funding for public school special education programs in the area of vocational and on-the-job training (2)
- o Continuation of the Commission for the Blind (2)
- o State policies, rules, laws and programs which promote competitive employment (2)
- o More flexibility in financial assistance so persons with developmental disabilities may try a job without losing their income if the job does not work out
- o The following changes in the Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC) programs:
  - Acceptance of former mental patients for rehabilitation services
  - Flexibility in the expectations of rehabilitation programs for former mental patients both with regard to achievement of program goals and graduation from the program
- o Statewide demographic study to determine the numbers, locations and types of handicaps of persons with developmental disabilities in Texas
- o Programs that maximize the effective use of volunteers
- o Program to explore the use of music therapy in conjunction with and/or in lieu of medication
- o Procedures to screen applicants for positions for employment in programs serving persons with developmental disabilities
- o Loosening of the regulations that require a designated payee for an SSI recipient to report expenditures
- o Emergency assistance programs which provide shelter, food and clothing in a crisis
- o Outreach programs designed to identify and provide services to persons with developmental disabilities who are not being served
- o Increased salaries for certified interpreters in public schools
- o System for teaching fund-raising techniques to persons interested in raising money to fund services for persons with developmental disabilities
- o Program to retrain people who can no longer function in their original occupation because of their disabilities
- o Removal of disincentives to work from the SSI, SSDI and Medicaid programs

### Recommendations to the Developmental Disabilities Program

Some persons presented testimony recommending changes in the administration of the DD grant program. These recommendations are summarized below.

- o More flexibility in the amount of matching funds required to obtain a grant (2)
- o More flexibility in the length of time that grant money is available (2)
- o Use of grant money to establish Local Area Planning Networks with the following responsibilities:
  - to coordinate the local planning of state agencies serving persons with developmental disabilities
  - to review all DD grant requests to insure that there will be funds to continue operating DD programs after expiration of the grant period
  - to clarify and interpret the mission statements of state and local recipients of state dollars in an effort to maximize the local continuum of care for persons with developmental disabilities

## DISCUSSION

Overall, Texans who participated in the Public Forum Project through attendance at a Forum or through the mail response campaign expressed a clear need for more alternative community living arrangement services.

The need for nonvocational and case management services was expressed as a second priority. It is interesting to note that these two priority service areas received similar rankings on the Questionnaire and were mentioned with the same frequency in public testimony.

Finally, participants identified the need for vocational training and employment services even though this is not a priority service area of the federal DD Program.

## TEXAS PRIORITY SERVICE AREAS

One of the primary responsibilities of the DD Council is to select priority service areas for funding under the state DD Program. For Fiscal Years 1984-86, the DD Council has made a decision to continue priority service funding for alternative community living arrangement services and to initiate a new priority service in the area of nonvocational social-developmental services.

Alternative community living arrangement services have been a priority of the DD Council since 1974 because housing and housing-related services are the basic foundation of all other supports provided to non-institutionalized persons with developmental disabilities. These services include not only a variety of living alternatives but also support services such as respite care and primary home care to assist families in caring for their disabled members at home.

Nonvocational social-developmental services were selected as a new priority primarily because the DD Council views these services as a vehicle for providing a broad range of support services to adults with developmental disabilities. It is these individuals who are most likely to fall between the cracks of the existing service delivery systems in Texas. In addition, nonvocational services are aimed at keeping citizens in the community by assisting them to develop to their full potential with regard to daily living and work activities.

### Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services

Alternative community living arrangement services are those services which help persons live in a variety of residential arrangements in the community. These services provide persons with developmental disabilities places to live and opportunities to learn things they need to know to live as independently as they can. Without these services many persons could not live in the community.

Questionnaire respondents were asked to rank the following services in order of their importance to persons with developmental disabilities in their communities.

