Austin Area Resource Guide For Children With Special Needs



Austin Area Resource Guide for Children with Special Needs

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The Austin Area Resource Guide is intended to provide parents with a start in locating resources and services for children with disabilities. It is not intended as a comprehensive listing of information and services in the Austin area and surrounding communities. A listing in this Guide does not imply a recommendation, endorsement, promise, or guarantee of any kind by the publishers or authors. The information in this Guide is not intended to be medical advice. All listings are current at the time of publication but are subject to change thereafter.

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> Cover Art by Alex R. Age 11 Back art by Matt K. Age 7

For more information about this guide please contact: CChIPAG Coordinator at CCHIPAG@seton.org

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Introduction

The Complex Chronic Illness Parent Advisory Group, (CChIPAG) was created in 2008, by a group of concerned parents. They hold in common a profound commitment to the holistic care of their children and to the on-going development of the Palliative Care Program at Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas, at Austin. Each shares their unique experiences while bringing thoughtful and constructive ideas to the table. With a focus on streamlining care within the community, this working group has ongoing projects in parent support, transition services, respite programs, and carecoordination.

CChIPAG produced the Austin Area Resource Guide for Children with Special Needs to provide a broad overview of the myriad of products and services available in our community. We have created this guide to empower parents to make better informed decisions about the care of their children. For some families the resources included in this guide may serve as a first step in the path taken with your child. For others it may present new ideas and new options. Wherever your family is on its journey, we hope that this guide will help you along the way.

> ~the Parent Members of the CChIPAG Steering Committee

INFORMATION RESOURCES

National

Autism Speaks

A national informational and advocacy website that includes sections on science, awareness, and family services, including services for Texas.

Download the **First 100 Days Kit** under the "*Be Informed*" section of the website. Created specifically for families to make the best possible use of the 100 days following a diagnosis.

www.autismspeaks.org

Exceptional Parent Magazine

Published 11 times a year for parents of children with disabilities.

Customer Service P.O. Box 2078 Marion, OH 43306-2178 877.372.7368 www.eparent.com

Family Voices

A national grassroots network of families and friends, which advocates for health care services that are family-centered, communitybased, comprehensive, coordinated, and culturally competent for all children and youth with special health care needs.

2340 Alamo SE, Suite 102 Albuquerque, NM 87106 888.835.5669 www.familyvoices.org

The Fathers Network

Supports fathers and families of children with special healthcare needs and developmental disabilities.

Greg Schell, Program Director Washington State Fathers Network, Kindering Center 16120 NE Eighth Street Bellevue, WA 98008-3937 425.653.4286 www.fathersnetwork.org

IAN Community

An interactive autism community that links the autism community to researchers. Includes research studies, state statistics, and newsletter. www.iancommunity.org

Institute for Patient- and Family-Centered Care

The Institute of Patient- and Family-Centered Care, a non-profit organization, provides essential leadership to advance the understanding and practice of patient- and family-centered care. The Institute serves as a central resource for both family members and members of the health care field.

7900 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 405 Bethesda, MD 20814 301.652.0281 www.ipfcc.org

Mothers United for Moral Support Inc. (MUMS) National Parent to Parent Network

Parent-to-parent network organization for parents or care providers of children with disabilities. Provides a national networking system that matches parents with other parents of children with similar conditions. Publishes a quarterly newsletter.

c/o Julie Gordon 150 Custer Court Green Bay, WI 54301 920.336.5333 or 877.336.5333 (parents only) www.netnet.net/mums

The National Center of Medical Home Initiatives for Children with Special Needs

The goal of this program is to ensure that children with special needs have a medical home where health care services are accessible, family-centered, continuous, comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate and culturallycompetent. Through the National Center (AAP), physicians, parents, administrators and other health professionals have access to educational, resource and advocacy materials, guidelines for care, evaluation tools, and technical assistance.

141 Northwest Point Blvd. Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 847.434.4000 www.medicalhomeinfo.org

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY)

Offers a free package of information about national and state resources, a publication list, and various booklets.

P.O. Box 1492 Washington, D.C. 20013-1492 800.695.0285 www.nichcy.org

National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)

Provides current information on rare and orphan diseases, including newsletters, research information, and networking for members.

55 Kenosia Avenue PO Box 1968 Danbury, CT 06813-1968 203.744.0100 or 800.999.6673 (voicemail only) www.rarediseases.org

Sibling Support Project

Provides publications, training, and technical assistance to help organize peer-support and education programs for siblings of people with disabilities. Conducts workshops throughout the United States for families and service providers.

6512 23rd Avenue NW, Suite 213 Seattle, WA 98117 206.297.6368 www.siblingsupport.org

United Cerebral Palsy Association

Provides general information and an information packet about cerebral palsy.

1660 L Street NW, Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20036 800.USA.5UCP (5827) www.ucp.org

United Leukodystrophy Foundation (ULF)

Provides information, education, and resources for those diagnosed with a leukodystrophy.

2304 Highland Drive Sycamore, Illinois USA 60178 800.728.5483 www.ulf.org http://www.ucp.org/

United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF)

Provides families with information on diagnosis and cure of mitochondrial diseases. This includes family support, research updates and a resource guide.

8085 Saltsburg Road, Suite 201 Pittsburgh, PA 15239 412.793.8077 www.umdf.org

State

Deaf Blind Multi-Handicapped Association of Texas (DBMAT)

DBMAT's mission is to promote and improve the quality of life for all Texans who are deaf, blind, and multi-handicapped and blind, multi-handicapped.

4230 LBJ Freeway LB #31, #340 Dallas, TX 75244 Austin Area Contact: 512.462.1422 www.dbmat-tx.org

EveryChild, Inc.

The mission of EveryChild is to ensure the development of family-based alternatives for

children with disabilities residing in institutional settings or at risk of out-of-home placement and to ensure the availability of family supports needed so children have the opportunity to grow up in a loving, nurturing and enduring relationship within a family.

8400 North Mopac, Suite 201 Austin, TX 78759 877.742.8844 or 512.342.8847 www.everychildtexas.org

Texas Autism Advocacy

An interactive information, resource, and support list for parents and professionals who serve individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders. www.TexasAutismAdvocacy.org

Texas Center for Disability Studies (TxCDS), University of Texas at Austin

The mission of TxCDS is to serve as a catalyst so that people with developmental and other disabilities are fully included in all levels of their communities and in control of their lives. TxCDS consists of an inter-disciplinary team of professionals at the university level, persons with disabilities from state, regional and local communities, statewide services providers and advocacy organizations.

