February/March’s Transition Focus is on Your Rights: Guardianship, Supported Decision Making and Other Alternatives to Guardianship

When you are a child, your guardian makes all legal decisions for you. Your guardian is usually your parent, but may also be another family member, foster parent, or someone else. When you turn 18 in Texas, you are officially an “adult.” That means you have legal rights and responsibilities starting on your 18th birthday. Guardianship is when a judge decides that a person with a disability cannot make their own decisions. The judge chooses a guardian who makes decisions for you. It is important to know your rights and responsibilities. If you have a disability, it is important to know if you will need support to understand your rights or make decisions about your life.

(adapted from the Disability Rights website: www.disabilityrightstx.org and the Texas Transition & Employment Guide)

Check out the resources on Guardianship & Alternatives shared in this month’s newsletter!
Your Rights: Guardianship, Supported Decision-Making, and other Alternatives to Guardianship

All of us have the right to make decisions about our lives, and getting support to make decisions from people we trust is something we all do. If a decision is important to us, we may take longer to decide and may ask other people for ideas or information, or to help us make up our mind by talking about the options. There may be times in our lives when we need extra support to make decisions, especially when we have to make a major decision.

People with disabilities have the same rights to make decisions as everyone else. However, many people with disabilities have not had the same opportunities to make decisions and develop the skills and knowledge to direct their own lives.

Texas was the first state to recognize supported decision-making (SDM) as an alternative to guardianship. SDM is a practical way for a person with a disability to get the help they may need to make their own decisions and ensure that those decisions are heard by those around them. With supported decision-making, a person with a disability enters into a voluntary agreement with someone he or she trusts to help them make decisions and communicate the decisions to others. The supporter could be a family member, friend, service provider or someone else chosen by the person. Supported decision-making may not only help a person with a disability avoid guardianship, but may also help the person develop his or her decision-making skills and develop confidence in his or her ability to make decisions.

Adapted from the Disability Rights Website, February 2022

Resources shared in this month’s newsletter will highlight some of the helpful information available online and at your fingertips!

What are some examples of rights for adults?
- Voting in elections
- Getting married
- Choosing who can see your personal information

What are some examples of responsibilities for adults?
- Following the law
- Respecting the rights of others
- Asking for help
- Signing legal documents and paperwork
Take a look at what the newly updated Texas Transition & Employment Guide Says on Your Rights...

Adapted from the TEA Website, February 2022

The Texas Transition and Employment Guide can help students with disabilities to plan for adult life. You can begin planning while you are in school. Use this guide to find out what to expect and where to find help. You will see the term “family” used to describe the person or people in your life who support you. Family might be your mom, your dad, or another family member. Family can also mean a foster parent or someone else who makes legal decisions for you.

The updated guide includes questions to ask yourself as you plan for adulthood. Let’s look a little further into the section focused on your rights...

Some ways people can get support with decision-making in adulthood are:

**Asking trusted friends or family**
This is an informal conversation and does not require any documentation.

**Signing a Supported Decision-Making Agreement (SDMA)**
You assign a “supporter” to review your options with you.

**Signing a Power of Attorney**
This is a legal document that allows someone to make decisions for you.

**Having a Representative Payee to manage Social Security benefits**
This is someone who manages your money if you receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).

**Meeting with a legal advisor**
You can talk to an attorney or professional advocate about your legal rights.

**Being assigned a guardian**
A judge decides that you are not able to make your own decisions and assigns someone to make decisions for you.
What will the school do to help me understand my rights and responsibilities?

At least one year before you turn 18:

Your school will provide information and resources called a Notice of Rights about
» guardianship,
» alternatives to guardianship, including SDMA, and
» other supports to allow you to live independently as an adult.

Your IEP will include a statement that your school has shared this information with you.

When you turn 18:

All legal rights and responsibilities are now yours. You can decide if you want support to make decisions. Your family will receive notice of your ARD meetings. This is not the same as an invitation.

To share information about you with your family, your school will follow the district policy.

The notice that rights have transferred will be sent to you and your family. It will include information about guardianship and alternatives.

Free Resources Available Online:

Texas Transition and Employment Guide:

Supported Decision Making Guides and Resources - Disability Rights Texas:
https://www.disabilityrightstx.org/en/category/supported-decision-making/

Making My Own Choices - Guide from Disability Rights:

Who Can Help Me Understand Guardianship?

