



Texas Parent to Parent is pleased to invite you to attend the TxP2P 2025 20th Annual Parent Conference



We hope you'll join us this summer in San Marcos as we celebrate our **20th Annual Parent Conference!** We're very excited about our speakers, exhibitors, and keynote speaker this year! Hope you can join us! This year's conference brings you 43 sessions to choose from that cover a great array of topics, including behavior, advocacy, transition, special education, mental health, parenting, and self-determination issues. We know it's hard to choose just one session per time slot but pick the one that applies to where you are now.



Don't forget our **Family Fun Night** on Friday night – it's for the whole family and we'll have terrific games for the kids, and time to visit with old and new friends. We will have opportunities for sponsors and exhibitors to offer fun games and activities for the kids from 5-6 pm. **Registration for the Family**

Fun Night is required, so don't forget to sign up when you submit your conference registration forms. **Please note that dinner is on your own.**



And for the kids, as has been our custom, **childcare** will be available during conference hours so that you can attend sessions all the while knowing that your childcare is close by and in a safe environment. If you have a teen or young adult, we will again be holding the **Peer to Peer Summit** or if they are interested, **they can also**

attend sessions at the conference, using P2P Summit as a home base or simply attend as a Self-Advocate without going to the Summit. And for siblings, we have our popular **Sibshops**. See page 4 for the descriptions of all these groups and read them carefully – each one comes with its own set of requirements. Hope to see you in July!


OUR 2025 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Keynote speaker will be announced soon.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

	Friday, July 18, 2025		Saturday, July 19, 2025		
Peer Parent Mentor Training Thursday, July 17th 1:00 – 5:00 PM	Registration	7:30 – 9:00 AM	Registration	8:00 – 9:00 AM	
	Keynote Speaker	9:00 – 10:15 AM	Session 4	9:00 – 10:00 AM	
	Break	10:15 – 10:30 AM	Break	10:00 – 10:30 AM	
	Session 1	10:30 – 12:00 PM	Session 5	10:30 – 12:00 PM	
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION ON THURSDAY EVENING	Lunch	12:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch-TxP2P Awards	12:00 – 1:30 PM	
	Session 2	1:30 – 3:00 PM	Session 6	1:30 – 2:30 PM	
	Break	3:00 – 3:30 PM	Break	2:30 – 3:00 PM	
	Session 3	3:30 – 4:30 PM	Session 7	3:00 – 4:30 PM	
	Thursday, July 17th 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Family Fun Night (dinner on your own)	5:00 – 6:00 PM	Closing Session	5:00 – 5:15 PM

HOTEL

 A limited number of rooms are available **now** at the special conference rate of **\$174** (+ tax) (single, double, triple or quad) at Embassy Suites Hotel San Marcos. Rooms will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations made by **June 17, 2025**, will receive this negotiated group rate. **Please be aware that the reserved “room block” is usually filled prior to June 17**, and if this happens, reservations are subject to availability and possibly an increased rate, so don't delay in making your reservations.

You can call the hotel directly (512-392-6450) to make your reservation - Or the personalized conference website is [Texas Parent to Parent Statewide Parent Conference](#). You **MUST** identify yourself as being with the Texas Parent to Parent Conference to receive the **\$174 conference rate**.

You will need a credit card to reserve your room at the Embassy Suites. Check-in is at 4 pm - check-out is 11 am. To ensure you receive the correct rate, be sure to have your reservation confirmation emailed or mailed to you (and check the rate and dates!). Your room cost includes a complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast or other breakfast offerings for each person staying in the room. Each accommodation is a two-room suite with a separate bedroom, living room with a sofa bed; rooms with queen-size beds can sleep up to 6 people. Amenities include two flat-screen TVs, microwave, refrigerator, and high-speed internet access (wired and wireless). If you must cancel your hotel reservations, 48 hours prior to your first night for the reservation.

Lodging Stipends: Stipends depend on funding, if funding is available. First consideration for lodging stipends is given to new families who live **more than 70 miles** away from the conference hotel and those who have not received lodging stipends in the past 2 years.



Lodging stipends are available only to parents and family members of children with disabilities or self-advocates over 18, attending the conference and are awarded for a maximum of 2 nights.

Please note that lodging stipends for hotel expenses do not cover 100% of your room cost *unless you are sharing a room with another parent who is also receiving a stipend (this can be your spouse, have him/her registered)*. If you are not sharing a room, you will still owe the difference between the stipend amount and the hotel room charges. For example, with the conference room rate of \$165, total charges for one day, including taxes, are approximately \$190.44 The maximum lodging stipend is \$107 per night, so unless you are sharing a room with another parent, you will owe everything over \$107—approximately \$84 per night. If you share your room with another parent who also is getting a stipend, your room cost would be completely covered for that night.

