

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

### Education Service Centers (ESCs)

**DESCRIPTION** ESCs Regions IV, 10, XI, and 20, in partnership with Texas Education Agency (TEA), provide leadership, staff development, consultation and technical assistance to Regional Day School Programs for the Deaf (RDSPDs) and to local education agencies (school districts) throughout Texas related to the education of students, birth through 21, who are deaf or hard of hearing.

#### ESC REGION IV

**CONTACT** Theresa Johnson, M.Ed., Deaf Education Specialist Cluster D (ESC Regions III, IV, V, & VI)

**STATE CONTACT for** Secondary Transition and Low Functioning Deaf.

**VOICE/TTY** 713-744-6391

**INTERNET** <http://www.esc4.net>

**E-MAIL** [tjohnson@esc4.net](mailto:tjohnson@esc4.net)

#### ESC REGION 10

**CONTACT** Alicia M. Favila, M.Ed., Senior Consultant/Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Cluster C (ESC Regions VII, VIII, 10, & XII)

**STATE CONTACT for** Early Intervention and Early Childhood Education

**VOICE/TTY** 972-348-1594

**INTERNET** <http://www.region10.org>

**E-MAIL** [alicia.favila@region10.org](mailto:alicia.favila@region10.org)

#### ESC REGION XI

**CONTACT** Dan Diffie, M.Ed., Deaf Education Specialist Clusters A & B (ESC Regions IX, XI, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX)

**STATE CONTACT for** Communication Access

**VOICE/TTY** 817-740-7580

**INTERNET** <http://www.esc11.net>

**E-MAIL** [ddiffie@esc11.net](mailto:ddiffie@esc11.net)

#### ESC REGION 20

**CONTACT** John Bond, M. Ed., Deaf Education Specialist Cluster E (ESC Regions I, II, XIII, & 20)

**STATE CONTACT for** Access to the General Curriculum

**VOICE/TTY** 210-370-5418

**INTERNET** <http://www.esc20.net>

**E-MAIL** [john.bond@esc20.net](mailto:john.bond@esc20.net)

## TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY (TEA)

See **State Agencies**

### Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI)

**ADDRESS** 1100 W. 45th St., Austin, TX 78756  
**VOICE** 512-454-8631  
**TTY** 512-206-9451  
**TOLL FREE** <http://www.tsbvi.edu>  
**INTERNET** A partner with independent school districts in Texas. Provides instructional and related services to students who are blind, deaf-blind, or visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities.  
**DESCRIPTION**

### Texas School for the Deaf (TSD)

**ADDRESS** 1102 South Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 3538, Austin, TX 78764  
**VOICE/TTY** 512-462-5353  
**INTERNET** <http://www.tsd.state.tx.us>  
**E-MAIL** [twyla.strickland@tsd.state.tx.us](mailto:twyla.strickland@tsd.state.tx.us)  
**DESCRIPTION** A public day and residential school for students pre-school through 12th grade who are deaf and hard of hearing. The School provides services to students ages birth through three years jointly with Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) programs. These services include instruction and consultation in communication and language development as well as sign language classes and other deafness-related information. Comprehensive assessment services and information and referral services are also available. See State Services for more information on the Educational Resource Center on Deafness (ERCOD).

## STATE AGENCIES

### Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT)

**ADDRESS** 1701 N. Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326  
**AGENCY SWITCHBOARD** 512-936-7000  
**ASSISTANCE HOTLINES** 888-782-8477 or 512-936-7120  
**TO MAKE A RELAY CALL** 7-1-1  
**INTERNET** <http://www.puc.state.tx.us/relay>  
**E-MAIL** [customer@puc.state.tx.us](mailto:customer@puc.state.tx.us)  
**DESCRIPTION** The PUC administers Relay Texas, a service program in which agents interpret telephone calls between people who can hear and those who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard-of-hearing or speech-disabled. The agency also works with the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) Division of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS) on the Specialized Telecommunications Assistance Program (STAP) to help persons with disabilities buy equipment to enable them to communicate over the phone.



**Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)  
Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)**

Formerly: Texas Interagency Council on Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

**ADDRESS** 4900 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78751  
**VOICE** 1-800-628-5115  
**TTY** 1-866-581-9328  
**INTERNET** [www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis](http://www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis)  
**E-MAIL** [DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us](mailto:DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us)  
**DESCRIPTION** Serves children, birth to age 3, with disabilities or delays. Assists families in helping their children reach their potential through developmental services. Programs are located throughout the state. For children who have a hearing loss, ECI works in partnership with deaf education parent infant services provided through regional or local school programs or Texas School for the Deaf to provide services at no cost to the family, regardless of income.

**Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)  
Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS)**

Formerly: Texas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (TCDHH)

**ADDRESS** 4900 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78751  
**VOICE** 1-800-628-5115  
**TTY** 1-866-581-9328  
**INTERNET** [www.dars.state.tx.us/dhhs](http://www.dars.state.tx.us/dhhs)  
**E-MAIL** [DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us](mailto:DARS.Inquiries@dars.state.tx.us)  
**DESCRIPTION** DHHS works in partnership with people who are deaf or hard of hearing to eliminate societal and communication barriers to improve equal access for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. A wide variety of services are provided. Services most directly related to families of children with hearing loss include: a statewide Resource Specialist Program to work with local consumers and their parents on information regarding deafness and/or hearing impairment and referrals to the appropriate sources for additional services and/or information in the local communities; Two Summer Camps: Camp SIGN for children 8-15 years of age and Transitional Leadership Camp for students who are 16 - 21; financial assistance to purchase specialized telephone equipment or services for individuals with a disability which impedes useage of the telephone; certificate of deafness for tuition-waiver at state supported Texas colleges. Additional services include information on sign language and oral interpreters, an interpreter certification program, and a database of all state-certified interpreters.

**Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)**

**ADDRESS** Audiology Services, 1100 West 49th Street MC-1918, Austin, Tx 78756  
**VOICE** 1-800-252-8023  
**INTERNET** <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/audio>  
**E-MAIL** [audiology@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:audiology@dshs.state.tx.us)  
**DESCRIPTION** Program for Amplification for Children of Texas (PACT) provides diagnostic and remedial services needed by children with hearing loss who are Medicaid eligible or being served by the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHNCN) program. Services are for children who have a hearing loss that is permanent and include evaluation, follow-up

hearing aids and earmolds. PACT contracts with facilities throughout the state to provide services. Also available through the Department of State Health Services are a variety of brochures related to hearing loss, an overview of the recommended Texas Protocol for Pediatric Audiologic Assessment and listing of PACT service providers throughout Texas.

**Texas Education Agency (TEA)  
Division of IDEA Coordination  
Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

**ADDRESS** 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78701-1494  
**VOICE** 512-463-9414  
**TTY** 512-475-3540  
**INTERNET** <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/deaf>  
**DESCRIPTION** Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing manages the operation of the Regional Day School Programs for the Deaf (RDSPD), performs all activities required to maintain a statewide program for students who are deaf or hard of hearing, and provides policy guidance to local regional day schools and local school districts providing instructional services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

## ORGANIZATIONS

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**HEAR ME Foundation**

**ADDRESS** 4814 Woodstream Village Drive, Kingwood, Texas 77345  
**VOICE** 281-359-6725  
**INTERNET** [www.hearmefoundation.org](http://www.hearmefoundation.org)  
**E-MAIL** [info@hearmefoundation.org](mailto:info@hearmefoundation.org)  
**DESCRIPTION** A non-profit organization that offers support and empowerment through public awareness and educational program assistance to families who have chosen an oral communication option. Provides a weekend camp in June for the entire family and offers opportunities for children to have a mentor. Also provides a listing of audiological, medical and educational professionals who specialize in hearing loss and who have a similar awareness of oral options.