- Your family
- Your Case Manager
- Your LTHS Counselor
- Your Teachers
- Your Texas Workforce Counselor
- The LTISD Transition Specialist

When Should I Consider Guardianship and Alternatives to Guardianship??

- Now! There’s no time like the present!
Not Quite Ready to Jump into Post-Secondary Education or the Workforce after your senior year?

Maybe Project SEARCH is the right fit for you!

What is Project Search?

Project SEARCH’s primary objective is to secure competitive employment for people with disabilities. Project SEARCH is driven by collaboration with many community partners: Baylor Scott and White Hospital - Lakeway, Lake Travis ISD, Easterseals, and Texas Workforce Solutions Vocational Rehabilitation Services. It is a one year program that follows the Lake Travis ISD school year, consists of individuals with a variety of disabilities, includes 3 internship rotations, and provides consistent on-site staff.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Students who desire to work competitively at the conclusion of the Project SEARCH program.
2. Students 18 – 21 age range
3. Student has a documented disability under IDEA.
4. Students who have finished their necessary credits for graduation, and have not received a high school diploma.
5. Students eligible for TWSVRS (Texas Workforce Solutions Vocational Rehabilitation Services).
6. Students who do not have a criminal record and severe behavioral problems.
7. Pass a background check and drug screen.
8. Students who will benefit from career exploration by participation in a variety of internships.
9. Provide own transportation to and from Scott & White Hospital.
10. Maintain independent hygiene and grooming skills.

What is the application process?

♦ Talk to your teachers, case managers, family to make sure this program is right for you.
♦ Tour Scott&White Hospital
♦ Students: Applications open 01/05/22
♦ Complete the application with your family & teacher (Applications Available: 1/5/2022, Deadline: 03/01/22)
♦ Complete an interview with the Project SEARCH Committee (2/10/2022 or 3/10/2022)

ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED & SUBMITTED TOGETHER NO LATER THAN March 1, 2022

☐ Completed Application Packet
☐ Student Contract
☐ Project SEARCH Parent Transition Survey
☐ Baylor Scott & White Behavior Standards

Questions? Contact us to learn more:

Kristin Curtis  Erika Musick-Griffin
Project SEARCH Teacher  LTISD Transition Specialist
(512) 639-9119  (512) 533-6153
curtisk@ltisdschools.org  musicke@ltisdschools.org
Moved to Virtual! Save the Date!
Saturday, March 5, 2022

Destination Life Website

Destination…LIFE
Regional Transition Fair & Conference

preparing/supporting students with disabilities and their families for life beyond high school

Hosted by 10 Area School Districts

Hosted by multiple area school districts!
Job Training! Post-Secondary Education! Living Options! Resources!
Speaker Sessions, Multiple Vendors, Community Agencies & Organizations

Questions? Contact Erika Musick-Griffin, LTISD Transition Specialist
musicke@ltisdschools.org  512-533-6153
¡Reserva la fecha!
¡Evento virtual!
¡Sábado, 5 de marzo!
Destino...LA VIDA

Visite el sitio web de Destination Life para conocer las sesiones de presentación programadas:
Sitio web de Destination Life

Feria y Conferencia de Transición Regional

Preparando y apoyando a estudiantes con discapacidades y sus familias para la vida después de la preparatoria

Organizado por varios distritos escolares del área
¡Capacitación de empleo! ¡Educación después de la preparatoria!
¡Opciones de vivienda! ¡Recursos!
Presentaciones, varios proveedores, agencias de la comunidad y organizaciones

Preguntas: Erika Musick-Griffin musicke@ltisdschools.org 512-533-6153
Upcoming Events:

Free Webinars from Consolidated Planning Group:

Medicare 101 with Andy Hardwick
DATE/TIME: Mon., March 7, 2022, at 12:00 noon
DESCRIPTION: Do you worry about Medicare and wonder how it will help you when you retire? Andy Hardwick, Public Affairs Specialist for Social Security Administration, will provide an overview of Medicare and how it impacts those depending on Social Security.

Join us for this important where you will learn:
- Who can get Medicare?
- How and when to enroll
- What is Medigap, do I need it, and how to get it?
- What is Medicare A, B, C, and D?