- o Individualized Living Arrangements. Residential arrangements individualized to meet the needs of the client. For example: family homes, apartments, group homes.
- o Residential Support Services. For example: visiting nurses, chore services, attendant care.
- o Family Support Services. For example: respite care, family counseling, emergency care, day care.
- o Training. For example: staff training, volunteer training, client training.
- o Other. For example: recruitment of providers.

### Statewide Rankings

Table 6 shows how categories of community living services were ranked by individuals statewide. Individualized residential alternatives were clearly ranked as a first priority, followed by family support services.

**TABLE 6**

**Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services**  
(565 correct and unduplicated individual responses)

	No. of times ranked 1	No. of times ranked 2	No. of times ranked 3	Weighted Score	Overall Rank
Individualized Living Arrangements	353	102	63	1326	1
Residential Support Services	40	152	200	624	3
Family Support Services	117	204	146	905	2
Training	44	92	139	455	4
Other	11	15	17	80	5

**TABLE 7**

**A Comparison of State and Local Priority Rankings**

Alternative Community Living Services <sup>4</sup>	Statewide All Forums	Corpus Christi	Edinburg	Arlington	Tyler	Houston	Midland	San Antonio	El Paso	Lubbock
	Priority Rank Numbers									
o Individualized Residential Alternatives	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
o Residential Support Services	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3
o Family Support Services	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
o Training	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	4
o Other	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

<sup>4</sup> Corpus Christi Forum information was invalid because the Questionnaires were misprinted.

**TABLE 6**

**Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services**  
(565 correct and unduplicated individual responses)

	No. of times ranked 1	No. of times ranked 2	No. of times ranked 3	Weighted Score	Overall Rank
Individualized Living Arrangements	353	102	63	1326	1
Residential Support Services	40	152	200	624	3
Family Support Services	117	204	146	905	2
Training	44	92	139	455	4
Other	11	15	17	80	5

**TABLE 7**

**A Comparison of State and Local Priority Rankings**

Alternative Community Living Services <sup>4</sup>	Statewide All Forums	Corpus Christi	Edinburg	Arlington	Tyler	Houston	Midland	San Antonio	El Paso	Lubbock
	Priority Rank Numbers									
o Individualized Residential Alternatives	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
o Residential Support Services	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3
o Family Support Services	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
o Training	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	4
o Other	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

<sup>4</sup> Corpus Christi Forum information was invalid because the Questionnaires were misprinted.

## Local Public Forum Rankings

Table 7 confirms that individualized residential alternatives and family support services are perceived as the two most important community living services by participants at all Public Forum locations.

## Other Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services

Forty-one persons ranked "other" as a priority and made specific recommendations. Table 8 illustrates, the perceived need for employment-related services as expressed by Forum participants. Other recommendations included transportation and recruitment of service providers.

**TABLE 8**

ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY LIVING ARRANGEMENT SERVICES

"OTHER" Services

#1	#2	#3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• employment services including sheltered workshops (4)*</li><li>• transportation services</li><li>• research clinics</li><li>• stable permanent state school programs</li><li>• parent education</li><li>• transitional services for persons aging out of public schools</li><li>• direct financial aid to developmentally disabled persons</li><li>• homes for severely handicapped persons with normal IQ's</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• vocational training and employment services (5)</li><li>• recruitment of providers of services to developmentally disabled persons (2)</li><li>• case management services</li><li>• individualized services and support groups for persons with mental illness</li><li>• day activity programs</li><li>• transportation services</li><li>• community supported residential facilities for persons with mental illness</li><li>• financial programs and other services that provide support for families caring for a developmentally disabled member</li><li>• community support services</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• transportation services (5)</li><li>• vocational training and employment services (4)</li><li>• recruitment of providers of services to developmentally disabled persons (4)</li><li>• recreational/leisure time activities</li><li>• fund raising techniques</li><li>• case management services</li><li>• more permanent services</li></ul>

\*A number in parenthesis represents the number of times that this need was identified. If there is no number, the need was identified once.

## Public Testimony

Table 9 shows the number of times specific needs were identified under categories of alternative community living arrangement services.



