

# The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities



## CTD Legislative Briefing

January 9, 2017

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

# AGENDA

- About CTD
- Legislative Issues
  - Budget
  - Community Services
  - Children
  - Transportation
  - Economic Disparity
  - Prescription Drug Access
- Partnering Initiatives
- Discussion

## JOIN US!

Every Friday During Session for

### Friday's On the Porch

Talk Shop, Vent and Relax Amongst Friends

Text Chase @ 512-415-9699

For Notifications



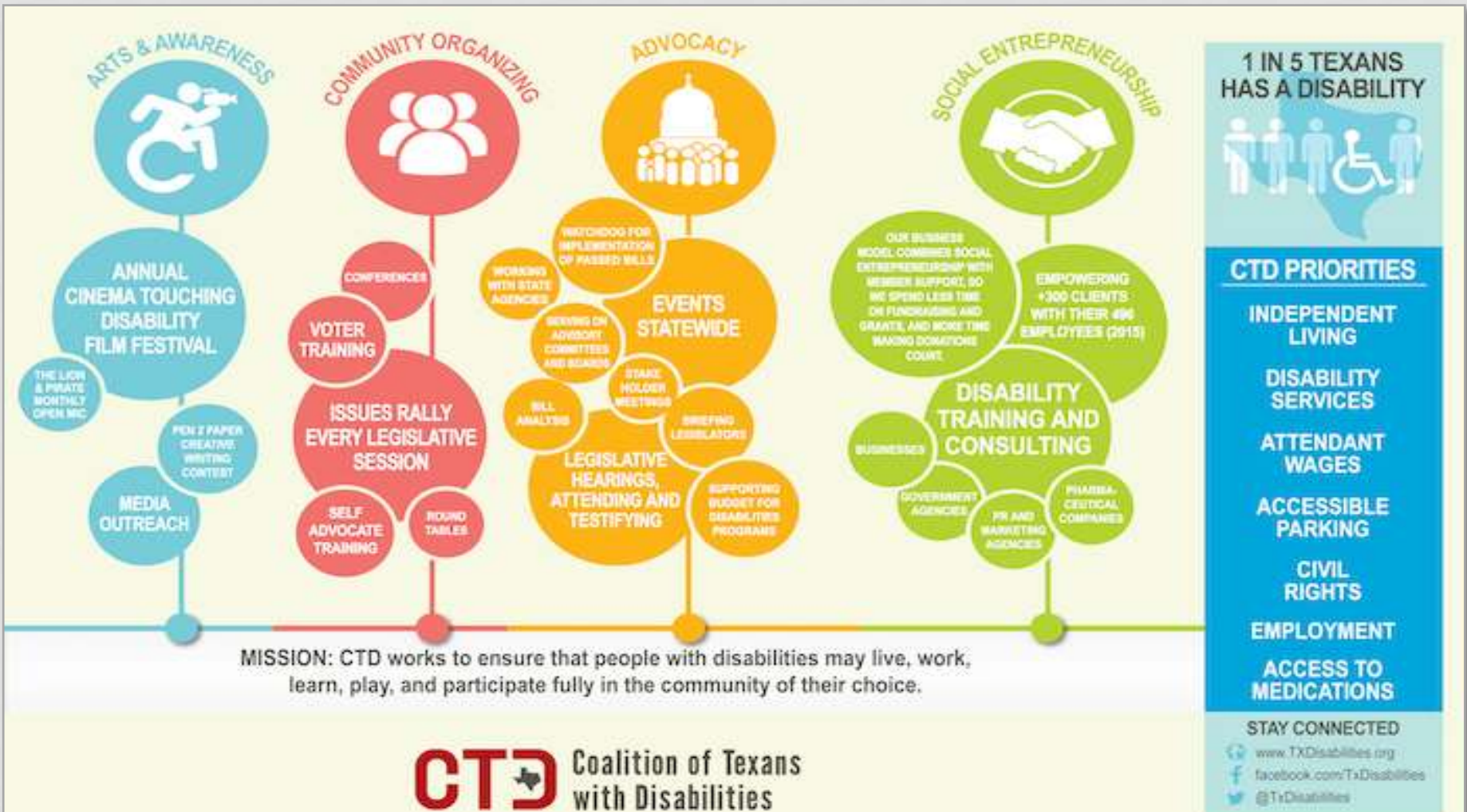
**1716 San Antonio St.  
Austin, Texas 78701**

# CTD'S MISSION

Founded in 1978, CTD is the largest and oldest member-driven cross-disability organization in the state ("cross-disability" refers to all types of disabilities and varying functional needs, rather than a particular disability or subset of disabilities).

CTD envisions a future where all Texans with all disabilities may work, live, learn, play, and participate fully in the community of their choice.