ZOOM WEBINAR: ID: 831 4506 1196
REGISTER HERE: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_i4OskR6YSxCdjuNEyxWj4Q

Should I Open an ABLE Account?
DATE/TIME: Tues., March 8, 2022, at 12:00 noon
DESCRIPTION: There are many decisions to be made as you prepare for the future of your special needs family member. Living with a disability is often associated with significant costs. That’s why individuals and families should consider contributing to an ABLE account. ABLE accounts offer tax-advantaged savings that can fund disability expenses. Join us as Special Needs Financial Planner Allison Schaberg explains how to successfully plan for your future.

PARTNER: Partners Resource Network - region13pm@gmail.com
ZOOM WEBINAR ID: 885 0930 6588
REGISTER HERE: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hktG62RgSb6KxvrAgNXgoA

Do I need Guardianship? Why You May or May Not with Special Needs Attorney Melissa Donovan
DATE/TIME: Wed., March 9, 2022, at 12:00 noon Central
DESCRIPTION: As a parent of a child with special needs, you know there are many decisions to be made as it relates to the future of your special needs family member. What do you do when your loved one cannot care for themselves? Is Guardianship the right answer? We all want our loved ones to live meaningful lives but sometimes they lack the capacity to do so independently. Join Attorney Melissa Donovan as she offers guidance on this important topic.

PARTNER: The Arc of the Capital Area
ZOOM WEBINAR ID: 811 4917 0416
REGISTER HERE: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rwcVFzY4SsWjMbSDPL4hwQ

Guardianship of Your Child with Special Needs
DATE/TIME: Tues., March 29, 2022, at 12:00 noon
DESCRIPTION: When your child reaches the age of 18, he or she will gain the right to vote, the right to contract, the right to get married, the right to decide where to live, the right to consent or refuse medical treatment. Doctors and other medical providers may be restricted from sharing your adult child’s health information with you because of health care privacy laws. As your child approaches the age of 18, you may want to consider obtaining guardianship. This presentation will address how to determine if guardianship is appropriate for your child, alternatives to a guardianship, and the procedure for obtaining a guardianship. Join us as Special Needs Financial Planner Allison Schaberg and Special Needs Attorney Alison Packard share how to successfully plan for your future.

ZOOM WEBINAR ID: 828 9980 0262
REGISTER HERE: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ar1GrC7-SWyzc9Ol2vlkeA

Helpful Transition Resource:

Parent to Parent - Transition Timeline & Planning Tools
For more information, go to txp2p.org, or attend a FREE Pathways to Adulthood Webinar

Adapted from the Texas Parent to Parent Website, September 2021

Transition Timeline, starting at age 6
Transition Inventory, a tool to assess where families are in planning for their youth's adulthood

Weekly Parent Support Group
Zoom Support Group Calls (in English)
- Wednesdays at 11:00 am
- Hosted by Patty Geisinger
- Click here to register

Zoom Support Group Calls (in Spanish)
- Wednesdays at 1:00 pm
- Hosted by Rosalba Calleros
- Click here to register

LTISD Transition Newsletter, February/March 2022
Helpful Transition Resource:

**Texas state ID card / Driver’s License - Texas Department of Public Safety**

Obtaining a state ID or driver license prior to graduation will assist your student in many ways as they take the next steps in life! If your child does not plan on obtaining their Driver’s License, it is strongly recommended that they obtain their Texas ID Card prior to, or when, turning 18. Please take a look at the information below for more information:

Texas Department of Public Safety Driver’s License / ID Website:
[https://www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/](https://www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/)

Guide for First Time Driver’s License / ID Applicants:
[https://www.dps.texas.gov/Internetforms/Forms/DL-100E.pdf](https://www.dps.texas.gov/Internetforms/Forms/DL-100E.pdf)

How to apply for a Texas Identification Card:
[https://www.dps.texas.gov/driverlicense/applyforid.htm](https://www.dps.texas.gov/driverlicense/applyforid.htm)

Take a look at this brochure for more information:
[https://www.dps.texas.gov/internetforms/Forms/DL-57.pdf](https://www.dps.texas.gov/internetforms/Forms/DL-57.pdf)

Helpful Transition Resource Website:

**Federal Programs for People with Disabilities**
[https://hhs.texas.gov/services/disability](https://hhs.texas.gov/services/disability)

Eligible people with disabilities may qualify for federal and state programs that pay benefits, pay health care costs or provide food. If you are not already signed up for one of these programs, visit the sites below to find out if you might be eligible or to apply for benefits.