Also, **if you receive a lodging stipend and are then unable to attend, you must cancel your reservation by 3:00 p.m. 24 hours prior to your first night** for the reservation. If you don't cancel in time, you and/or TxP2P will have to pay the first night's fees.

**** Hotel Information: Embassy Suites Hotel, 1001 McCarty Lane, San Marcos, TX 78666 ** Hurry! Space is limited and goes quickly!**



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Exhibitors: For information about exhibiting at the TxP2P Conference, please contact Dora Saavedra at: 866-896-6001, 512-458-8600 or email: dora.saavedra@txp2p.org.



Donations Needed: If you are able, please consider donating to help other families attend the conference. Every dollar counts—these donations have helped several families attend the conference in past years and are greatly appreciated!





REGISTRATION INFORMATION

[Register Here](#)

Register online at <http://www.txp2p.org> or call anyone in the office at 866-896-6001. For additional information, contact Norma Castro by email at norma.castro@txp2p.org

PLEASE NOTE: Each registered participant will receive a confirmation email. Please read it carefully and let us know if there are any errors. Your registration is complete only when full payment is received by TxP2P. To receive Early Bird or Regular conference rates, **we must receive payment by the designated cut-off dates if paying by check, cash, or credit card.** If any registration is paid by purchase order, the flat rate is \$700.00.

On-site registration will be available at a higher rate of \$450.00 for parents and \$650.00 for professionals. We must receive written cancellation (email or U.S. mail) no later than **June 30th. No refunds will be made for any cancellations after June 30th.** Payment in full will be required for all purchase orders if cancellation is not made on or before **June 30th.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Meals: Let us know if you plan to eat meals with us by completing the meal portion of your registration form. If you are staying at the Embassy Suites, please take advantage of the cooked-to-order breakfast and other breakfast items at the hotel. **Children & youth receive lunch** in the Childcare, Sibshops & Peer to Peer Summit rooms.

Conference Scholarships: Money is tight for everyone, but help may be available to assist you in attending the TxP2P Conference. If you are receiving services from your Local Authority, CSHCN, or a school district, ask them for help with your cost for the TxP2P Conference. Your local school district may have money allocated for parent training that you can use toward your costs.

CEUs: We are pleased to offer CEUs for Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors, Educators, and Early Intervention Specialists for \$150.00. If you need a certificate of attendance – just let us know on your registration form and we'll provide one at no charge.

Peer Parent Mentor Training

Thursday – July 17th, 1:00-5:00 p.m.

(Note: No registration will be allowed on-site. Childcare is available if requested in advance.)

You can connect and help other families like yours by becoming a Peer Parent Mentor. Do you remember when you first got your child's diagnosis? Who provided you support? Remember how important and helpful that was? Become a parent mentor now! To complete this shortened version of the Peer Parent Mentor training, you must also register for and attend two sessions on **Friday, Session 1043: Grief & Stages of Adaptation from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm** and **Saturday Session 6041: Care for the Caregiver from 1:30-2:30 pm.** This will be a great opportunity to pay it forward, help a family new to a diagnosis, network with other attendees, and begin your conference experience with valuable information! To register, please check the box for the Peer Parent Mentor training on your conference registration form and we will contact you with additional information. If you **arrive after 1:30 p.m. on July 17th**, you will not be able to attend the training.

CHILDCARE



(Note: No registration will be allowed on-site.)

Childcare is very limited, so if you can make other arrangements for your children, please do. If you need childcare, please indicate this on your registration form and fill out the childcare form on-line. Limited small stipends to help lower the cost of childcare **may** be available — let us know if you are unable to attend the conference without one.

Childcare is provided in one large room with the children separated out into groups. If your child has a problem with noise level or large group settings, you may want to seek other arrangements. Also, if your child is 10 yrs. or up and is **incontinent**, you must come take care of that task. **We are unable to accommodate children who need all day one-on-one care or any child over 12 years old.**

Children in childcare will be fed in the childcare rooms. If you prefer, you may purchase an additional noon conference meal for your child at the rate of \$75.00 per meal if you'd like to have lunch with him/her. Please discuss any change in the established childcare meal plan with your Childcare Team Leader and indicate the number of additional meals you would like to purchase on your registration form.

Childcare space goes very fast and will be closed when capacity is reached. The registration fee is refundable if you are unable to attend the conference and provide written notice to TxP2P (via email, fax or U.S. Mail) on or before July 11th. Childcare will run from 8:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. on Friday and 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. **We ask that you promptly pick up your child at the end of the day as indicated - our childcare workers need to be able to go home!**



Saturday – July 19, 2025 (Note: No registration will be allowed on-site.)