**TABLE 9**

<u>Service</u>	<u>Number of Times Identified</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Individualized Residential Alternatives	158	45%
Residential Support Services	30	9%
Family Support Services	127	36%
Training	24	7%
Other	10	3%
	<u>349</u>	<u>100%</u>

This table shows the greatest amount of testimony focused on the need for individualized residential alternatives and family support services. This corresponds with the rankings of the perceived importance of services by individuals who completed the Registration and Questionnaire Form.

The following is a summary of the written and oral testimony that was received regarding the needs of persons with developmental disabilities in the area of alternative community living arrangement services.

**Individualized Residential Alternatives**

In general, persons offering testimony expressed the need for long term community-based residential alternatives for persons with severe and multiple disabilities. In addition, they identified gaps in the continuum of residential services for specific at-risk groups, such as young children and older people with developmental disabilities.

- o Residential options<sup>5</sup> for persons with the following disabilities:
  - chronic mental illness (24)
  - severe or profound mental retardation (15)
  - autism (13)
  - mental retardation with serious behavioral problems (6)
  - mild mental retardation (6)
  - severe physical handicaps and normal or near normal intelligence (5)
  - head injuries (4)
  - multihandicapping conditions (4)
  - mental retardation with serious medical problems (2)

<sup>5</sup> "Residential options" is defined as community-based foster homes (up to 6 persons); group homes (6-8 persons); or apartments/single family dwellings (up to 4 persons). Depending on individual needs, these options would include live-in or shift staff; frequent intensive support services; or infrequent, routine support services.

- o Residential options for persons with developmental disabilities in the following circumstances:
  - being discharged from state schools, state hospitals or state prisons (5)
  - aging out of public schools (3)
  - under the conservatorship of the Texas Department of Human Resources and turning 18 years of age
  - young children
  - adolescents
  - elderly
  - having IQ's too high to qualify for ICF-MR I facilities
  - being abused or neglected
  - not qualifying for SSI and Medicaid
- o Residential options that include the following components:
  - accessibility (13)
  - subsidized payment program to assist clients and/or their families to pay for residential services (3)
  - operate 24 hours a day from Monday through Friday and teach daily living skills (3)
  - permanence and stability (2)
  - long term program to stabilize medication
  - symbiotic arrangements between persons with developmental disabilities and elderly persons
  - subsidy to hold a resident's bed while he/she is in the hospital
  - room enough for families
- o A continuum of residential options which encourages an individual to progress from dependent to semi-independent to independent living (11)
- o Expansion and enhancement of the state school programs (11)
- o Fiscal and regulatory incentives to develop private residential options (3)
- o Flexibility in licensing residential options, particularly those that care for persons with developmental disabilities and severe medical or behavioral problems (3)
- o Passage of a statewide zoning law which would prohibit "zoning out" of small residential options for persons with developmental disabilities (3)
- o A program to study and/or pilot ways that facilities can comply with applicable standards and at the same time do less paperwork (2)
- o A continually updated list of available, accessible housing (2)
- o A program which makes available to communities information regarding model residential options and potential resources for implementing them
- o A pilot program to determine whether community-based facilities are practical for persons with severe and profound retardation
- o Licensing by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation of all residential options for persons with developmental disabilities
- o Supervised apartments

### Residential Support Services

Within residential support services, the need for affordable, dependable attendant care was expressed repeatedly.

- o Dependable attendant and shared attendant care (19)
- o A program that makes available the most recent technological developments to promote self-help (e.g. visual smoke alarms, telecommunications systems, closed caption adapters) (5)

- o Development of systems which locate, train, and supervise attendants (3)
- o In-home training program
- o Symposium for agencies and organizations that are potential funding sources for attendant care services for the purpose of dealing with issues related to selection, matching, and training of attendants
- o Expansion of TRC direct case service money to provide short term services or equipment that would enable persons with developmental disabilities to live more independently

### Family Support Services

Participants repeatedly identified the need for respite care, transportation, day programming and leisure time activities for family members with developmental disabilities. Participants also called for additional medical, dental and psychological services.