JJ Pickle Research Campus 10100 Burnet Road The Commons Center, Bldg 137, Suite 1.154 Austin, TX 78758 512.232.0761 or 800.828.7839 tcds.edb.utexas.edu

Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TxCDD)

The mission of TxCDD is to create change so that all people with disabilities are fully included in their communities and exercise control over their own lives.

6201 Oltorf, Suite 600 Austin, TX 78741 800.262.0334 or 512.437.5432 www.txddc.state.tx.us

Texas Parent to Parent (TxP2P)

TxP2P empowers families to be advocates for their children with disabilities, chronic illnesses, and other special needs through peer support, resource referral and public awareness. Publishes a regional online resource guide.

3710 Cedar Street, Box 12 Austin, TX 78705 866.896.6001 or 512.458.8600 www.txp2p.org

Texas Technology Access Project (TTAP)

The TTAP provides information, conducts training and technical assistance and works with policy makers to support children and adults with disabilities in their efforts to acquire and use technology as a routine part of day-to-day living.

University of Texas at Austin 4030-2 West Braker Lane, Suite 220 Austin, TX 800.828.7839 (answered by TxCDS) techaccess.edb.utexas.edu

PARENT SUPPORT

Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Program

Candlelighters is a program within Any Baby Can. They serve children with cancer and their families by providing services such as advocacy, counseling, support groups, case management, and family events throughout the year.

Any Baby Can 1121 E. 7th Austin, TX 78702 512.454.3743, 800.672.0238 www.abcaus.org/candlelighters

Caregiver Support Group for Parents and Family Members of Children with Complex Chronic Conditions

Initiated by CChIPAG, this group meets to discuss ongoing issues, including emotional support, for families with children who have children with complex chronic conditions. Professionally facilitated by Jane Dryden Louis, M.A. For times and dates, see contacts below. Ronald McDonald House 1315 Barbara Jordan Blvd Austin TX, 78723 4th Floor Community Room

Contact: Jane Dryden Louis 512.297.5480 or Contact: CChIPAG Coordinator, Kendra Koch 512.324.9999 x86690 CCHIPAG@seton.org http://dellchildrens.net/CChIPAG

Complex Chronic Illness Parent Advisory Group (CChIPAG)

A working group of parents focused on enhancing existing supports and identifying where support is needed. Through education projects, and community collaboration CChIPAG works to meet the needs of the pediatric complex chronic illness community. CChIPAG supports the Caregiver Support Group for Parents and Family Members of Children with Complex Chronic Conditions.

Contact: CChIPAG Coordinator, Kendra Koch 512.324.9999 x86690 CCHIPAG@seton.org http://dellchildrens.net/CChIPAG

Down Syndrome Association of Central Texas

A comprehensive association providing education, advocacy, activities, and resources. Visit DSACT's website for current support group information and locations.

3710 Cedar Street, Box 3 Austin, Texas 78705 512.323.0808 www.dsact.com

Epilepsy Family Support Group

Support and ongoing education for families and children affected by epilepsy and other seizure disorders. Meets monthly at Dell Children's Medical Center. Dinner and Childcare provided. See website for calendar.

888.606.5353 (Epilepsy Foundation) Local Contact: Terri Carriker (SFC Neurology Parent Representative) E-mail: tdcarriker@austin.rr.com www.epilepsyfoundation.org/local/efcst

Family Support Cooperative

The Family and School Support Team for AISD special education hosts the Family Support Cooperative. The Co-Op meetings are open to anyone in central Texas and provide free childcare and pizza, as well as support groups and information sessions on a wide range of topics. Several team members speak Spanish and they provide all materials in Spanish and English.

Contact Rosemary Alexander: 512.414.0955 Alternate: 512.414.2049 or 512.414.0959

Special Needs Neighborhood

Website created by two mothers with special needs children, acts as a user-generated forum for parents to find local resources. www.specialneedsneighborhood.com

Texas Child Study Center

A collaboration between Dell Children's Medical Center and the College of Education of UT to provide evidence-based treatment for children and adolescents with emotional, behavioral, and developmental disabilities. The evaluations and interventional programs are disease-specific for those with emotional and cognitive diagnoses. They provide ongoing assessment and treatment with core mental health services.

1600 W. 38th Street, Suite 212 Austin, TX 78731 512.324.3315 www.dellchildrens.net (Select "Services and Programs" then "Texas Child Study Center")

U.R. Our Hope

Assisting those with undiagnosed or rare conditions at any age and any stage. They provide both support and advocacy to families and their children. Education and Support meetings available. See website for dates and times.

512.288.2812 www.urourhope.org

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial aid comes in two basic forms: private health insurance and government assistance. Your child may qualify for a number of programs offered by federal, state or local government agencies. Many government programs have waiting lists that are many years long. It is very important to sign up as early as possible.

Private Health Insurance

Your employer can provide information about your insurance coverage, or you can call your insurance provider directly. Ask about limits or "caps" on the amount your insurance will pay for the treatment of certain conditions. Some plans have lifetime limits of certain amounts. If your insurance has limits, you can investigate other funding sources such as Early Childhood Intervention Programs (page 24) for therapy and equipment. Use Early Childhood Intervention Programs when you can. Save your insurance to pay for ongoing chronic health problems. In some cases, you can combine private insurance with other financial aid.

Texas Department of Insurance

Helps parents of children with disabilities, who have insurance problems. Offers "What Texans With Disabilities Should Know About Insurance," a free booklet explaining the rights of Texans with disabilities.

To order the booklet, call 800.599.7467 or 800.252.3439 www.tdi.state.tx.us

Health Insurance Premium Payment ReimbursementProgram Health Insurance Premium Payment Reimbursement Program (HIPP)

See page 16.

Acronyms for State Agencies

HHSC

Health and Human Services Commission

MHMRA

Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority

TxDADS

Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services

TxDARS

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (previous legacy agency)

TxDSHS

Texas Department of State Health Services

Social Security Programs

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

SSI provides monthly assistance for children with disabilities. The amount paid is based on your family income, the number of people in your family, and the severity of the disability. Your child can receive up to approximately \$550 a month. Even if your child receives as little as \$1 of SSI, the child also qualifies for Medicaid.

800.772.1213 www.ssa.gov/disability

SSI for Low-Weight and Premature Infants

Many very low birth-weight babies and premature infants can be eligible for SSI benefits and Medicaid from the date of "Intent to File" (also referred to as the "protected filing date") to the date of discharge from the hospital. The people answering the SSI 800 number may not be familiar with this program, so rely on your local Social Security Administration office for help. During your first call, state your "intent to file" for benefits. This will give you the earliest possible eligibility date.