**What is CLASS?**

CLASS provides home- and community-based services to people with related conditions as a cost-effective alternative to placement in an intermediate care facility for individuals with an intellectual disability or a related condition. A related condition is a disability, other than an intellectual disability, that originated before age 22 and that affects a person's ability to function in daily life.

**Interested in receiving CLASS services?**

Those interested in receiving CLASS are placed on an interest list by calling 877-438-5658 and asking for the CLASS Waiver Program. The person will be contacted when funding becomes available. An offer of the CLASS Program depends on individual need and one's date of placement on the interest list. Current contact information is required for each person on the CLASS interest list, and HHSC must be notified of any changes to address or telephone number.

For more information please contact CLASSPolicy@HHSC.state.tx.us

Helpful Transition Resource Website:

**Austin Travis County Integral Care (formerly known as MHMR)**
[https://integralcare.org](https://integralcare.org)

Integral Care supports adults and children living with mental illness, substance use disorder and intellectual and developmental disabilities in Travis County. As the Local Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authority, Integral Care strengthens our community by supporting our most important asset, our people, to achieve well-being. Integral Care provides individuals with high quality mental health care, collaborates with community partners to strengthen programs and systems, and works to raise awareness of mental health issues in our community.

Integral Care works with children and adults living with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities to make sure they have the tools they need to thrive. We create opportunities for people to form healthy relationships, live in the community and lead meaningful lives. Services are available regardless of ability to pay and can be provided in many languages.


**CALL US TO LEARN HOW WE CAN HELP YOU**

To learn more about our programs and services for adults and children with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, call us at 512-472-HELP (4357). Press 1 for English, then 3. We’re here Monday through Friday, from 8am to 5pm. Integral Care can also connect you to trusted community resources.

*LTISD Transition Newsletter, February/March 2022*
Helpful Transition Resource Website:

**The Arc of Capital Area**
https://www.arcaustin.org/

The Arc of the Capital Area is one of the oldest continuously-operating non-profits in Austin. Since 1949 we have empowered adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We serve over 1,000 individuals each year across 17 counties. Intellectual and developmental disabilities or I/DD is an umbrella term that includes more than 100 different diagnoses, including Down syndrome, cerebral palsy and Autism.

**Intake & Referral Services**
The Arc of the Capital Area offers a centralized telephone intake process for all of our services and programs. Please contact us at 512.476.7044, ext. 233, and an Intake Specialist will return your call within three (3) business days. Normal working hours are 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The first step is a brief screening to determine eligibility for services and, if so, which services would best meet the callers’ needs. The Intake Specialist will refer callers to other disability organizations and resources in the community, if appropriate.

Helpful Transition Resource Website:

**ARCIL (A Resource Center for Independent Living)**
http://arcilinc.org/

ARCIL is a consumer-driven, community-based, not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the empowerment of persons with disabilities to achieve maximum independence and equal community access. Services are developed, directed and delivered primarily by persons with disabilities. ARCIL contributes to the development and improvement of attitudes, resources, methodologies, and opportunities for community integration.

Historically, ARCIL has developed programs that provide services in information & referral, peer counseling, independent living skills training and advocacy. Other ARCIL services are in the areas of transition services from school to adult life, transportation training, employment assistance, community education through ADA technical assistance and disability awareness training.

Helpful Transition Resource Website:

**Autism Society of Greater Austin**
https://www.texasautismsociety.org/

The Autism Society, the nation’s leading grassroots autism organization, exists to improve the lives of all affected by autism. We do this by increasing public awareness about the day-to-day issues faced by people on the spectrum, advocating for appropriate services for individuals across the lifespan, and providing the latest information regarding treatment, education, research and advocacy.

The Autism Society of Texas changes lives by connecting families and individuals to community resources and support throughout Texas. Offerings include advocacy, education events, Information & Referrals, support meetings; on-line networking opportunities; Sensory Friendly films; and fun family activities. We rely on donations to support our work and keep services free for families and autistic adults.