- o Affordable respite/emergency care for persons of all ages (23)
- o Reliable, accessible and affordable transportation services (22)
- o Affordable or subsidized day care, afterschool care and evening care (12)
- o Day activity programs that promote socialization and self-help and teach pre-vocational and vocational skills (11)
- o Day activity programs for persons with the following developmental disabilities:
  - mental retardation (9)
  - mental illness (2)
  - autism
  - brain injury
  - epilepsy
  - severe physical handicaps
- o Sheltered workshops (9)
- o Programs to help families understand and adjust to their family member with a developmental disability (7)
- o Innovative family support services (6)
- o Modification of existing housing, employment and recreational resources to make them accessible (6)
- o Affordable and accessible counseling and psychiatric services for persons with developmental disabilities and their families (3)
- o Affordable and accessible diagnostic, assessment and treatment services (3)
- o Affordable medical and dental care (2)
- o Larger parking places for the disabled (2)
- o Day activity programs for elderly persons with developmental disabilities
- o Enforcement of laws and regulations regarding accessibility of housing, employment and recreational resources
- o Waiver of additional license fees for vans in instances where persons with handicaps must have vans to transport their wheelchairs
- o Financial assistance to families caring for family members with developmental disabilities
- o In-home assistance in providing for the personal care of family members with developmental disabilities
- o Parent-to-parent network support groups for families with children with developmental disabilities

## Training

Participants called for public awareness programs about developmental disabilities and training for students and professionals who provide services to persons with developmental disabilities.

- o Training programs to enhance public acceptance of persons with developmental disabilities residing in community settings:
  - programs to inform the public about the needs of persons with developmental disabilities (9)
  - programs to assist the public to understand the changing national philosophy toward serving persons with developmental disabilities in the community
  - programs to alert the public to early signs of mental illness
  - programs to inform the public about how to prevent mental retardation
  - programs to inform non-handicapped students about their peers who are handicapped
- o Training programs to enable professionals to work more effectively with persons with developmental disabilities:
  - programs to educate professionals serving persons with developmental disabilities about the needs of this population (5)
  - additional training requirements for special education teachers and regular classroom teachers who have children with developmental disabilities mainstreamed into their classrooms (5)
  - programs to train key persons within a community to evaluate the services available to persons with developmental disabilities and plan appropriate solutions to gaps they identify

## Other Recommendations for Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services

These recommendations primarily focused on the perceived need for the changes in state policies in the Medicaid ICF-MR program which is administered through the Texas Department of Human Resources.

- o Deletion of the "6 bed or less" rule for establishing new ICF-MR facilities (4)
- o A program to explore new funding sources for obtaining alternative community living arrangement services (3)
- o Equalization of the daily rate paid to private ICF-MR facilities and state schools offering the same level of care (2)
- o Provision for continued reimbursement by the Texas Department of Human Resources to ICF-MR facilities when clients are not in residence for more than 72 hours (2)

## DISCUSSION

Almost half of the persons providing testimony in this area called for more community based, individualized residential alternatives. The need for these services was also reflected strongly in the Questionnaire results. Participants stated that persons with chronic mental illness, severe and profound retardation, autism and other multiple handicaps are currently in need of residential services. Many who testified observed that persons with developmental disabilities are particularly vulnerable during transitional periods such as graduation from school and when they are discharged from state institutions.

Finally, the need for family and residential support services such as respite care and attendant care was expressed.

## NONVOCATIONAL SOCIAL-DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Many persons with developmental disabilities face barriers to living independently in the community. Nonvocational social-developmental services are those services that help people to perform daily living and work activities.

Respondents to the Registration and Questionnaire form were asked to rank the following services in order of their importance to persons with developmental disabilities in their communities.