Medicaid Programs

Medicaid, HHSC

Title XIX of the Social Security Act provides certain medical benefits for families with low income or people with disabilities. To qualify for Medicaid in Texas, your child must meet at least one of the following criteria:

· Receive SSI from Social Security

Qualify for benefits through the **Temporary** Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) based
on low family income

• Qualify under the Medically Needy Program (page 16) or

•Receive assistance from one of the three Medicaid Waiver Programs: MDCP (page 18), CLASS (page 18), or HCS (page 19).

These three programs are one type of Medicaid waiver program that waives the family-income requirement and counts the child's income to qualify for Medicaid. 800.252.8263 or 512.424.6500

STAR Program (Medicaid Managed Care)

Mothers and children in Travis and surrounding counties who qualify for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) receive their Medicaid benefits through the Medicaid Managed Care program known as STAR. The STAR Program offers the choice of selecting one of the STAR health maintenance organizations (HMOs). From these choices, the member is required to select a primary care provider (PCP) who coordinates the member's health care. The STAR program includes children with disabilities who are not on SSI.

Amerigroup 800.600.4441 Superior 800.783.5386

STAR+PLUS (Medicaid Managed Care)

Children with disabilities in Travis County and surrounding counties who receive SSI may participate in the STAR+PLUS HMOs or select traditional, fee-for-service Medicaid. The HCS, MDCP, and CLASS programs do not participate in STAR+PLUS. Children with disabilities who have primary insurance through a private insurance provider and secondary Medicaid coverage may choose not to participate in STAR+PLUS.

Amerigroup 800.600.4441 Evercare 888.887.9003

Texas Health Steps, TxDSHS Children and Pregnant Women

If your child qualifies for Medicaid, the child also qualifies for Texas Health Steps, which provides free medical screening exams, dental services, and case management.

For help finding a provider call: 877.847.8377 (877 THSTEPS) or Region 7 (serving Travis County and most of Central Texas): 254.778.6744 ext.2321

Comprehensive Care Program (CCP)

The Comprehensive Care Program is an extension of Texas Health Steps for children under age 21. Services not normally covered by Medicaid can be covered if your medical provider obtains prior authorization or can document on the claim form that a medical necessity requires the services or equipment. Examples of some covered services include unlimited prescriptions for children under age 21, RN or LVN services, medically necessary supplies, such as equipment for tube feeding, diapers for older children, and therapy services. Note: Medicaid and CSHCN (see page 14) pay for diapers and wipes if they are considered "medically necessary" for children over age 4 and sometimes for ages 2-4 depending on the type and severity of disability. Contact a local medical equipment supplier (see page 39) regarding ordering "incontinent supplies". A letter of "medical necessity" will need to be acquired from the physician. In most cases the supplier will contact the physician and then submit paperwork to Medicaid.

Health Insurance Premium Payment Reimbursement Program

Health Insurance Premium Payment Reimbursement Program (HIPP) HIPP is a Medicaid program that pays the cost of insurance premiums, co-insurance, deductibles and other cost sharing. HIPP will reimburse the health-insurance premiums of payroll deductions for Medicaid-eligible persons, but only when Medicaid determines it would be cost effective. The advantage of this program is that members of your family who are not eligible for Medicaid will be covered under your private health insurance plan. If your Medicaid benefits are provided through the STAR or STAR+PLUS program, you can apply for the HIPP program only if you are a member of the Texas Health Network.

800.440.0493

Medically Needy Program (MNP), HHSC

The Medically Needy Program (MNP) is an option under Texas Medicaid. Families who meet Medicaid assets requirements, but whose income is too high for regular Medicaid, can "spend down" into Medicaid eligibility using the family medical bills. The spend-down amount works much like a deductible amount for a private health insurance policy. A spend-down amount is calculated for each month that you have medical expenses. A case can be set up for the month you apply or for the three months before the application month. You must renew MNP eligibility every 30 days. Note: This program can be complicated. If the case worker is not familiar with MNP, ask for a supervisor.

Children's Health Insurance Plan, CHIP - HHSC

The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is designed for families who earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid health care, yet cannot afford to buy private insurance. Families may pay monthly premiums and copays. There is an income limit and an assets test. Note: Also apply for CSHCN Program that will be secondary insurance with CHIP. See page 17.

800.647.6558 or 877.543.7669

Children with Special Health Care Needs Division (CSHCN), TxDSHS

CSHCN provides health care benefits, family support services, and case management to children in Texas with special health care needs (chronic illness and/or medically-based disabilities). In addition, the family must meet specific income limits (except for case management, any income), assets, and residency requirements. The CSHCN income limits are slightly higher than Medicaid (SSI) and the same as CHIP. CSHCN can be used as secondary insurance with Medicaid, CHIP, and private insurance. There is a waiting list for health care benefits and family support services based on urgent need and severity, plus time spent on the waiting list. Once eligible for services, a child may receive treatment and obtain equipment or supplies through a group of physicians, therapists, and other providers enrolled in the CSHCN service program. CSHCN will require you to apply and obtain denial letters from Medicaid and the Medically Needy Program (page 16) of TxDADS before CSHCN will pay for services. This process can be complicated, so be persistent and rely on the CSHCN medical social workers for help. If your family's income is too high to qualify, ask about the "spend-down" program. If your child is on Medicaid, you may still want to apply for CSHCN because CSHCN may pay for a few services Medicaid will not cover. The Insurance Premium Payment Assistance (IPPA) is a program that allows CSHCN to reimburse families for insurance premiums paid to provide health insurance for a CSHCN client. To be eligible for IPPA, a client must have CSHCN eligibility and any type of third party resource. See note under CCP on page 15.

512.458.7355 or 800.252.8023 www.dshs.state.tx.us./cshcn

Medicaid Waiver Programs

Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP)

This Medicaid waiver program provides qualified children with a variety of services that allow the children to live at home. MDCP provides respite, adaptive aids, and supports to enable eligible children to participate in child care. To qualify, only the child's income is considered. A physician must agree that your child meets medical necessity criteria for admission to a nursing home. MDCP is limited to a certain number of children on a first-come, first-served basis. Once accepted, your child also qualifies for Medicaid benefits. Note: Long waiting list.

A number of MDCP slots are reserved for children who reside in Texas nursing homes, enabling them to return home with support.

Telephone number for information and to place a name on the waiting/interest list: 877. 438.5658 Community Care Services, TxDADS www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/mdcp

Note: The MDCP ends when a child reaches age 21. After that the Community Based Alternative (CBA) continues most services, but the change from MDCP to CBA is not automatic. You must apply for CBA separately, but the eligible child will access CBA services directly without being placed on a waiting list. State that the child is reaching 21 and on the MDCP. For more information, call 877.438.3436 (intake line).

Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)

CLASS provides home and community services such as therapies and personal-attendant care, limited nursing care, job training, daily living skills, adaptive aids, psychological counseling, home medication and respite care for persons with disabilities other than the primary diagnosis of mental retardation. CLASS is funded by Medicaid through a waiver that allows participants to live in the community with a degree of freedom and choice. Qualification is based on approved needs. Applicants for CLASS services must have demonstrated needs for, and be able to benefit from, habilitation assistance and support services. Once accepted, the child also qualifies for regular Medicaid benefits. Note: Several yearslong waiting list.

Telephone number to place a name on the waiting/interest list: 877. 438.5658 Community Care Services, TxDADS www.dads.state.tx.us/services/class

Home and Community-Based Services (HCS) Mental Retardation Services Dept. (MRSD), TxDADS (under contract to MHMRAs) www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/hcs

The HCS program is a Medicaid waiver program that provides services to individuals with mental retardation who either live with their families, in their own home, in a foster/companion care setting or in a residence with not more than four individuals who receive services. HSC services include residential assistance, day habilitation, respite, nursing, attendant care, adaptive aids, counseling, therapy, minor home modification, and supported employment. Call for eligibility.

Travis County Austin Travis County Integral Care 512.472.4357

Williamson County Bluebonnet Trails Community MHMR Center 512.255.1720

Hays County Hill Country Community MHMR Center 512.558.2006

Texas Home Living Waiver (TxHmL)

Mental Retardation Services Department (MRSD), TxDADS (under contract to MHMRAs) www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/txhml

The TxHmL program is one type of Medicaid waiver that waives a Medicaid requirement so that a list of services such as respite can be

delivered by someone other than a licensed practitioner (doctor, etc.), and paid by Medicaid. Therefore, the family's income must meet eligibility for Medicaid to qualify. The TxHmL program provides essential services and support so that Texans with mental retardation can continue to live with their families or in their homes in the community. TxHmL services are intended to supplement. TxHmL is limited to an annual cost of \$10,000 per participant. This is a new program and MHMRAs contacts families from the HCS waiting list.

Travis County Austin Travis County Integral Care 512.472.4357

Williamson County Bluebonnet Trails Community MHMR Center 512.255.1720

Hays County Hill Country Community MHMR Center 512.558.2006

Other Government Programs

Division of Blind Services, TxDARS

The Division of Blind Services provides an array of services to children with visual impairments. The services include eye restoration services, eye medical care, parent counseling, educational and training opportunities, and case management. 800.687.7008 or 512.533.7100

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, TxDARS

The mission of DHHS is to eliminate communication barriers and guarantee equal access. DHHS provides communication access, information and referral, and an earlyintervention program. CSD of Texas 877.744.1364 or 512.428.1813

In Home and Family Support (IH&FS), TxDADS

IH&FS provides the funding for yearly grants of up to \$2,500 (MHMRA) or \$1,200 (CCS-TxDADS) to individuals or their families. The family may receive assistance to access services related to their child's disability that maintains or improves their child's ability to live at home/community. The grant monies can be used for specialized equipment, home modifications, medical services, personnel attendants, training and respite. There are income limits (much higher than Medicaid), and co-pays may apply. The two following departments under DADS have the IH&FS program. Note: Waiting lists.

IH&FS Mental Retardation Services Department (MRSD), TxDADS

Under contract to MHMRAs. Serves children under age 4 who have one area of mental or physical developmental delay, age 4 or older, children and adults with mental retardation, Rett's, and autism spectrum disorders. If your child after age 4 does not have the above diagnoses, request MRSD transfer your child's name with original application date to the IH&FS program under DADS Community Care Services. Note: Waiting list. (*This program could be eliminated and combined with IH&FS, CCS-DADS see below.)

Travis County Austin Travis County Integral Care 512.472.4357

Williamson County Bluebonnet Trails Community MHMR Center 512.255.1720

Hays County Hill Country Community MHMR Center 512.558.2006

IH&FS Community Care Services, TxDADS*

Serves people over age 4 with physical disabilities, with or without developmental delay. Note: Short waiting list. Hays, Travis and Williamson Counties 512.908.9435

Primary Home Care (PHC) Community Care Programs

TxDADS www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/phc

PHC provides non-skilled, non-technical, medically related personal care, household

tasks, meal preparation, escort, shopping and assistance with self-administered medication. A physician must order the service and a nurse must supervise delivery. There is an income limit, and your child must be Medicaid-eligible. A case manager will assess the needs to determine eligibility and service delivery.

Hays, Travis and Williamson Counties 512.908.9435

Non-educational Funding (Non-ed) Local School District

Non-educational funds are appropriated to school districts to provide non-educational community-based support services to certain students and their families. Funds are available for eligible students with disabilities who would have to be placed in or who would remain in resident facilities primarily for educational reasons without access to non-educational funds. Support services include in-home family support, respite care, attendant care and family dynamic training. Non-ed funds must be discussed outside the ARD process and cannot be used for educational purposes. Contact your special education department chairperson at the district level. Application required.

Education Service Center Region XIII 512.919.5313 www5.esc13.net/noned

ESTATE AND FINANCIAL PLANNING

Trust funds are private arrangements made by the families of children with disabilities. Trust funds may take many different forms. Parent support groups can usually provide information and sources of help in establishing trust funds.

Advocacy, Inc

Provides handouts on estate planning and guardianship.

78000 Shoal Creek #171 E Austin, TX 78757 512.454.4816 or 1.800.252.9180 www.advocacyinc.org

Arc of the Capital Area

Assists families who qualify with guardianship of a family member with disabilities.

2818 San Gabriel Austin, TX 78705 512.476.7044 www.arcofthecapitalarea.org/guardianship.php

TRANSPORTATION

Medicaid Transportation

Transportation assistance for medical appointments can be obtained for those who receive Medicaid; mileage reimbursement for Medicaid appointments. Call 877.633.8747

Metro Access

Capital Metro offers transportation for individuals with physical and mental disabilities with accessible buses, vans, and taxi vouchers.

Information & Reservations512.478.9647Administrative Office512.389.7480Capital Metro Customer Service512.474.1200

ADVOCACY

Advocacy, Inc

An organization that works to protect and advance the rights of people with disabilities.