Sibshops are lively, pedal-to-the-metal celebrations of the many contributions made by brothers and sisters of kids with disabilities. Sibshops acknowledge that being the brother or sister of a person with disabilities or special health care needs is for some a good thing, others a not-so-good thing, and for many, somewhere in between. They reflect a belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another if they are given a chance. The Sibshop model intersperses information, discussion, activities and games. Sibshops seek to provide siblings with opportunities for peer support, something TxP2P strongly believes in. Because Sibshops are designed primarily for children aged 8 to 12, peer support is provided within a lively, recreational context that emphasizes a “kids-eye-view.” Group is limited to 15 children and will be facilitated by a trained Sibshop Facilitator. For more information on Sibshops, visit <http://www.siblingsupport.org/> or call us at 866-896-6001 (toll-free).

If your child(ren) wants to participate in Sibshop, please indicate this on your registration form and fill out the childcare form on-line. **The Sibshop is not designed to be a childcare venue.** Sibshop will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday only. You will take your child to the Childcare Room and the facilitators will pick them up and deliver them back to that room before and after the Sibshop.

Texas Parent to Parent **Peer to Peer Summit**

(Note: No registration will be allowed on-site.)

The Peer to Peer (P2P) Summit is a two-day “conference within a conference” for teens and young adults, from 13 to no age limit, **with and without** disabilities. We are pleased to have **Art Spark Texas** back to lead the Summit again this year. Through a series of varied activities, the teens & young adults will express themselves through art, music, movement, animation...and maybe just a few surprises! Working alongside professionals in their field they will discover their own hidden talents, share with their peers and family members and bring home some fresh ideas about what is creatively possible!

Each registrant is encouraged to participate as actively as possible, and support is available from Summit volunteers to help each participant “get the most” out of each activity. There are adult volunteers to provide help and supervision, but **P2P Summit is not designed to be a childcare venue**. The P2P Summit is provided in one large and sometimes noisy room. If your teen/young adult has a problem with noise level or large group settings, you may want to seek other arrangements. We are unable to provide **incontinence care** in the Summit so parents must come to take care of that task.

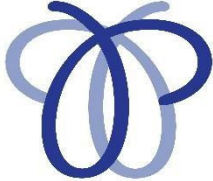
The P2P Summit space will serve as participants’ home base for the 2 days of the conference. Some participants will be able and allowed to come and go from the Summit location without being accompanied by another teen or adult, possibly attending conference sessions. We encourage responsibility for decision-making by the teens and young adults who attend. If your teen/young adult is unable or should not be permitted to leave on their own, please consider having a full-time attendant (non-parent) accompany your teen/young adult. The Summit leadership’s goal is for parents to be free to attend conference sessions and to promote self-determination for Peer to Peer Summit participants, so it’s best that attendants **NOT** be parents.

If your teen/young adult would like to participate, but you have concerns about whether they’ll be able to participate in the activities or any other aspect of the Summit, don’t hesitate to call us at 866-896-6001! Registration is \$200.00 and limited to the first 30 paid registrants. **Deadline for registration & full payment is July 11th**. Fill out the Peer to Peer Summit registration form on-line after you complete your registration form. **No registration will be allowed on-site**. Attendants are welcome at no additional charge, and lunch for attendants may be purchased for \$75 each day. Teen/young adult must understand and/or speak English to get the most out of this session. The Summit will run from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Friday and 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.



Session Tracks

(tracks are the middle 2 numbers in the session # - for example: 1020 - 02 is the Autism track)

1 Advocacy	11 Spanish
2 Autism	12 Special Education
3 Behavior	13 Transition
4 General	 Texas Parent to Parent
5 Disability Specific	
6 Medical/ Therapy	
7 Mental Health	
8 Parent Leadership	
9 Self-Advocacy	
10 Self-Determination	

TxP2P 20th Annual Conference

Session 1: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Friday, July 18, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
1040 04-General	<p>DADS Only</p> <p>This is an informal chance for Dads to come together and just talk. To listen and to learn from other dads, to share great things about our kids and to discuss some of the challenges we face. As a dad, you are the expert on your child. Come by and share what you have learned from your child and what your hopes are for their future. Or just come and listen.</p>	<p><i>Jeff Garrison-Tate & Ron Lucey</i></p>
1041 04-General	<p>Medicaid Home and Community- Based Waivers</p> <p>Elizabeth will provide information on the Texas Home and Community-Based Services waivers, including who is eligible, how to apply and the types of benefits available. Waivers pay for things like home modifications, adaptive aids, nursing, behavior supports, care in the home and respite. Texas does not consider a parent’s income when determining a child’s eligibility for most of these programs. There are also ways for some families to pay a monthly premium to get Medicaid. These services open a world of new possibilities and opportunities for children and families.</p>	<p><i>Elizabeth Tucker</i></p>