- o Daily Living Skills. For example: grooming and personal hygiene, meal planning, purchasing and food preparation, money management and budgeting, mechanical or computerized devices for living at home.
- o Coping with Social Situations. For example: communication skills, simple etiquette, relationship to authority, parenting.
- o Community Resources. For example: public transportation, medical and dental clinics, social security office, vocational rehabilitation office, employment commission.
- o Prevocational Skills. For example: continuing education, transitional services -- school age to adult, computer literacy.
- o Leisure Time. For Example: arts and crafts, television, radio, organized sports, volunteer work, fine arts.
- o Community Rights and Responsibilities. For example: voting, jury duty, self advocacy.
- o Other. (please explain)

**TABLE 10**

**Statewide Rankings of Nonvocational Social-Developmental Services**  
(630 correct and unduplicated individual responses)

	No. of times ranked 1	No. of times ranked 2	No. of times ranked 3	Weighted Score	Overall Rank
Daily Living Skills	299	134	82	1247	1
Coping with Social Situations	76	172	161	733	3
Community Resources	147	167	151	926	2
Prevocational Skills	87	111	136	619	4
Leisure Time	8	27	78	156	5
Community Rights and Responsibilities	5	19	21	74	6
Other	8	—	1	25	7

Statewide Rankings

Table 10 shows how categories of nonvocational social-developmental services were ranked by individuals statewide. Daily living skills were clearly ranked as a first priority, followed by accessing community resources and coping with social situations.

Local Public Forum Rankings

Table 11 confirms that daily living skills and accessing community resources are perceived as the two most important nonvocational services by participants at all Public Forum locations.

**TABLE 11**

A COMPARISON OF STATE AND LOCAL PRIORITY RANKINGS

Nonvocational Social-Developmental Services <sup>6</sup>	Statewide All Forums	Corpus Christi	Edinburg	Arlington	Tyler	Houston	Midland	San Antonio	El Paso	Lubbock
o Daily Living	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
o Coping with Social Services	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3
o Community Resources	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	2
o Prevocational Skills	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
o Leisure Time	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	5
o Community Rights	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	6
o Other	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

<sup>6</sup> Corpus Christi Forum information was invalid because the Questionnaires were misprinted.

Other Nonvocational Social-Developmental Services

Nine persons selected "other" as a priority in their communities. Table 12 shows that seven persons mentioned vocational training and assistance in finding employment as a key priority for persons with developmental disabilities. One person listed parent training about procedures for obtaining limited guardianship and another called for measures to insure the protection and security of persons with developmental disabilities.

**TABLE 12**

NONVOCATIONAL-SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES  
"OTHER" Services

#1	#2	#3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vocational training and employment services (6)*</li> <li>• protection and security in the community for developmentally disabled persons</li> <li>• training the parents of adults who are mentally retarded in procedures for obtaining limited guardianship</li> </ul>	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assistance in finding jobs</li> </ul>

\* A number in parenthesis represents the number of times that this need was identified. If there is no number, the need was identified once.

Public Testimony

Table 13 shows the number of times specific needs were identified under categories of nonvocational social-developmental services.

**TABLE 13**

<u>Service</u>	<u>Number of Times Identified</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Daily Living	11	15%
Coping with Social Situations	19	29%
Community Resources	—	0%
Prevocational Skills	19	29%
Leisure Time	12	17%
Community Rights and Responsibilities	7	10%
	<u>68</u>	<u>100%</u>



The table shows that the majority of testimony addressed coping with social situations and prevocational skills. This is different from the responses to the Questionnaire, which ranked daily living skills and accessing community resources as the highest priorities.

Persons providing testimony in this area emphasized the need for normalizing recreational and leisure time programs that maximize integration with non-disabled people. The need for individualized educational programs that offer training in daily living and prevocational skills was also identified. In addition, participants called for transitional services for students aging out of public schools and development of self-advocacy and citizen advocacy groups for persons with mental retardation, chronic mental illness and hearing impairments.

The following is a summary of the written and oral testimony that was received regarding the needs of persons with developmental disabilities in the area of nonvocational social-developmental services.