**Texas Association of the Deaf (TAD)**

**ADDRESS** P.O. Box 1982, Manchaca, Texas 78652  
**INTERNET** [www.deaftexas.org/wp](http://www.deaftexas.org/wp)  
**DESCRIPTION** A non-profit, membership-based organization. Provides information and education, including surveys and studies, on various issues affecting the lives of those who are deaf or hard of hearing at all levels of the community.

### **Texas Association of Parents and Educators of the Deaf (TAPED)**

**ADDRESS** Connie Ferguson, Brazos Valley Regional Day School for the Deaf,  
1307 Memorial Dr., Bryan, Texas 77802

**VOICE** 979-209-2890

**INTERNET** <http://www.taped.org>

**E-MAIL** [connief@bryanisd.org](mailto:connief@bryanisd.org)

**DESCRIPTION** Provides an information and networking resource for parents and educators. Sponsors the biennial Statewide conference on Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, annual scholarships for deaf and hard of hearing seniors and adults desiring to enter the field of interpreting or deaf education teaching. Provides website focusing on both parents and educators, collaboration with other associations / organizations and a voice for the field of deaf education.

### **Texas Chapter of Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

**ADDRESS** Texas Chapter of AG Bell, 103 Tuleta Dr., San Antonio, TX 78212

**VOICE** 210-495-0398

**INTERNET** [www.agbell.org/TX](http://www.agbell.org/TX)

**E-MAIL** [texasagbell@yahoo.com](mailto:texasagbell@yahoo.com)

**DESCRIPTION** Provides both services and support for those with a hearing loss through a biannual conference, a newsletter for its members, opportunity for scholarships and awards, and a directory of services.

### **Texas Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America**

Formerly: Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH)

**ADDRESS** Maurice Wilson, 14023 Saint Marys Ln., Houston TX 77079

**VOICE** 281-497-2670

**INTERNET** [www.texasshhh.org](http://www.texasshhh.org)

**E-MAIL** [mrwilson@pdq.net](mailto:mrwilson@pdq.net)

**DESCRIPTION** Promotes an improved quality of life for people who are hard of hearing through education, advocacy, and self-help.

### **Texas Hands & Voices**

**INTERNET** <http://www.handsandvoices.org>

**E-MAIL** [TXHandsandVoices@gmail.com](mailto:TXHandsandVoices@gmail.com)

**DESCRIPTION** State chapter of a nationwide non-profit organization (Hands & Voices) dedicated to supporting families and their children who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as the professionals who serve them. Parent-driven, parent/professional collaborative group, unbiased towards communication modes and methods, which includes deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing impaired and their families who communicate orally, with sign, cue, and/or combined methods.



### Texas Parent to Parent (TxP2P)

- ADDRESS** 3710 Cedar Street, Box 12, Austin, TX 78705
- VOICE** 512-458-8600
- TOLL-FREE** 866-896-6001
- INTERNET** <http://www.txp2p.org>
- E-MAIL** [info@txp2p.org](mailto:info@txp2p.org)
- DESCRIPTION** TxP2P is a non-profit, statewide program providing support, resources, and information to parents/caregivers of children of all ages and disabilities, as well as the professionals who work with them. Services include: matching parents to trained parent volunteers who have children with similar disabilities or issues in order for new parents to ask questions, find resources, and talk to another parent who can relate to their issues; quarterly newsletter, listserves, annual parent conference, and educational opportunities across the state. Services available in English and Spanish.

### Texas Speech-Language Hearing Association (TSHA)

- ADDRESS** 918 Congress Avenue, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78701
- VOICE** 512-494-1127
- TOLL-FREE** 1-888-SAY-TSHA (1-888-729-8742)
- INTERNET** <http://www.txsha.org>
- E-MAIL** [traci.miller@txsha.org](mailto:traci.miller@txsha.org)
- DESCRIPTION** Professional and scientific association comprised of speech-language pathologists, audiologists, associates, and students. Provides materials, literature, and workshops.