Helpful Transition Resource Website:

**Down Syndrome Association of Central Texas**
http://dsact.org/

Our Mission is to provide education, support, and resources to individuals with Down syndrome, their families, professionals, and the community while building public awareness and acceptance of the abilities of individuals with Down syndrome. Our Vision is a world in which all members, including those with Down syndrome, are accepted, valued for their uniqueness, respected for their abilities and contributions, and assured the opportunity and choice to create their own path to fulfillment and success.
Governor Abbott and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) have created a Supplementary Special Education Services (SSES) program. The SSES program allows eligible families of children with disabilities to apply for a one-time $1,500 online grant to be used to obtain educational materials and resources and/or services such as additional speech therapy or other specific services. The goods and services offered can help families mitigate educational setbacks resulting from the disruptions to education prompted by COVID-19.

If approved for the program, you will have access to a ClassWallet-managed online portal and a digital spending account which you can use with providers that have been vetted and approved by TEA. The portal will provide information on available resources and services, allow you to make purchases, and provide you with full account and balance information. The SSES online account enables you to shop for educational products (learning supplies and or technology for your child) and services (therapies, tutoring, and other supports) in an online digital marketplace and used to supplement what otherwise happens in school to help students continue to make educational progress. **These funds do not impact or change any services provided through your child’s school IEP. These are separate funds provided by the state through the marketplace to families.**

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<th>If you believe that your student may qualify for the SSES program, then complete the following steps.:</th>
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<td><strong>Step 1:</strong> Go to: <a href="https://SSES.tea.texas.gov">SSES.tea.texas.gov</a> Click on “Apply Today”. Check the applicable eligibility items and select “Apply Today”.</td>
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<td><strong>Step 2:</strong> Application will be reviewed and notice of eligibility or denial may take up to 30 business days.</td>
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<td><strong>Step 3:</strong> If eligible, you will be notified and a link to the SSES marketplace will be emailed to you from info@ClassWallet. Please check your spam/junk folder if you have not received this email.</td>
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<td><strong>Step 4:</strong> You can then login and shop for educational services for your child. You must login and sign the parental affidavit within 30-days and begin spending money within 6-months of receiving an account.</td>
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<th>Some examples of things you can purchase through the SSES Marketplace:</th>
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<td>• Tutoring for all subjects or other educational related services (OT, PT, BCBA, SLP, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Textbooks, curriculum, instructional materials, educational hardware/software or technology</td>
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<th>SSES Resources:</th>
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<td>• Webinar for Parents - How to Apply: <a href="https://SSES.tea.texas.gov">ENGLISH</a></td>
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<td>• SSES Overview: <a href="https://SSES.tea.texas.gov">ENGLISH</a></td>
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<td>• What is SSES? <a href="https://SSES.tea.texas.gov">ENGLISH</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>• How to use ClassWallet - Step by Step Instructions: <a href="https://SSES.tea.texas.gov">ENGLISH</a></td>
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**If you have additional questions or need help:**

**SSES Contact** ssesinfo@tea.texas.gov or call SPEDTex at 1-855-773-3839

**Local Contact:** Amanda Molina-Garza, Special Services Coordinator, molinagarzaa@ltisdschools.org or 512-533-6460
Program Overview: Supplemental Special Education Services (SSES)

Your student may be eligible for a $1,500 grant!

Supplemental Special Education Services (SSES) is:
SSES gives a $1,500 one-time online grant to parents of eligible students served by special education who are enrolled in a Texas public school. Families can use this money to purchase educational goods and services for their student.

SSES Eligibility Criteria:
This new eligibility criteria will begin on November 1st, 2021.
To be eligible for the SSES grant, students must currently be:

» enrolled in a Texas public school,
» enrolled in PreK - 12th grade, and
» a student with a disability served through Special Education.

What your family can purchase:
With SSES accounts, families are able to purchase educational goods and services from the SSES marketplace.

Educational goods such as:
Books  Laptop  Tablet

Services such as:
Tutoring  Therapy

This is a first come, first serve grant. There are a limited number of accounts available, if you believe your student is eligible, we encourage you to apply today!