### Daily Living

- o Individualized public and/or continuing education programs that teach daily living skills (10)
- o Incorporation of daily living skills training throughout special education curricula

### Coping with Social Situations

- o Volunteer self-help groups for persons with the following disabilities
  - hearing impairments (9)
  - chronic mental illness (4)
- o Sex education (2)
- o Public education programs which individually address the deficits in the social and adaptive living skills of persons with developmental disabilities (2)
- o Meeting space for organizations that promote socialization of persons with chronic mental illness
- o Interpreters for adults with hearing impairments who want to take courses directed toward self improvement

### Prevocational

- o Transitional services for persons aging out of public schools (10)
- o Continuing education programs that offer academics, prevocational training and social skills training (7)
- o Scholarships to continue the education of adults with mental retardation
- o Development of a statewide definition of "transitional services" for persons aging out of public schools.

### Leisure Time

- o Recreation and leisure time programs that are normalizing in character and that maximize integration with non-disabled people (12)

### Community Rights and Responsibilities

- o Development of self advocacy and citizen advocacy groups for persons with developmental disabilities (6)
- o System for assuring justice for persons with developmental disabilities

### DISCUSSION

In contrast to input in the area of alternative community living arrangement services, there is no clear consensus about what services are needed most in the nonvocational services area. Questionnaire results point to the need for education in daily living skills and accessing community resources. Public testimony identified the need for training in prevocational skills and assistance in coping with social situations. Finally, participants expressed the need for vocational training and employment services, even though this priority service area is specifically nonvocational in nature.

## APPENDICES

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1984 REGIONAL PRIORITY SERVICES FORUM

Sponsored by the

TEXAS PLANNING COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

9:00 a.m.      REGISTRATION

9:30 a.m.      WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

9:45 a.m.      THE TEXAS PLANNING COUNCIL

- \* History
- \* Structure
- \* Role and Purpose
- \* State Services Priorities

10:00 a.m.     TEXAS LEGISLATION AND THE DISABLED

- \* 1983 Legislative Highlights
- \* Appropriations for 1984-1985
- \* The Texas Legislative and Appropriations Planning Process
- \* Planning Priorities for 1985

11:00 a.m. --   THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PROGRAM IN TEXAS  
12:00 p.m.

- \* Staffing
- \* Grants
- \* Planning Coordination
- \* Priority Services Areas

A PUBLIC FORUM ON MAJOR PRIORITY SERVICES

1:30 p.m. --     Hearing Panel Members  
4:30 p.m.

- \* Governor's Appointees to the Texas Planning Council
- \* Members of the Texas Health and Human Services  
    Coordinating Council
- \* Members of the Council on Disabilities
- \* Key Texas Legislators

Public Testimony and Recommendations on:

- \* Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services
- \* Nonvocational Social-Developmental Services
- \* Other Priorities

Agencies and Organizations that Registered  
at the Priority Services Forums

A

Abilene State School  
 Alliance for Mental Recovery  
 American Council of the Blind  
 American Foundation for the Blind  
 ARC\* - Austin  
 ARC - Brazoria County  
 ARC - Corpus Christi  
 ARC - Dallas  
 ARC - El Paso  
 ARC - Fort Worth  
 ARC - Garland  
 ARC - Lubbock  
 ARC - McLean County  
 ARC - Midland  
 ARC - Northwest Harris County  
 ARC - San Antonio  
 ARC - Smith County  
 ARC - Texas  
 ARC Unit 1688  
 Austin Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc. (ARCIL)  
 Austin State School  
 Autism Dallas

B

Baytown Independent Living and Learning (MHMR Project B.I.L.L.)  
 Beaumont State School  
 Beverly Enterprises  
 Bexar County MHMR  
 Ballinger School