Session 1: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Friday, July 18, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
<p align="center">1042</p> <p align="center">04-General</p>	<p>Intro to Personal Networks</p> <p>The best guarantee of a safe and secure future for a person with a disability is to have caring relationships in their life. Personal networks are communities of friends, family members and others who assist and collaborate with a person who may be at risk of isolation because of a disability. Networks promote social opportunities, assist with decision-making and offer a committed safety net of support. In this introductory presentation, you will learn how to start a network. Please join us!</p>	<p align="center"><i>Jennifer Vincent & Lisa Treleaven</i></p>
<p align="center">1043</p> <p align="center">04-General</p>	<p>Grief and Stages of Adaptation</p> <p>Learn to make sense of the emotions you may be experiencing, how grief applies to being a parent of a child with a disability or special health care need and how to identify the stages that most parents experience on this journey.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Patty Geisinger</i></p>
<p align="center">1110</p> <p align="center">11-Spanish</p>	<p>Salud sexual de los jóvenes con discapacidades</p> <p>Este taller brindará orientación a los padres para hablar sobre la salud sexual con sus hijos con discapacidades. Los padres aprenderán cómo ayudar a preparar a sus hijos para convertirse en adultos sexualmente desarrollados y cómo hablarles sobre algunos de los grandes cambios que ocurrirán a medida que maduren.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Veronica Alvarez</i></p>
<p align="center">1120</p> <p align="center">12-Special Education</p>	<p>IEP: What do I really need to know?</p> <p>Join us for a session on the basics of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and how they support a successful school transition. Learn how to navigate the IEP process, advocate effectively, and access free resources to empower yourself or your child in meetings. Whether you're new to IEPs or looking for guidance, this session will provide practical tools and resources to help ensure meaningful educational opportunities.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Wendy Maurer</i></p>
<p align="center">1121</p> <p align="center">13-Transition</p>	<p>Texas Legislative Updates on Special Education</p> <p>The 89th Legislature Regular Session began in January 2025 and ran through June 2, 2025. This year state lawmakers considered several topics that are important to students with disabilities and students with mental health needs. Learn which relevant bills passed and what comes next.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Steven Aleman & Maia Volk</i></p>

TxP2P 20th Annual Conference
Session 2: 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Friday, July 18, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
2070 07-Mental Health	<p>Navigating the Maze While Keeping your Sanity!</p> <p>It is often difficult to understand the many roadblocks and obstacles that parents face with advocating for their children. In this presentation parents will learn how to access community resources. Understand how they can use their voice to access services and how they can develop partnerships locally. And take care of themselves in the process.</p>	<p><i>Felicia Mason-Edwards & Carole Blackmon</i></p>
2071 07-Mental Health	<p>Marital Resilience in the Face of Disability</p> <p>Marriage is challenging, and when disability is part of the equation, whether for one or both partners, or for children, it brings unique stressors. The divorce rate is significantly higher in families with disabilities, yet some marriages not only endure but grow stronger. Megan and Andy Hill share their journey of 21 years of marriage, balancing life as an Autistic-disabled spouse (Megan) and a neurotypical spouse (Andy) while raising children with significant disabilities. Their experience includes navigating complex medical needs, caregiving, systemic barriers, and the heartbreak of making difficult care decisions, including transitioning a child to a State Supported Living Center.</p>	<p><i>Megan & Andrew Hill</i></p>
2110 11-Spanish	<p>Comienza con Fuerza: Mejores Prácticas de Comunicación</p> <p>Este taller interactivo ayudará a los padres a establecer una comunicación sólida con los educadores desde el inicio del año escolar. Los participantes aprenderán estrategias efectivas para comunicarse con maestros y personal escolar, y conocerán el Pasaporte Educativo impulsado por los padres, una herramienta práctica para organizar y compartir información clave sobre las necesidades, fortalezas y apoyos de sus hijos. A través de discusiones guiadas y ejercicios de juego de roles, los padres practicarán cómo presentar el pasaporte con seguridad, creando una base de colaboración efectiva que los acompañará durante todo el ciclo escolar.</p>	<p><i>Maribel Gardea</i></p>
2120 12-Special Education	<p>IEP: Meeting Tips & Strategies for Parents</p> <p>Shemica will share helpful tips and strategies for parents to utilize as you prepare for IEP meetings, during IEP meetings and after IEP meetings. This presentation will also include ten key mistakes to avoid when it comes to IEP meetings and the special education process as well as effective communication tips to utilize with IEP teams.</p>	<p><i>Shemica Allen</i></p>