# CTD'S MISSION



# CTD'S ADVOCACY STAFF



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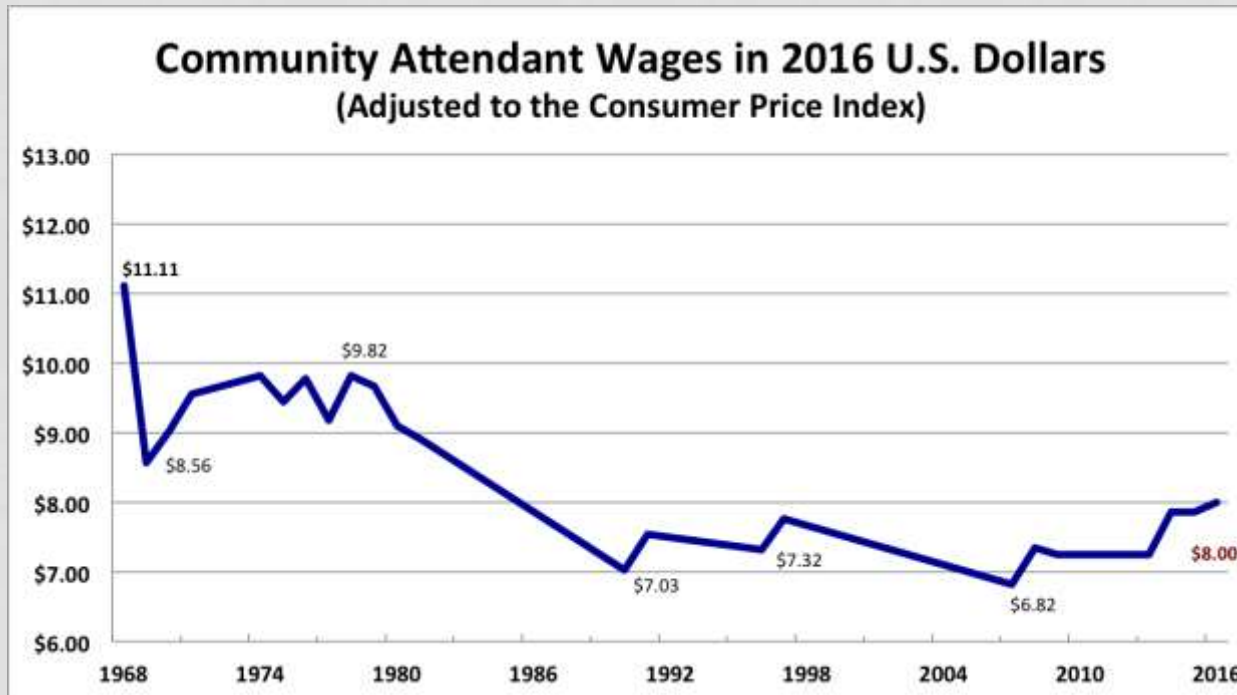
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# BUDGET- CARE ATTENDANTS



- Increase the base wage to **\$10.50** in 2018 and **\$13.00** in 2019
  - Cost is **\$1.25B** in General Revenue (GR)



# BUDGET - WAITING LISTS



June 2016

June 2016 Summary of Interest List Releases

Item		CLASS	DBMD	HCS <sub>1</sub>	MDCP	TxHmL <sub>1</sub>	Totals
Previous Biennium Counts	As of August 31, 2015	54,083	221	73,004	20,540	50,680	198,528
Added This Biennium	New Requests	5,040	188	7,407	3,656	7,284	23,575
Current Interest List Counts	As of June 30, 2016	56,718	114	79,560	18,773	57,824	212,989

The total of Current Interest List Counts in the above table is a duplicated count. The unduplicated count across all five Interest Lists is: **110,019**.

- **HHSC Exceptional Item #15 funding**  
for **19,010** new waiver slots
- **Eliminate** the Medically Dependent Children's Program  
(**MDCP**) **interest list** for kids at Social Security Income (SSI)  
(**\$20M GR cost**)

# BUDGET - PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE



- **500** (HCS) slots for residents of SSLCs and large ICFs/IID
    - **400** slots for SSLCs
    - **100** slots for large and medium ICF/IIDs
  - **236** HCS slots for children aging out of foster care
  - **400** HCS crisis slots for persons at imminent risk of institutionalization
  - **120** HCS slots for the movement of individuals with IDD from state hospitals
  - **40** HCS slots for DFPS children transitioning from residence operations facilities
  - **700** slots for individuals with IDD moving from nursing facilities (NFs)
  - **600** HCS slots for individuals with IDD diverted from nursing facility placement
  - **550** Medically Dependent Children (MDCP) slots for nursing facility diversion
- 3,146 Additional  
Community Living Placements**



# BUDGET - PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE



## Community Living Placements

- HHSC Exceptional Item #14 for **3,146 community waiver slots** for people moving out of institutions or at imminent risk of institutionalization - **\$50.1M**
- Require HHSC to **report any offset of money** saved from high-cost institutions diversion