C

Cerebral Palsy Developmental Disabilities Center  
 Children's Learning Center, San Antonio  
 Citizen's Development Center  
 Citizens for the Developmentally Disabled  
 Community Action Council of South Texas  
 Community Action of Nacogdoches, Inc.  
 Community Council of Greater Dallas  
 Concepts of Care  
 Concho Valley Center for Human Advancement  
 Corpus Christi State School  
 Council for Deaf Children

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\*Association for Retarded Citizens

D

Dallas Center for Independent Living  
Dallas County MHMR  
Deaf-Blind Multihandicapped Association of Texas  
Duncanville Independent School District

E

East Texas Deaf and Hearing  
El Paso Independent School District  
El Paso MHMR  
El Paso Opportunity Center  
El Paso Social Club  
El Paso State Center  
El Paso State Center Parents Association  
Expanco, Inc.

F

Families Who Have Been There  
Family and Individual Reliance (FAIR)  
Fort Worth Epilepsy Association  
Fort Worth State School  
Friends of Pyramid House

G

Goliad and Horizon ICF/MR  
Goodwill Industries  
Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons  
Green Acres Developmental Center  
Gulf Coast Regional MHMR

H

Handicapped Access Office  
Harris County MHMR  
High Plains Epilepsy Association  
Hidalgo County Headstart  
Houston Center for Independent Living  
Houston City Council

K

Katy Independent School District  
KTVT Channel 11 - Dallas

L

Lancaster Residential Center  
Lufkin State School  
Lubbock Area Extended Rehabilitation Services, Inc.  
Lubbock, City of  
Lubbock Regional MHMR  
Lubbock MHMR ICF-MR I

M

Mayor's Commission for Employment of the Disabled  
Mayor's Committee for Employment of the Handicapped  
Mental Health Alliance  
Mental Health Association  
Mexia State School  
MHMR Regional Center of East Texas  
MHMR Tropical Texas Center  
Midland Association for Children with Learning Disabilities  
Midland College Adult Basic Education  
Midland Opportunity Center Auxiliary  
Mobility Impaired Grappling Hurdles Together (MIGHT)  
Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD)  
Muscular Dystrophy

N

National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Self Help Center for the Deaf/Hearing Impaired  
National Society for Autistic Citizens - Rio Grande Chapter  
Naval Air Station EEO Office  
New Hope Community Living Center  
Nueces County MHMR

O

Opportunities in Tyler

P

Pan American University  
Parents Association for the Retarded of Texas  
Permian Basin MHMR  
Project ABC  
Project Passage, Klein ISD

## R

Region I Education Service Center  
Region IV Education Service Center  
Region VII Education Service Center  
Region XI Education Service Center  
Region XVII Education Service Center  
Region XVIII Education Service Center  
Region XX Education Service Center  
Richmond State School  
Rio Grande State Center  
River Garden

## S

Sabine Valley MHMR  
San Antonio Autistic Society  
San Antonio College  
San Antonio Independent Living Center  
San Antonio State School  
Sequoia  
Skyview Living Center  
Special Care  
Spring Branch Independent School District  
Southplains College

## T

Tarrant County MHMR  
Texas Association for the Deaf  
Texas Council on Crime and Delinquency  
Texas Department of Health  
Texas Department of Human Resources  
Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation  
Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association  
Texas Rehabilitation Commission  
Texas Society for Autistic Citizens  
Texas State Commission for the Blind  
Texas State Commission for the Deaf  
Texas State Legislature  
Texas Tech Medical School  
Thomas Care Center  
Tyler Group Homes  
Tyler Independent School District



U

United Cerebral Palsy of Texas  
United States House of Representatives  
United Way  
University Affiliated Center  
University of Houston  
University of Texas - San Antonio

W

Waco Tribune Herald  
West Texas Association for the Handicapped  
West Texas Epilepsy Association  
Wheelchair and Walker Rentals, Inc.  
Willacy/Cameron Pupil Services Cooperative  
William Beaumont Army Medical Center

REGISTRATION AND QUESTIONNAIRE  
1984 REGIONAL PRIORITY SERVICES FORUMS

APPENDIX  
III

I. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Organization or Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title or Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (8:00 am - 5:00 pm.)