## SERVICES / ACTIVITIES

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### general services

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#### Advocacy Incorporated

- ADDRESS** Main Office, 7800 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 171-E, Austin, TX 78757-1024
- VOICE/TTY** (512) 454-4816
- VOICE/TDD** 1-800-252-9108
- INTERNET** <http://www.advocacyinc.org>
- DESCRIPTION** A non-profit corporation that advocates for the legal rights of Texans of all ages with disabilities. Provides information for parents on federal and state law to help parents work as equal partners with the school in planning their children's educational program. Provides a parent manual on their website, along with others that can also be ordered in Spanish. Also provides information on health care programs including Medicaid.

## Educational Resource Center on Deafness (ERCOD)

### Texas School for the Deaf

- ADDRESS** ERCOD/Texas School for the Deaf, 1102 S. Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78704
- VOICE/TTY** 1-800-DEAF-TSD or 512-462-5329
- E-MAIL** [ercod@tsd.state.tx.us](mailto:ercod@tsd.state.tx.us)
- INTERNET** <http://www.tsd.state.tx.us/outreach>
- DESCRIPTION** Serves families, school districts, and communities throughout Texas through outreach programs. Information/referral workshops, summer programs, distance learning, and interpreter training are some of the services provided for deaf and hard of hearing children, their families, and professional service providers.

## Partners Resource Network, Inc.

- ADDRESS** 1090 Longfellow Drive Suite B, Beaumont, TX 77706
- TOLL-FREE** 1-800-866-4726 (TX parents only)
- VOICE** 409-898-4684
- E-MAIL** [partnersresource@sbcglobal.net](mailto:partnersresource@sbcglobal.net)
- INTERNET** [www.partnerstx.org](http://www.partnerstx.org)
- DESCRIPTION** A non-profit agency that operates the statewide network of federally funded Parent Training and Information Centers (PTI's) Provides training, information and technical assistance to families of infants, toddlers, children, and young adults with all types of disabilities throughout the State of Texas regarding the nature and needs of disabling conditions, and the rights of students with disabilities to a free appropriate public education.

## Texas Technology Access Project

- ADDRESS** Texas Center for Disability Studies, The University of Texas at Austin  
J. J. Pickle Research Campus  
10100 Burnet Road, Bldg 137 (CMS), Rm 1.154, Austin, Texas 78758-4445
- VOICE** 512-232-0740
- TOLL-FREE** 800-828-7839
- TTY** 512-232-0762
- E-MAIL** [txcds@uttcds.org](mailto:txcds@uttcds.org)
- INTERNET** <http://tatp.edb.utexas.edu/tatp.html>
- DESCRIPTION** Promotes independence for people with disabilities through access to technology and provides leadership for the state's efforts to carry out the federal Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (P.L. 108-364) as amended. Programs currently being developed include assistive technology device: demonstration, loan, recycling, and alternative financing. Also supports assistive technology training and provides resources for best practice and advocacy in the area of assistive technology.

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## camps

### Camp SIGN

**ADDRESS** Camp SIGN, Division for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services,  
P.O. Box 12306, Austin, Texas 78711

**VOICE** 512-407-3250

**TTY** 512-407-3251

**E-MAIL** ann.horn@dars.state.tx.us

**INTERNET** <http://www.dars.state.tx.us/dhhs/camp.shtml>

**AGES** 8 – 17 years

**DESCRIPTION** Camp SIGN is a communication barrier free environment for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The goal for Camp SIGN is to have all students who are deaf or hard of hearing from around the state regardless of their communication mode participate in the program. The philosophy of the camp is to provide an environment of acceptance and encouragement. This program operates under the Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS).

### Camp Summit

**ADDRESS** Dallas Office, 2915 LBJ Freeway, Suite 185, Dallas, TX 75234

**VOICE** 972-484-8900

**E-MAIL** [camp@campsummittx.org](mailto:camp@campsummittx.org)

**INTERNET** <http://www.campsummittx.org>

**MINIMUM AGE** 6 years

**DESCRIPTION** Provides a residential, barrier-free camping experience for persons with special needs including hearing loss and is accredited by the American Camping Association.