Session 2: 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Friday, July 18, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
<p align="center">2130</p> <p align="center">13-Transition</p>	<p>Peace of Mind: Plan Today to Protect Our Kids Tomorrow</p> <p>Parents, understandably, are overwhelmed thinking of the future when they can no longer provide and/or oversee their child’s daily needs. None of us, though, are protected from unexpected events or the inevitable. Planning helps support a good, meaningful life for our children and avoid a crisis. Join Ivy & Elizabeth to learn the top 3 things needed to put a simple – but essential – plan in place, just in case. Ivy & Elizabeth know it’s not easy and want to help you take the first steps.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Ivy Goldstein & Elizabeth Tucker</i></p>
<p align="center">2131</p> <p align="center">13-Transition</p>	<p>Guardianship and Alternatives</p> <p>Once a child with special needs becomes a legal adult, how does a parent continue to protect and make decisions for that child? Alison Packard will provide an overview of the guardianship process in Texas, including the timeline and court procedures for guardianship of the person, guardianship of the estate, restoration of rights, and options for limited guardianships. Alison will also discuss alternatives to guardianship such as powers of attorney, supported decision-making agreements, special needs trusts and representative payees. She will suggest factors to consider in determining the best course of action for an adult child with disabilities.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Alison Packard</i></p>
<p align="center">2132</p> <p align="center">13-Transition</p>	<p>College Panel</p> <p>Bobcat RISE is Texas State University's four-year residential inclusive postsecondary education program located in San Marcos Texas. In this session you will learn all about Bobcat RISE, the students we serve, and how we help our students craft their dream lives. Learn more about the Garrett Center on Transition and Disability Studies at SHSU for an engaging session on our resources, services, and research supporting individuals with disabilities and their families. Learn how we foster community partnerships and explore future initiatives. Discover ways to get involved and shape programs that meet your family needs. Whether seeking guidance or collaboration, this session connects you with valuable support for your family’s journey.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Stephanie Graham & Dr. Christina M. Gushanas</i></p>

TxP2P 20th Annual Conference
Session 3: 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 18,2025

Session	Description	Speakers
3010 01-Advocacy	<p>Attendant Wages-History, Legislative Updates, Impacts</p> <p>We will look into the history of community attendant wages in Texas dating back to 2009, and how stagnating base wages have affected this critical workforce over the years. We will highlight the efforts that disability advocates have made during the 89th Legislative Session to increase the base wage. Finally, we will evaluate the impacts that an increase to the base wage could have on sustaining the community attendant workforce.</p>	<p><i>Edgar Pacheco & Cole Glosser</i></p>
3011 1-Advocacy	<p>Advocate: How to Build Self-Advocacy for Access!</p> <p>Are you ready to advocate for yourself or a loved one? Join us for a session on navigating advocacy in daily life, healthcare, education, and public policy. Disability doesn't come with a handbook, but our experiences shape change. You will leave this session with valuable resources and practical tools to take the next steps in your advocacy journey!</p>	<p><i>Wendy Maurer - Cole Health</i></p>
3030 03-Behavior	<p>The Parent Academy</p> <p>The Parent Academy framework supports finding balance for your family as you cultivate a positive home life that works for YOU. This session is for caregivers of young children wanting to build communication, emotional regulation, and self-help skills while improving daily routines. Whether you are a single parent, co-parent, or grandparent, The Parent Academy will help you prioritize and achieve your parenting goals while raising capable, confident kids. Designed with neurodivergent children and parents in mind, The Parent Academy helps families get on the same page while efficiently building essential skills in their children.</p>	<p><i>Ali Baucum</i></p>
3040 04-General	<p>Special Needs Trusts & ABLE Accounts</p> <p>This presentation provides an overview of first-party and third-party special needs trusts, including pooled trusts. We will discuss appropriate expenditures from the trust, common challenges in trust administration, and general considerations for selecting an appropriate trustee. We will also examine the use of ABLE accounts and describe the strengths and limitations of these online savings accounts. We will compare the effectiveness of ABLE accounts versus special needs trusts in maintaining eligibility for needs-based government benefits, avoiding Medicaid paybacks, providing alternatives to guardianships, and offering financial strategies for families wishing to provide for their loved ones with special needs.</p>	<p><i>Alison Packard</i></p>

Session 3: 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 18, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
3110 11-Spanish	<p>Como prepararme para una junta ARD</p> <p>En esta presentación aprenderá cómo prepararse para una junta ARD, qué es una junta ARD y qué puede esperar de ella. También se explicará cómo leer la invitación a la junta, cómo presentarse adecuadamente, qué debe llevar, y qué temas se abordan durante la reunión. Además, se hablará sobre los diferentes tipos de juntas ARD, los lugares donde se brindan los servicios de educación especial, cómo interpretar el calendario escolar, incluyendo los exámenes, y se ofrecerá una guía sobre los acrónimos y abreviaciones comunes en la educación especial.</p>	<i>Katiuska Granados</i>
3130 13-Transition	<p>StarPlus HCBS Medicaid Waiver: Are you eligible?</p> <p>The STAR+PLUS Home and Community-Based (HCBS) Waiver (SPW) is a Medicaid waiver for adults (21+) with medical needs who also need long-term services and supports (LTSS) that allows them to get their LTSS services at home or in the community instead of in a nursing home. Adults who are on the other waiver waiting lists can get the SPW while staying on the other waiver waiting lists. Come to this session to see if you or your loved one qualifies for the SPW waiver. NOTE: If you have Medicaid and are eligible for the SPW waiver, there's NO WAITING LIST.</p>	<i>Sue Burek & Linda Litzinger</i>