78000 Shoal Creek #171 E Austin, TX 78757 512.454.4816 or 1.800.252.9108 www.advocacyinc.org

Austin Resource Center for Independent Living (ARCIL)

Transition, information, advocacy, referrals: ARCIL, Inc. of Austin, Texas provides independent living services to persons with disabilities, their families and communities throughout Travis and surrounding counties. ARCIL also provides services throughout Hays, Caldwell, Comal and Blanco counties at ARCIL San Marcos (San Marcos, Texas), and Williamson, Bell, Burnett and Milam counties at ARCIL Round Rock (Round Rock, Texas). 825 E. Rundberg, Suite E6 Austin, Texas 78753 512-832-6349 or 1-800-414-6327 email: arcil@arcil.com http://www.arcil.com/

Arc of the Capital Area

Provides a variety of services including case management, parent mentoring, guardianship services, and respite. Visit their website for a full list of programs and services.

2818 San Gabriel Austin, TX 78705 512.476.7044 www.arcofthecapitalarea.org

The Disability Policy Consortium

A consortium created to advocate for and advance the rights of Texan's with disabilities. DPC's website offers lists of disability specific organizations and legislative issues.

1016 La Posada, Suite 145 Austin, TX 78752 www.dpctexas.org

EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION (ECI)

ECI programs are free therapy programs provided to children from birth to three years of age. ECI programs are divided by county and then further by Zip Code.

For those in Travis County call the DARS Inquiry Line at 800.628.5115 or go to www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis See ECI providers below:

Travis County

Any Baby Can Child and Family Resource Center

1121 East 7th Street Austin, TX 78702 Referral Number: 512.334.4464 www.abcaus.org

Austin Travis County Integral Care

Infant Parent Program 1717 West 10th Street Austin, TX 78703 Referral Number: 512.472.3142 www.atcmhmr.com

Easter Seals Central Texas

1611 Headway Circle, Bldg. 2 Austin, TX 78754 Referral Number: 512.615.6896 www.centraltx.easterseals.com

Hays County

Hill Country Community MHMR Center ECI Homespun

1901 Dutton Drive, Ste. D San Marcos, TX 78666 Referral Number: 888.827.7063 www.hillcountry.org

Williamson and Bastrop Counties

Bluebonnet Trails Community MHMR Center ECI PRIDE Program

1009 Georgetown St Round Rock, TX 78664 Referral Number: 866.897.7433 www.bluebonnetmhmr.org

EDUCATION

Information

Wrights Law

Wright's Law website has information on special education law (IDEA and No Child Left Behind), advocacy for children with disabilities and a Yellow Pages list of regional resources. www.wrightslaw.com

Texas Education Agency (TEA)

www.tea.state.tx.us

TEA Parent Special Education Information Line

Special education staff are available to help parents with concerns about their child's education. 800.252.9668 For **Texas Education Law**, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Autism Supplement visit:

www.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter089/ch089 aa.html

Advocacy

PATH Project

The PATH Project provides training, information, and support to parents of children and youth with disabilities from the ages of 0 to 26. They assist parents and provide support in area of special education, educational laws, and service agencies at no cost to parents.

Parent Training and Information Center 1090 Longfellow Drive, Suite B Beaumont, TX 77706 800.866.4726 www.partnerstx.org

Austin area contact: Darla Bower 512.642.4226 centxpath@austin.rr.com

Schools

Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

TSBVI serves as a specialized public school for those who are blind, deafblind, or visually impaired. They offer residential programs as well as short-term and summer programs. Community outreach and parent support also available.

1100 W. 45th St. Austin, TX 78756 512.454.8631 or 800.872.5273 www.tsbvi.edu

Texas School for the Deaf

TSD is a specialized, public-funded school for those who are deaf or hard of hearing. They provide services to infants through high school and offer home-based services through ECI, residential programs, summer programs, and continuing education classes.

1102 South Congress Austin, Texas 78704 512.462.5353 (v/tty) www.tsd.state.tx.us

Educational Resource Center on Deafness

Offers information, resources, workshops, and interpreter training, among other services.

800.DEAFTSD www.tsd.state.tx.us/outreach

Statewide Hispanic Liaison for TSD María Muñiz 877.936.5296

Local School Districts Parent Liaison for Special Education

Parent liaisons offer support in navigating the educational system. They are knowledgeable in community programs and local service agencies and often provide training to parents as well as school staff. Note: if your district is not included call the district's main line and ask for the Special Ed Parent Liaison.

Austin ISD

Rosemary Alexander 512.414.2049 ralexan2@austinisd.org

Eanes ISD Caroline Nelson 512.732.9000 ext. 20423

<u>Georgetown ISD</u> Dawn Jennings 512.943.5000 ext 6884 jenningsD@georgetownisd.org

<u>Hays CISD</u> Nancy Payton 512.268.8250 ext 6990 paytonn@hayscisd.net

Leander ISD Debi McNiff 512.434.5377 debi.mcniff@leanderisd.org <u>Pflugerville ISD</u> Joleen Freres 512.594.0159 joleen.freres@pflugervilleisd.net

Armenia Fox armiefox@yahoo.com

Round Rock ISD Candy Squilla 512.464.5980 candy_squilla@roundrockisd.org

Jeane Johnson 512.464.5981 jeane_johnson@roundrockisd.org

THERAPY

All therapy groups included take Medicaid or may be paid for through Medicaid Waiver programs, as well as most major insurances. The following agencies offer a variety of services such as physical, occupational, and speech therapies, as well as some specialized therapies. Contact the agencies for more information.

Austin's Communication Station

clinic-based 314 East Highland Mall Blvd, Ste 204 Austin, TX 78752 512.610.1190 www.austinscommunicationstation.com

Blue Sky Abilities

Home and community-based Includes specialized therapies P.O. Box 151173 Austin, TX 78715 www.blueskyabilities.com

Capital Area Speech

clinic-based 12710 Research Blvd, Suite 395 Austin, TX 78759 512.331.4115 www.capitalareaspeech.com

Capital Texas Speech Pathology Services

clinic and home-based 2525 Wallingwood, Bldg 2 Austin, TX 78746

8500 Bluffstone Cove Bldg B Suite 105 Austin, TX 78759 512.327.6179 www.centraltexasspeech.com

Children's Therapy Gym @ Seton Cedar Park Healthcare

clinic-based 801 E. Whitestone Blvd. Cedar Park, TX 78613 512.324.5311

Children's Therapy Services, PLLC

home-based 1601 Bell Springs Rd Dripping Springs, TX 78620 Austin, TX 512.331.1999 www.homeCTS.com

Circle of Care Pediatric Home Health Services

home-based 23535 IH-10 W Suite 1201 San Antonio, TX 78257 512.615.9004 www.circlecare4kids.com

Dell Children's Outpatient Pediatric Therapy Program, Anderson Outpatient Rehabilitation Center at Dell Children's Medical Center clinic-based