# BUDGET – RELOCATION CONTRACTS



## Community Based Organizations

- Restore overlooked HHSC budget item for **Transition to Community Living Supports – \$5M**
- Require HHSC to **report any offset of money** saved from high-cost institutions diversion



# BUDGET – EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION



- HHSC Exceptional Item #6 –  
**maintain current caseloads**  
**(\$41.9 million GR/ \$44.8 million AF)**



# BUDGET – COMMUNITY SERVICES



Full restoration of the following programs:

- **Lifespan Respite** for family caregivers
- **In-Home and Family Support** for flexible needs
- **Recovery-based Clubhouse model for mental health peer services**

**All of these are low-cost and proven effective**

- **Funding for the Office of Court Administration's guardianship monitoring to protect rights**

# CHILDREN – RIDER 50



## Medicaid Therapy Cuts

- **Restore reimbursement rate cuts** made by Rider 50
- **Maintain restored rate and increase** reimbursement rate
  - **Ensure access** to therapies



# CHILDREN – CPS & MENTAL HEALTH



## Child Protective Services

- **Decrease CPS staff caseloads**
- **Address foster care** management system

## Mental Health

- **Refocus efforts for mental health services including:**
  - **trauma informed care**
  - **transition services** from primary education into higher education or vocational options



# CHILDREN - EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION



- HHSC Exceptional Item #6 - **maintain current caseloads** –  
(**\$41.9 million GR/ \$44.8 million AF**)

## Additional efforts:

- **Expand eligibility** to pre-2012 levels
- **Increase funding** to serve more eligible children
- **Streamline or eliminate administrative burden** for contractors
  - **Provide additional dedicated funds for providers' staff** :
    - **“Child Find”**
    - **Transition coordination** for pre-kindergarten

# CHILDREN – SPECIAL EDUCATION



- **Eliminate the 8.5% performance indicator**
- **Restore services** and supports to children with disabilities
- Provide **school districts** with **guidance and the resources** to address the current systemic failures
- Implement **meaningful stakeholder involvement** at TEA , Independent School Districts, and individual school campuses

## Bill List:

- HB 363 (Huberty)
- SB 160 (J. Rodriguez)

# TRANSPORTATION – DISTRACTED DRIVING



- **Statewide ban on distracted driving**

(aka texting while driving)

## Bill List

HB 62 (Craddick)

HB 160 (Lucio III)

HB 520 (C. Turner)

SB 31, SB 57 & SB 67 (Zaffirini)

## Not Yet Filed

Cook

Geren

Wu



# TRANSPORTATION - ACCESSIBLE PARKING



**Strengthen accessible parking enforcement, increase public education, and limit placard abuse**

- **Limit access** of overly abused **secondary placards**
- Discuss the **overuse of placards for free meter parking** by those without disabilities
- **Expand** existing **volunteer enforcement** programs
- **Streamline** filing of **citations** –
  - more efficient, accessible, and error free
- **Increase Judges' flexibility**
  - **Education program** versus paying a full or modified fine

# TRANSPORTATION – TNC'S



## Transportation Network Companies

- Include **accessibility** in any legislation pertaining to TNCs
- Include **stakeholder input**
- Adhere to CTD's "**Principles of Accessibility**" in Vehicles-for-Hire ([TXDisabilities.org/transportation](http://TXDisabilities.org/transportation))

### Bill List

SB 113 (Huffines)

SB 176 (Schwertner)

SB 361 (Nichols)



# ECONOMIC DISPARITY – EMPLOYMENT & HUB



## Employment 1<sup>st</sup> and Historically Underutilized Businesses

- Support the **Employment 1st Task Force recommendations**
- Recommend **including entrepreneurs** with disabilities in **HUB** (historically underutilized business) eligibility





# HEALTHCARE ACCESS – PRESCRIPTION DRUGS



- Support **greater access** to a full range of therapeutic options including:



- Strengthen **patient protections** and **transparency** in both commercial and Medicaid programs
- **Limit barriers to access**
  - over utilization of **prior authorizations**
  - **step therapies**
- Improve patient **medication adherence**
  - **prescription drug synchronization**

## PARTNERING INITIATIVES

- **Mental Health Peer Support – Colleen Horton**
- **Health Care – Anne Dunkelberg**
- **Access to Oral Health Care – Beth Stewart**
- **Pharmaceutical: Consumer Protections**
  - **Cam Scott, Greg Hansch, Simone Nichols-Segers**
- **Access to Medicines – Team Santos**

## PARTNERING INITIATIVES

- **The Immunization Partnership- Rekha Lakshmanan**
- **Accessible Parking - Mack Marsh**
- **Texas Forward - Will Francis**
- **State Supported Living Center Reform - Kyle Piccola**
- **Relocation through Community Orgs - Judy Telge**
- **Medical Marijuana - Thalia Michelle, Amy Fawell**

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