TxP2P 20th Annual Conference

Session 4: 9:00a.m. – 10:00 a.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
4010 1-Advocacy	<p>Current IDD Advocacy Issues and our Kids' Future</p> <p>This presentation will start with an overview of all new legislation related to IDD services at the state and federal level. Next, what effect will these new laws have on the present and future IDD service available to our children? Will have another presented analysis of the effect the new laws will have on special education.</p>	<i>Joseph T. Potts</i>
4040 04-General	<p>Future Care & Life Planning for Special Needs Families</p> <p>Increase Your Awareness of the 7 Essential Factors of Future Life Planning for those with disabilities: Government Benefits, Family Support, Daily Living, Medical Teams, Legal Teams, Financial Advisement, and Community Resources</p>	<i>Brian Black</i>

Session 4: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
<p align="center">4060</p> <p align="center">06-Médical/ Therapy</p>	<p>Navigating the AAC Journey: Evaluation and Beyond</p> <p>Determining if your child needs communication support is essential for their growth and independence. This session will guide families through recognizing communication challenges at any age, understanding when evaluations are needed, and exploring appropriate supports, including speech therapy and assistive technology. Attendees will gain practical steps to access resources, advocate for services, and implement effective strategies tailored to their child’s needs. Whether just beginning the journey or seeking advanced support, this session empowers families to take the next steps with confidence.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Sara Loving</i></p>
<p align="center">4070</p> <p align="center">07-Mental Health</p>	<p>How to Support People with Disabilities who are Grieving</p> <p>As individuals with disabilities get older, the likelihood that they will experience grief and loss increases. However, they are less likely to get support in the grieving process. This means that individuals with disabilities are more likely to experience adverse grief outcomes. In this presentation we will learn: 1) the difference between normal grieving and complicated grief 2) how people with intellectual disabilities and autism experience grief 3) what typical grief reactions look like 4) simple strategies staff/caregivers can use to support individuals with disabilities through grief and loss.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Patricia Lund</i></p>
<p align="center">4100</p> <p align="center">10-Self Determination</p>	<p>Empowering Futures: Building Self-Determination</p> <p>This session will explore the concept of self-determination and its critical role in preparing students with disabilities for success beyond high school. We will discuss key skills such as goal setting, self-advocacy, decision-making, and problem-solving that empower students to take charge of their future. Parents and caregivers will gain practical strategies to support the development of these skills, fostering independence and confidence in their children. Through real-life examples and resources, participants will leave with actionable tools to help students thrive in post-secondary education, employment, and community life.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Deidre Gilley, PhD, MacKenzie Wicker, PhD and Katie Laubender</i></p>

Session 4: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
4110 11-Spanish	<p>Autism 101</p> <p>Una presentación introductoria en español que ofrece una comprensión clara del autismo como condición del neurodesarrollo. Explora desafíos sensoriales y conductuales, comparte mejores prácticas de comunicación y brinda herramientas prácticas para apoyar a personas autistas en el hogar, la escuela y la comunidad. Diseñada para fomentar el sentido de pertenencia, la empatía y la defensa dentro de la comunidad.</p>	<p><i>Adriana Crostley, Autism Society of Texas</i></p>

TxP2P 20th Annual Conference

Session 5: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
5040 04-General	<p>DIY Personal Network</p> <p>Are you ready to get started? Come learn how to start a personal support network for your child, step-by- step and side-by-side with other parents. This session is for families who attended the Intro to Personal Support Networks presentation or are already familiar with networks. Session will cover all the steps to starting a personal network, do-it-yourself (DIY) style. During the session, we will work together in small groups, identifying possible network members and developing network goals. Parents agree that the hardest thing about personal networks is getting started.</p>	<p><i>Jennifer Vincent & Lisa Treleven</i></p>
5041 04-General	<p>Sibling Panel</p> <p>An open and honest discussion about being a sibling to a sibling with disability. It is a lifelong relationship.</p>	<p><i>Jairo Sanchez, Javier Sanchez and Mary Jane Ledesma</i></p>
5090 09-Self Advocacy	<p>Developing Person Centered Outcomes</p> <p>This presentation will provide learners with an overview of how to develop person-centered outcomes. Participants will practice Person Centered Thinking skills that inform outcome statements and are included in Person Directed Plans.</p>	<p><i>Jeff Garrison- Tate</i></p>