4900 Mueller Blvd. Austin, TX 78723 512.324.0138 www.dellchildrens.net

Evolve Physical Therapy

clinic-based 1103 Cypress Creek Rd, Suite 103 Cedar Park, TX 78613 512.918.0044 www.evolvept.com

Growing Places Therapy Services, PLLC

home-based 12524 Capella Trail Austin, TX 78732 512.587.5671 www.growingplacestherapy.com

KidSensations

clinic-based 3109 Slaughter Lane West Austin, TX 78748 512.233.4000

KidTherapy Rehabilitation Center

clinic-based 4607 Manchaca Rd. Austin, TX 78745 512.916.1511 www.kidtherapyaustin.com

Language and Movement

clinic-based 111 W. Anderson Ste C 100 Austin, TX 78752 512.451.0961 www.languagemovement.com

Little Tesoros Therapy Services

clinic and home-based 9101 Burnet Rd #103 Austin, TX 78758 512.248.2422 www.littletesoros.com

OT Connection

clinic-based 1433 Grand Avenue Pkwy #301 Pflugerville, TX 78660 512.251.3230 www.otconnection.com

Red Wagon Children's Therapy

clinic-based 6507 Jester Blvd, Suite 309 Austin, TX 78750 512.343.1200 www.redwagontherapy.com

Rhythm Of Life Texas Music Therapy

clinic and home-based Does not take Medicaid, but works with waiver programs & private pay. Therapist has additional training in Neurologic Music Therapy. 713.702.2331 Email: singnlili@yahoo.com rhythmoflifetexas.com

Speak Freely

clinic-based 3109 W Slaughter Lane Austin, TX 78652 512.233.4000 www.speakfreelyslp.com

Starbright Pediatric Rehabilitation Clinics

clinic-based 4544 S Lamar, Suite 740 Austin, TX 78745 512.899.9666

2000 S IH35, Suite L-2 Round Rock, TX 78681 512.218.1432 www.healthsouthaustin.com/starbright_clinics

Therapy Center of Buda

clinic-based 181 Cimarron Park Loop, Suite D Buda, Texas 78610 512.295.2273 www.therapycenterofbuda.com

Total Communication

clinic-based 5716 Hwy 290W Suite 100 Austin, TX 78735 512.444.3345 www.totalcommunicationaustin.com

HIPPOTHERAPY

Hippotherapy is a unique form of therapy that uses horseback riding to address sensory, motor, and perceptual deficits.

Most hippotherapy facilities are non-profit organizations that provide hippotherapy services and other therapeutic riding opportunities. Clients pay for services through a variety of means such as direct payments, CLASS or other Medicaid waiver programs, state agencies such as DARS, or private insurance. They provide services for children and adults with all types of physical and cognitive disabilities. Many meet strict industry standards and are affiliated with NARHA (North American Riding for the Handicapped Association). Check with organizations for additional details.

AWARE Ranch

1708 Center Point Road San Marcos, TX 78666 512.754.6773

Dream a Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship

23650 Round Mountain Circle Leander, Texas 78641 512.260.5957

4918 Bee Creek Rd Spicewood, Texas 78669 512.966.0578 www.dadth.org

The HELP Center of Austin (Handicapped Equestrian Learning Program)

2908-B Gregg Lane Manor, TX 78653 512.251.1099 www.helpcenterofaustin.org

Open My World Therapeutic Riding Center

1020 CR270 Leander, TX 78641 512.259.6665 www.openmyworld.org

RED Arena

1601 Bell Springs Rd Dripping Springs, TX 78620 512.331.1999 www.redarena.org

R.O.C.K. Ride On Center for Kids

2050 CR 110 Georgetown, Texas 78627 512.930.7625 www.rockride-org.doodlekit.com

AQUATIC THERAPY

Blue Sky Abilities

Community-based: No dedicated pool, but will come to community pools or home pool setting. P.O. Box 151173 Austin, TX 78715 512. 924.1111 www.blueskyabilities.com

Dell Children's Aquatic Therapy Program, Anderson Outpatient Rehabilitation Center at Dell Children's Medical Center

Dedicated pool on site 4900 Mueller Blvd. Austin, TX 78723 512.324.0138 www.dellchildrens.net

Kara Swinney, MS, PT at Sammy's House

Dedicated pool located at Sammy's House 2415 Twin Oaks Drive Austin, TX 78757 E-mail: kara@homects.com 512.970.7792

Lakeway Aquatics Therapy & Wellness Center

Dedicated pool on site 1927 Lohman's Crossing, #100 Lakeway, TX 78734 512.261.0620 Barker Keith Clinical Director E-mail: barker@lakewayaquatics.com E-mail: reception@lakewayaquatics.com http://www.lakewayaquatics.com/

Reavis Rehab

Dedicated pool on-site 1208-Q North IH-35 Round Rock, TX 78681 512-310-POOL (7665) http://www.reavisrehab.com/rehavisc.php

Note: Reavis will be moving its physical location in December of 2010. The new address will be 1250 S. AW Grimes Blvd. Round Rock, TX 78664

RECREATION AND RESPITE

Respite is a planned break for the caregiver. It is a time when another person is caring for your child. The respite opportunities below are primarily in the form of camps. Other paid, respite opportunities may be provided in-home through Waiver Programs. See page 18.

Austin Resource Center for Independent Living (ARCIL)

Transition, information, advocacy, referrals: ARCIL, Inc. of Austin, Texas provides independent living services to persons with disabilities, their families and communities throughout Travis and surrounding counties. ARCIL also provides services throughout Hays, Caldwell, Comal and Blanco counties at ARCIL San Marcos (San Marcos, Texas), and Williamson, Bell, Burnett and Milam counties at ARCIL Round Rock (Round Rock, Texas).

825 E. Rundberg, Suite E6 Austin, Texas 78753 512-832-6349 or 1-800-414-6327 email: arcil@arcil.com http://www.arcil.com/

Children's Association for Maximum Potential

The Children's Association for Maximum Potential (CAMP) serves children and adults with disabilities and special health care needs. They provide a wide range of recreational, educational, and respite services. CAMP does its best to ensure that no one is turned away based on the severity of their disability or the inability to pay. Central to each CAMP program is the provision of medical support, ensuring that everyone, regardless of the degree of medical needs, will be able to participate in all activities.

P.O. Box 27086 San Antonio, TX 210.671.5411 www.campcamp.org

Danny G. McBeth Recreation Center

Located in Zilker Park, this fully accessible facility has a multipurpose room, kitchen/craft room, game room, outdoor picnic areas, accessible playscape, and sand play area. They offer adapted recreation activities throughout the year for children and a recreational day program for adults with disabilities. They also offer adapted sports programs in tennis, swimming, cycling, basketball, rowing, dance and more.