For more information and to apply, visit:
SSES.tea.texas.gov

Texas Education Agency
Supplemental Special Education Services
Medicaid Waiver Programs - Information

Medicaid waivers allow older adults, people with disabilities, or medical/emotional needs to live at home, rather than in nursing homes or other institutions. Waivers provide services such as behavior support, adaptive aids, medical supplies, respite care, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, minor home modifications, nursing, specialized therapies, pre-vocational training, supported employment, transition assistance, and others. *The services provided vary by waiver.* Texas has 7 waivers, each with an interest list. Your child can be on multiple interest lists at one time but can only receive services from one waiver at a time.

**Most waivers have a 15+ year wait for services, so it is important to get on interest lists as soon as possible.**

Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS): Services/supports for people with related conditions other than intellectual disability/mental health that began before age 22 and are not expected to improve. Examples include autism, cerebral palsy, seizures, spina bifida, and others. The disability must affect 3 or more of the following areas: self-care, understanding and use of language, learning, mobility, self-direction, or capacity for independent living. There is no age limit for this waiver.

Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (DBMD): Services/supports for people who are legally deaf-blind or have a condition that will lead to becoming legally deaf-blind in the future; plus at least one other disability that affects independent functioning. There is no age limit for this waiver.

Medically Dependent Children’s Program (MDCP): Services/supports for families caring for a young adult at home who would otherwise require care in a nursing home. Recipients must be under 21 years old. If under 18, they must be living with an adult family member or legal foster family.

STAR+PLUS Home and Community Based Services (HCBS): Managed care program for people who meet medical necessity criteria for nursing home care and are at risk for being placed in a nursing home. Allows recipients to get both acute and long term services at home. Recipients must be age 21 or older.

**Call 1-877-438-5658 to place your child on the CLASS, DBMD, MDCP, AND HCBS interest lists.**

Home & Community Based Services (HCS): Services/supports for people with intellectual disability (ID) or related conditions who live with family members, in their own homes, or group homes with 4 beds or less. Services like day habilitation, respite, nursing, employment provided. There is no age limit for this waiver.

Texas Home Living (TxHmL): Services to people with an intellectual disability (ID) or a related condition who live in their own home or their family’s home. Services include adaptive aids, behavioral support, community support, day habilitation (help with development of basic life skills), employment assistance, minor home modifications, nursing, respite, professional therapies, supported employment, and others. There is no age limit for this waiver.

**Call Integral Care (ATCIC) at 512-472-HELP (4357) to place your child on the HCS and TxHmL interest lists.**

Youth Empowerment Services (YES): Services/supports for people who experience mental/emotional/behavioral issues to reduce time in psychiatric hospitals, allowing recipients to stay at home and in their community. Recipients must be 3-18 years old for this waiver.

**Call the YES Waiver Inquiry Line at 1-512-804-3191 to place your child on the YES interest list.**
You may have to leave a message saying, “I’d like to put my child on the inquiry list.” Once you leave your contact information, someone should call you back within a couple of days.

**IMPORTANT!** Once your child is on the interest list(s) you MUST call and update any changes to your phone number and address immediately. Many parents call each waiver interest list around their child’s birthday to ensure they still have the correct contact information and let them know you want your child’s name to remain on the interest lists.

Questions? Reach out to Erika Musick-Griffin, LTISD Transition Specialist - musicke@ltisdschools.org

Information for this flyer was obtained from the Navigate Life Texas website. Visit www.navigateftexas.org for additional information on Medicaid Waivers.
**Programas de exención de Medicaid - Información**

Las exenciones de Medicaid permiten que los adultos mayores, las personas con discapacidades o las necesidades médicas / emocionales vivan en casa, en lugar de en hogares de ancianos u otras instituciones. Las exenciones brindan servicios tales como apoyo conductual, ayudas adaptativas, suministros médicos, cuidado de relevo, terapia ocupacional, terapia física, terapia del habla, modificaciones menores en el hogar, enfermería, terapias especializadas, capacitación provocacional, empleo con apoyo, asistencia de transición y otros. Los servicios brindados varían según la exención. Texas tiene 7 exenciones, cada una con una lista de intereses. Su hijo puede estar en varias listas de intereses a la vez, pero solo puede recibir servicios de una exención a la vez.

La mayoría de las exenciones tienen más de 15 años de espera por los servicios, por lo que es importante obtener listas de interés lo antes posible.