Session 5: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
<p align="center">5091</p> <p align="center">09-Self Advocacy</p>	<p>Building Self-Esteem in Our Families: Cultivating Worth</p> <p>Self-esteem flourishes when children feel seen, heard, and valued for who they are, but how do we nurture that when life brings extra challenges? My 23-year-old son, Tucker, who is working with his spastic quadriplegia, will join me as we share heartfelt stories and practical ways to help families build confidence, purpose, and joy in their loved ones with disabilities. You will gain tangible strategies to reflect worth, create safe emotional space, and encourage choice and self-expression. Come be inspired, empowered, and equipped to help your loved ones dream beyond limits—and maybe even rediscover your own dreams along the way.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Heidi & Tucker Waters</i></p>
<p align="center">5110</p> <p align="center">11-Spanish</p>	<p>¿Qué son los waivers de Medicaid y cómo los puedo obtener?</p> <p>Esta presentación ofrecerá una descripción general de los beneficios de los <i>wavers</i> de Medicaid, también conocidos como Exenciones de Medicaid. Explicaremos qué son, cómo funcionan y por qué son tan importantes para personas con discapacidades o condiciones médicas crónicas. Los participantes aprenderán sobre los diferentes tipos de <i>wavers</i> disponibles en Texas, los criterios de elegibilidad, el proceso para solicitarlos y cómo estos programas pueden ayudar a recibir servicios y apoyos en el hogar o en la comunidad, en lugar de una institución. También hablaremos sobre los derechos de quienes están en las listas de espera y cómo mantenerse informado durante el proceso. ¡Ven y descubre si tú o un ser querido califican y cómo aprovechar estos recursos para mejorar su calidad de vida!</p>	<p align="center"><i>Martha Aguilar & Alejandra Arrigunaga</i></p>
<p align="center">5130</p> <p align="center">13-Transition</p>	<p>Healthcare Transition: Speak Up for What You Need!</p> <p>Moving from pediatric to adult-based care isn't an automatic, seamless process for youth with disabilities and/or chronic medical conditions. Whether your child plans to work, pursue higher education, volunteer, or do something else, having their health needs met is foundational for a good life. Let's make preparing for adult health care easier by empowering youth to use their voices and build choice-and decision-making skills. Come join a self-advocate and parent-professionals who will share personal experiences and insights about this essential transition. We'll explore new ideas for partnering with school teams and clinicians to promote your child's good, healthy life.</p>	<p align="center"><i>Amy Litzinger, Ivy Goldstein and Rosalba Calleros</i></p>

TxP2P 20th Annual Conference
Session 6: 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
6040 04-General	<p>Crowdsourcing Disaster Preparedness for Special Needs</p> <p>Research shows that individuals with disabilities in Texas are less prepared for disasters and more concerned about their safety than in previous years. In this session, the presenter will share key disaster preparedness resources for individuals with disabilities, while participants will have the opportunity to share their own experiences with these resources. Together, we'll discuss what has worked, what hasn't, and how we can improve preparedness efforts through community-driven insights. Join us to collaborate and enhance disaster preparedness strategies.</p>	<i>Lisa Treleaven</i>
6041 04-General	<p>Care for the Caregiver</p> <p>We all need to find time to care for ourselves! But that can be such a challenge when our children are young, ill or struggling with health, behavior or school issues! We know it is important to begin with just 5 minutes of self-care. Let's chat about all the ways we can reconnect with ways to care for ourselves so we can care for our children!</p>	<i>Patty Geisinger</i>
6090 09-Self-Advocacy	<p>Step up Strong, You Belong</p> <p>As water reflects the face, one's life reflects the heart. . This presentation aims to empower those who seek to participate in faith. During this presentation, you will hear narratives, personal experiences, and examples that illustrate the power of opportunity and transformation—stories that reflect the limitless potential the world has to offer when people with disabilities are fully included and encouraged to lead in their faith communities.</p>	<i>Amy Litzinger, Edgenie Bellah & Marvin Pearson</i>
6110 11-Spanish	<p>¡Vamos a desarrollar un plan de emergencia!</p> <p>Las emergencias pueden ocurrir en cualquier momento, y cuando tenemos un hijo o hija con discapacidad, esas situaciones pueden ser aún más frecuentes y complejas. En esta sesión, aprenderemos cómo prepararnos de manera práctica y anticipada para enfrentar emergencias médicas, escolares, del hogar o comunitarias. Hablaremos sobre qué tener a la mano, cómo crear un plan de acción personalizado y cómo comunicar efectivamente las necesidades de nuestro hijo(a) durante una crisis. Nuestro objetivo es brindarle las herramientas para sentirse más tranquilo(a), informado(a) y preparado(a) ante lo inesperado.</p>	<i>Gilda Gil</i>