2401 Columbus Drive Austin, TX 78746 512.974.9011 www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/mcbeth.htm

Down Home Ranch

Down Home Ranch, a working farm and ranch, is home to about 40 adults and children with disabilities. They offer summer camps and weekend respite camps for physically and emotionally healthy individuals age 13 or older with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities.

20250 FM 619 Elgin, TX 78621 512.856.0128 www.downhomeranch.org

Easter Seals Central Texas Camp ESKIMO

Camp ESKIMO (Easter Seals Kids In Motion) is a therapeutic day camp in Austin. They offer many adapted activities for children 5-15. Payment offered on a sliding scale.

1611 Headway Circle Building 2 Austin, TX 78754 512.478.2581 centraltx.easterseals.com

Extend-A-Care For Kids

Extend-A-Care for Kids offers affordable, license afterschool care at various school campuses in the Austin area. Call for level of care available on your child's campus.

55 North IH 35 Austin, TX 78702 Main Number: 512.472.9402 http://eackids.org/ Executive Director Joan Altobelli 512.226.8274 jaltobelli@eackids.org

The Flying Vikings

The Flying Vikings is a non-profit organization that provides free 20-30 minute plane rides to children with special needs or serious illness. During these rides the child becomes the pilot. Lunch and arts/crafts activities are also provided. Visit website for calendar or to contact.

flyingvikings.org Email: flyinglittlevikings@yahoo.com

Miracle League

The Miracle League is a baseball league for children 4 – 19 with physical and cognitive disabilities. Games are two innings and last about an hour. Everybody bats, nobody is out, everybody scores, and everybody wins! Players are paired with "buddies", middle or high school age peers who protect them on the field and facilitate player participation.

P.O. Box 200277 Austin, TX 78720 512.335.7434 www.miracle.tandcsports.org

Morgan's Wonderland

A 25-acre fully accessible amusement park for children and adults with special needs, their family members, caregivers, and friends. Individuals with special needs are admitted free and those accompanying are admitted for \$5. Reservation made by phone or online required. 5223 David Edwards Dr San Antonio, TX 78233 210.495.5888 www.morganswonderland.com

Sammy's House

Sammy's House is a child development center for children who are medically fragile or have developmental disabilities. They offer a day program and periodic weekend respite programs in an inclusive environment with low child-to-adult ratios as well as a therapy equipment loan program.

2415 Twin Oaks Austin, TX 78757 512.453.5258 www.sammyshouse.org

Special Olympics Central Texas (Region 13)

Special Olympics Texas offers year-round sports training and competition in 22 Olympictype sports for children and adults.

7715 Chevy Chase Drive, Suite 120 Austin, TX 78752 512.835.9873 www.sotx.org/about/areas/area13

Starlight Children's Foundation

An organization that serves to network seriously ill children and their families through activities and outings, technology and education. They offer outpatient, community-based, and hospital-based activities.

Austin Office PO Box 92191 Austin, TX 78709 Contact: Glenda Skinner 512.912.6782 E-mail: glenda.skinner@starlight.org www.starlight.org/texas

VSA arts of Texas

VSA arts of Texas (Vision • Strength • Access Arts for All) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that strives to create a society where people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. We are dedicated to the mission of promoting the creative power in people with disabilities by working with all community members to facilitate full access to the cultural and educational arts. VSA arts of Texas is a member of the international network of VSA arts, an affiliate of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. VSA host an accessible and artistically stimulating Arts Festival each Spring.

3710 Cedar Street #7 Austin, Texas 78705 Local phone: 512-454-9912 Toll free: 1-866-489-8412 Email: info@vsatx.org http://vsatx.org/

NURSING AGENCIES

As of the date of publication the following nursing agencies provide services to pediatric clients.

Epic MedStaff

3721 Executive Center, Suite 205 Austin, Texas 78731 512.372.3777, 877.899.3742 www.epicmedstaff.com

First Choice Children's Home Care

3508 Far West Boulevard, Suite 130 Austin, Texas 78731 512.346.5273 www.ehhi.com

Maxim Healthcare

3737 Executive Center Drive, Suite 250 Austin, TX 78731 512.340.0171 www.maximhealthcare.com

Medical Staffing Network

33030 Northland Drive, Suite 312 Austin, TX 78731 512.459.5656 www.MSNNurse.com

PSA Healthcare

14205 N. Mopac Expressway, Suite 640 Austin, TX 78728 512.248.0400 www.psahealthcare.com

DURABLE/HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The following equipment companies vary in the types of services they provide. Many companies work with a combination of the following: feeding & nutritional (including enteral), incontinent & urinary, respiratory, oxygen, wound care, mobility/positional, and other home adaptive aids. Call or visit websites for specific information. Pediatric tracheostomy and ventilator support is noted.

All-Star Medical

1101 W. Pecan #8 Pflugerville, TX 78660 512.251.5977 www.allstarmedical.org

A&P Quality Care

5555 N. Lamar Austin, TX 78751 512.452.5111 www.apqualitycare.net

Austin Wheelchair & Medical Supply Co.

5555 Lamar #D-111 Austin, TX 78751 512.452.7988 www.austinwheelchair.com

National Seating & Mobility

2211 Denton Drive, Suites G, J, & L Austin, TX 78758 512.833.9956 www.nsm-seating.com

Patient Support Services

4310 McKnight Road Texarkana, TX 75503 512.989.4881 www.pssi-midsouth.com

Pediatric Specialists

Will provide pediatric trach/vent supplies. 800 Paloma Dr. Bldg 6 Suite 140 Round Rock, TX 78664 512.671.9600, 877.515.4697

Travis Medical

Will provide pediatric trach supplies. 1104 W. 34th Street Austin, TX 78705 512.458.4589 www.travismedical.com

United Rehab Specialists

1-888-295-4690 E-mail: Customerservice@united-rehab.net www.united-rehab.net/index.php

Walgreens Home Care

Will provide pediatric trach/vent supplies. 9233 Waterford Centre Blvd, Suite 200 Austin, TX 78758 512.302.1411 www.walgreenshealth.com

The following are non-profit organizations that provide assistance with equipment.

Disabled Children's Relief Fund (DCRF)

Provides equipment, prostheses, and rehabilitative services through grants.

P.O. Box 89 Freeport, NY 11520 516.377.1605 www.dcrf.com

Project MEND

Assists Texas families in purchasing equipment, ages 0-18.