**Servicios de apoyo y asistencia para vivir en la comunidad (CLASS por sus siglas in inglés):** servicios/apoyos para personas con afecciones distintas a la discapacidad intelectual/ Salud mental que comenzaron antes de los 22 años y que probablemente no terminen. Los ejemplos incluyen autismo, parálisis cerebral, convulsiones, espina bífida y otros. La discapacidad debe afectar 3 o más de las siguientes áreas: autocuidado, comprensión y uso del lenguaje, aprendizaje, movilidad, autodirección o capacidad de vida independiente. No hay límite de edad para esta exención.

**Personas sordo ciegas con discapacidades múltiples (DBMD por sus siglas in inglés):** servicios/apoyos para personas que son legalmente auditiva y visual o que tienen una condición que las llevará a ser legalmente auditiva y visual en el futuro; más al menos otra discapacidad que afecta el funcionamiento independiente. No hay límite de edad para esta exención.

**Programa de niños mediquementicamente dependientes (MDCP por sus siglas in inglés):** servicios/apoyos para familias que cuidan a un adulto joven en el hogar que de otra manera necesitaría atención en un hogar de ancianos. El destinatario debe ser menor de 21 años. Si es menor de 18 años, debe vivir con un miembro adulto de la familia o una familia adoptiva legal.

**Programa de servicios en el hogar y en la comunidad STAR + PLUS (HCBS por sus siglas en inglés):** programa de atención administrada para personas que cumplen con los criterios de necesidad médica para el cuidado en un hogar de ancianos y están en riesgo de ser colocados en un hogar de ancianos. Permite a los destinatarios recibir servicios tanto agudos como a largo plazo en el hogar. Los destinatarios deben tener 21 años o más.

**Llame al 1-877-438-5658 para ubicar a su hijo en las listas de interés de CLASS, DBMD, MDCP Y HCBS**

**Programa de servicios en el hogar y en la comunidad (HCS por sus siglas in inglés):** servicios/apoyos para personas con discapacidad intelectual (ID) o afecciones relacionadas que viven con miembros de la familia, en sus propios hogares o hogares grupales con 4 camas o menos. No hay límite de edad para esta exención.

**Programa de Texas para Vivir en Casa (TxHmL por sus siglas en inglés):** Servicios a personas con una discapacidad intelectual (ID) o una condición relacionada que viven en su propio hogar o en el de sus familias. Los servicios incluyen: ayudas adaptativas, apoyo conductual, apoyo comunitario, habilitación diurna (ayuda con el desarrollo de habilidades básicas para la vida), asistencia laboral, modificaciones menores en el hogar, enfermería, relevo, terapias profesionales, empleo con apoyo, y otros. No hay límite de edad para esta exención.

**Llame a Integral Care (ATCIC) al 512-472-4357 para ubicar a su hijo en las listas de interés de HCS y TxHmL.**

**Programa de la Exención en Empoderamiento de los Jóvenes (YES por sus siglas en inglés):** servicios/apoyos para personas que experimentan problemas mentales/ emocionales/de comportamiento para reducir el tiempo en hospitales psiquiátricos, permitiendo que los beneficiarios se queden en casa y en su comunidad. Los destinatarios deben tener entre 3 y 18 años para esta exención.

**Llame a la línea de consulta de exención de YES al 1-844-309-6385 para colocar a su hijo en la lista de intereses de YES.**

Es posible que deba dejar un mensaje que diga: "Me gustaría incluir a mi hijo en la lista de consultas". Una vez que deje su información de contacto, alguien deberá devolverle la llamada dentro de un par de días.

**¡IMPORTANT! Una vez que su hijo esté en la(s) lista(s) de interés, DEBE llamar y actualizar cualquier cambio en su número de teléfono y dirección de inmediato. Muchos padres llaman a cada lista de interés de exención alrededor del cumpleaños de su hijo para asegurarse de que todavía tengan la información de contacto correcta y sepan que desea que el nombre de su hijo permanezca en la lista de interesados.**

¿Preguntas? Comuníquese con Erika Musick-Griffin, especialista en transición de LTISD: musicke@ltisdschools.org

La información para este folleto se obtuvo del sitio web de Navigate Life Texas. Visite www.navigatelife texas.org para obtener información adicional sobre las exenciones de Medicaid.