II. Are You: (check all appropriate descriptions)

\_\_\_\_\_ Person with a disability  
\_\_\_\_\_ Person with a developmental disability \*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/guardian or relative of a developmentally  
disabled person; age of DD Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ A professional who works with developmentally  
disabled persons; type of profession: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ A volunteer or advocate for developmentally  
disabled persons  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other  
\_\_\_\_\_ Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\* People with developmental disabilities have severe, chronic disabilities - mental and/or physical - that begin before the age of 22 and substantially limit three or more of the following major life activities: self-care, self-direction, learning, language, mobility, capacity for independent living, and economic self-sufficiency.

III. Further Communication

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to be on the mailing list to receive  
the D.D. Council Newsletter "Highlights"

RETURN TO:  
Nanci Gibbons  
Advocacy, Incorporated  
1006 East 50th Street  
Austin, Texas 78751

The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities has selected the following priority service areas for special emphasis during the next (3) three years.

1. ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY LIVING ARRANGEMENT SERVICES

- Alternative community living arrangement services are those services which help persons who are developmentally disabled to live in the community
- These services provide developmentally disabled persons places to live and teach them the things they need to know to live as independently as they can
- Without these services many persons could not live in the community

After reviewing all the examples below, please choose the three services that you think would be of most value to developmentally disabled persons in your community. Rank them in order of priority, #1, #2, and #3.

\_\_\_\_\_ Residential Arrangements Individualized to Meet the Needs of the Client  
for example: family homes  
apartments  
group homes

\_\_\_\_\_ Residential Support Services  
for example: visiting nurses  
chore services  
attendant care

\_\_\_\_\_ Family Support Services  
for example: respite care  
family counseling  
emergency care  
day care

\_\_\_\_\_ Training  
for example: staff training  
volunteer training  
client training

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please explain):  
for example: Recruitment of Providers

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## 2. NONVOCATIONAL-SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

- Persons with developmental disabilities face many barriers to living independently within the community
- Nonvocational-social developmental services are those services that help people to perform daily living and work activities

After reviewing all the examples below, please choose the three services that you think would be of most value to developmentally disabled persons in your community. Rank them in order of priority #1, #2 and #3.

         Daily Living

for example: grooming and personal hygiene  
meal planning, purchasing and food preparation  
money management and budgeting  
mechanical or computerized devices for living at home

         Coping with Social Situations

for example: communication skills  
simple etiquette  
relationship to authority  
parenting

         Community Resources

for example: public transportation  
medical and dental clinics  
social security office  
vocational rehabilitation office  
employment commission

         Prevocational Skills

for example: continuing education  
transitional services - school age to adult  
computer literacy

         Leisure Time

for example: arts and crafts  
television, radio  
organized sports  
volunteer work  
fine arts

         Community Rights and Responsibilities

for example: voting  
jury duty  
self advocacy

         Other: (please explain)

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PRIORITY SERVICE AREAS

The Developmental Disabilities Act requires each state to assess the service needs of developmentally disabled citizens with special emphasis on four service areas. These service areas are:

- 0 case management
- 0 child development
- 0 alternative community living arrangement services
- 0 nonvocational-social developmental services.

Please review the definitions and examples below and rank (#1, #2, #3, and #4) the service areas in order of importance to developmentally disabled persons in your community.

Case Management: services which help persons with developmental disabilities to get social, medical, educational and other services. Example: information and referral services for families with developmentally disabled persons.

Child Development Services: services which help prevent, identify and lessen developmental disabilities in children. Examples: infant/parent home training programs, education of health professionals in understanding developmental disabilities.

Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services: services which help people with developmental disabilities to have places to live in the community. Examples: chore service, foster care, respite care.

Nonvocational-Social Developmental Services: services which help persons with developmental disabilities to perform daily living and work activities. Example: programs which teach independent living and prevocational skills.

Other (please explain)

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