1201 Austin Street San Antonio, TX 78208 888.903.6363 www.projectmend.org

RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Austin Ridge Bible Church

Austin Ridge Bible has a buddy system called Shadow Ministry. They work towards integration with the congregation, but they also offer a separate classroom for special needs children if necessary.

9300 FM 2244

Austin, TX 78733 512.263.7701 www.austinridge.org

Contact: Georgi Duwe, Shadow Ministry Coordinator 512.345.0202 email: georgi@georgiduwe.com

Bannockburn Baptist

Offers a buddy system to integrate children into Sunday School and the congregation. The pastor and his wife facilitate a support group for parents of special needs children. They also offer a respite night every other month and a special needs expo. See website for details and dates.

7100 Brodie Lane Austin, TX 78745 512.892.2703 www.bbcfamily.com

Contact: Amy Louis, Special Needs Director 512.892.2703 ext. 237 email: amyl@bbcfamily.com

Brentwood Oaks Church of Christ

Special needs ministry includes five teams of parishioners who take turns weekly providing care for children with special needs while families attend service.

11908 North Lamar Boulevard Austin, TX 78753-2143 512.835.5982 www.brentwoodoaks.org Contact: Jackie Boyd 512.835.5980

Chittamani Buddhist Center

A Buddhist study and meditation center. Does not offer specific programs but will work with families to meet individual needs.

1918 Bissel Lane Austin, TX 78745 512.916.4444 www.meditationinaustin.org

First Evangelical Free Church

4220 Monterey Oaks Boulevard Austin, TX 78749 512.891.1600 www.fefc.org Contact: Lea

Grace Covenant Church

Offers a buddy system within their Special Needs Ministry.

9431 Jollyville Road Austin, TX 78759 512.345.7840 www.grace360.org Contact: Krista Sherwood

Hill Country Bible Church

Buddy program with integration or a selfcontained classroom.

12124 RR 620 North Austin TX 78750 512.331.5050 www.hcbc.com Contact: Terri Beck email: specialneeds@hcbc.com

Jewish Family Service Initiatives and Groups

Jewish Family Service is an initiative of The Jewish Community Association of Austin. They maintain an online resource guide with current information on a wide range of congregational support for children and adults with disabilities, including integrating buddy systems, camps, early childhood support, and adaptive support for blind/deaf community, and national resource links. 11940 Jollyville Road Suite 110 South Austin, TX 78759 Contact: Judith Sokolow, MSW, LCSW 512.250.1043 email: judithsokolow@shalomaustin.org

Disability Services and Resource Guide www.shalomaustin.org (click on the "about us" section and then "disability services resource guide")

Westover Hills Church of Christ

Offers a buddy system as well as a special room for children if necessary. Westover Hills also has an outreach ministry working with the deaf community.

8332 Mesa Drive Austin, TX 78759 512.345.6386 www.westover.org

Palliative Care

Palliative Care is a holistic model of care that addresses the Medical, Psycho-social, and Spiritual needs of the child and family. Palliative Care consult is available, from diagnosis to endof-life, to families whose children have lifelimiting illness.

Dell Children's Medical Center Palliative Care

Dell Children's offers inpatient and outpatient palliative care services through Dell Children's Medical Center and through the Marni Paul Specialty Care Center.

For more information: 512.324.0197 http://www.dellchildrens.net/services_and_progr ams/palliative_care

END OF LIFE PLANNING AND SUPPORT

Information

Austin Memorial & Burial Information Society (AMBIS)

AMBIS provides education and assistance with advance directives. It is a local volunteer run non-profit organization helping residents of Central Texas make funeral and memorial arrangements.

P.O. Box 4382

Austin, Texas 78765 512.480.0555 www.fcaambis.org

Hospices

Hospice Austin

4107 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite 100 Austin, TX 78759 512.342.4700 www.hospiceaustin.org

Hope Hospice

Provides service to Bexar, Caldwell, Comal, Guadalupe, and Hays counties.

611 North Walnut Avenue New Braunfels, TX 78130 830.625.7795 or 830.625.7525 www.hopehospice.net

Odyssey Hospice of Austin 4201 West Parmer Lane, Bldg C Suite 100 Austin, TX 78727

512.310.0214 www.odyssey-healthcare.com

Bereavement Support

For the Love of Christi

Offers bereavement support for children, teens and adults. Members attend groups based on the nature of their loss. Bilingual support and educational workshops also provided. 2306 Hancock Drive Austin, TX, 78756 512.467.2600 www.fortheloveofchristi.org

Griefshare

Offers bereavement support for adults. Groups meet at churches around the nation and use a religious Christian curriculum. Go to their website to find locations near you. www.griefshare.org

Hospice Austin

Offers bereavement support for adults and children in several different group settings. They offer brief individual counseling, educational resources, and a short summer camp for children who have experienced loss. Spanish bereavement support available.

4107 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite 100 Austin, Texas 78759 512.342.4700 or 800.445.3261 www.hospiceaustin.org

My Healing Place

Offers support for bereavement and ongoing loss. They have adult and child support groups, family and individual counseling as well as consultation services and educational resources.

2130 Guadalupe Austin, TX. 78705 512.472.7878 www.myhealingplace.org

The Compassionate Friends

International support system for families who have lost children. The local chapters offer support groups and local referrals. On their website you can find resources for parents, siblings, and grandparents. Compassionate Friends has no religious affiliation and offers any level of support needed. 877.969.0010 www.compassionatefriends.org

Local Chapter: TFC of Georgetown Mary Anne 512.869.0077 Cheryl 201.781.2452 email: tcfgeorgetowntx@gmail.com Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month 7-9 pm Meeting Address: The Worship Place 811 Sun City Blvd Georgetown, TX 78633

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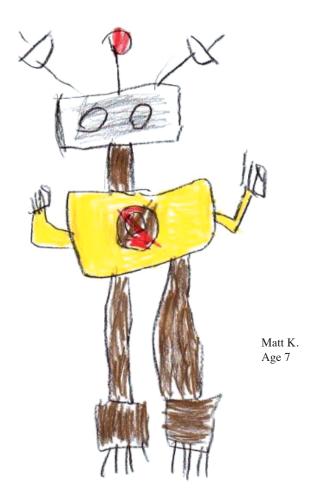
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Mission Statement

The Complex Chronic Illness Parent Advisory Group exists to enhance and strengthen existing supports for children with Complex Chronic Illness and their families, and to identify and address areas where support is needed. We will work collaboratively with Dell Children's Medical Center, DCMC Palliative Care, and the broader community to be an ongoing force that creates a unified voice for the many unheard that we represent.