### Cochlear Implant Summer Listening Camp

**ADDRESS** University of Texas at Dallas, Callier Center for Communication Disorders  
1966 Inwood Rd., Dallas, TX 75235

**VOICE** 214-905-3139

**E-MAIL** [msweeney@utdallas.edu](mailto:msweeney@utdallas.edu)

**INTERNET** <http://www.callier.utdallas.edu>

**AGES** 3 – 11 years

**DESCRIPTION** Provides a one week day camp for children with cochlear implants. Each camper is paired with a graduate student buddy. Camp activities focus on listening and spoken language activities.



### **HEAR ME Foundation – Camp for All**

**ADDRESS** 4814 Woodstream Village Drive, Kingwood, Texas 77345

**VOICE** 281-359-6725

**E-MAIL** info@hearmefoundation.org

**INTERNET** <http://www.hearmefoundation.org>

**AGES** Birth – High School

**DESCRIPTION** Provides a weekend sleepover camp in June for children and their families.

Camp includes tennis and basketball courts, baseball and soccer fields, lake, petting zoo, archery, swimming, and canoeing. Parents are encouraged to bring their infants and children to camp. Professionals, exhibitors, and parent and teen panel discussions are held on Saturday.

### **Texas Lions Camp**

**ADDRESS** P.O. Box 290247, Kerrville, TX 78029-0247

**VOICE/TTY** 830-896-8500

**INTERNET** <http://www.lionscamp.com>

**MINIMUM AGE** 8 years

**DESCRIPTION** Provides camping sessions for children with physical disabilities including hearing loss and those children who are insulin-dependent diabetics. Week-long sessions throughout the summer.

### **Texas School for the Deaf (TSD)**

**ADDRESS** 1102 South Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78704

**VOICE/TTY** 512-462-5329 or 1-800-DEAF-TSD

**E-MAIL** [ercod@tsd.state.tx.us](mailto:ercod@tsd.state.tx.us)

**INTERNET** [www.tsd.state.tx.us/outreach](http://www.tsd.state.tx.us/outreach)

**AGES** Infant through high school years

**DESCRIPTION** Description: Offers a variety of summer programs in a signing environment for deaf and hard of hearing children from toddler through high school. Focus is on academic enrichment in a camp-like atmosphere and includes fieldtrips, outdoor and recreational activities, and drivers education for HS students. For children ages 5 and older, there are opportunities for overnight as well as day program experiences. TSD also offers an opportunity for families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing to participate in a family weekend retreat or parents may participate in a one week communication skills workshop focused on improving sign language skills.



## FUNDING SOURCES

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### Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

**TOLL-FREE** 1-800-772-1213

**INTERNET** <http://www.ssa.gov>

**DESCRIPTION** Provides Medicaid coverage and monthly cash assistance to eligible individuals. Eligibility is based on citizenship, financial status, and disability.

### Caring for Children Foundation of Texas

**TOLL-FREE** 1-800-258-5437

**E-MAIL** [Resha\\_Wafer@bcbstx.com](mailto:Resha_Wafer@bcbstx.com)

**INTERNET** <http://www.carevan.org>

**DESCRIPTION** Provides access to preventative care for children ages 6 to 18 years whose families are not eligible for Medicaid, and cannot afford private health insurance.

### Program for Amplification for Children of Texas (PACT)

See Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

### CHIP and Children's Medicaid

**TOLL-FREE** 1-877-KIDS-NOW

**TTY** 1-800-735-2988

**INTERNET** [www.chipmedicaid.org](http://www.chipmedicaid.org)

**DESCRIPTION** Texas families with uninsured children may be eligible for health insurance through Children's Medicaid and CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program). Both programs provide a wide range of benefits, including regular check-ups and dental care to keep kids healthy.