Session 6: 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
6120 12-Special Education	Homeschooling for Real Life Carla will talk about the opportunities of homeschooling for kids with disabilities and what parents can do to make homeschooling succeed for them. She will talk about how things like autism, ADHD, dyspraxia, anxiety, etc. can affect learning. She will also touch on how you can collaborate with your child to develop competence and motivation. Carla will discuss how to leverage the resources you have into a homeschooling program that works for you including choosing curriculum styles and establishing goals with your child in mind.	<i>Carla Scruggs</i>
6130 13-Transition	Transition from SSI to SSDI? Will I Lose my Medicaid? Many people with disabilities who get SSI and Medicaid will become eligible for SSDI when their parent retires, becomes disabled or dies. Not many people know this, and it probably brings up lots of questions: How will SSDI affect my SSI? Will I lose my Medicaid or my Waiver? When will I qualify for Medicare? What happens when Medicare starts? I NEED HELP!!!! Please come to this session to get some answers.	<i>Sue Burek</i>

TxP2P 20th Annual Conference

Session 7: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
7010 01-Advocacy	Breaking Barriers in Housing Solutions Housing for adults with autism and intellectual/developmental disabilities (A/I/DD) is at a crisis point—yet remains largely invisible in broader housing policy discussions. The Montgomery County Housing Market Analysis has illuminated critical data and insights that demand immediate action. This session will unpack groundbreaking findings, expose systemic gaps, and introduce scalable, neuro-inclusive housing solutions that challenge the status quo. Attendees will leave equipped with the data, strategies, and collaborative opportunities necessary to drive policy changes, fund innovative projects, and design housing that supports true independence and inclusion.	<i>Kelly Baughman</i>

Session 7: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Saturday, July 19, 2025

Session	Description	Speakers
<p align="center">7080</p> <p align="center">08-Parent Leadership</p>	<p>Parent Leadership</p> <p>Join us to explore and expand your potential as a parent leader. In this session, we will reflect on the leadership qualities that parents of children with disabilities possess. We'll examine how our everyday experiences equip us to advocate not only for our own children but also for others in our community. Learn how to apply your personal journey to make a broader impact by serving on groups, sharing your insights, and using your leadership skills to drive meaningful changes.</p>	<p align="center">Rosalba Calleros</p>
<p align="center">7090</p> <p align="center">09-Self-Advocacy</p>	<p>Building Self-Advocacy in Kids with Disabilities</p> <p>The presentation will guide parents and educators in teaching children with disabilities to become confident self-advocates. Liz Pinon and her daughter, Felicita, will share their personal story, including Felicita's impactful testimony against SB-2, demonstrating how children can speak up for their rights. The session will cover practical strategies for building advocacy skills, helping children communicate their needs, and collaborating with schools to create supportive environments. Attendees will leave with tools to empower children with disabilities to advocate for themselves, fostering confidence and independence in everyday and formal settings.</p>	<p align="center">Dr. Lizdelia Piñón & Felicita Piñon</p>
<p align="center">7110</p> <p align="center">11-Spanish</p>	<p>Transición 101</p> <p>El objetivo de este taller es ofrecer a los participantes una visión general de los servicios de transición hacia la vida adulta. Explorando estrategias, servicios y recursos para guiarlo a crear una transición significativa para su hijo/hija después de la graduación. Trataremos temas como la elegibilidad para los programas financiados por el gobierno, la creación de una visión a futuro, la autodeterminación y posibilidades hacia una vida próspera.</p>	<p align="center">Dora Saavedra</p>
<p align="center">7130</p> <p align="center">13-Transition</p>	<p>The A B C D's of Medicare: What Plan Should I Choose?</p> <p>Adults who get SSA retirement or disability benefits (RSDI or SSDI) will qualify for Medicare at age 65 or 24 months after they become eligible for RSDI or SSDI, but there are lots of choices: Traditional Medicare, Traditional Medicare + MediGap, Medicare Advantage, or deferring Medicare until a later date. What plan should they choose? How will they pay for Medicare? What about prescription drug coverage? What if they have Medicaid or a Medicaid waiver? The right answer may be different for each person. Please come to this session to get some answers.</p>	<p align="center">Sue Burek & Pete Longoria</p>

Child Care

*** Please note - Lunch is provided and each child receives a t-shirt with paid registration. Extra lunch \$75.00***

1st Child's Name (first & last):		Child # 1 T- Shirt Size:	YOUTH ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L
2nd Child's Name (first & last):		Child # 2 T- Shirt Size:	YOUTH ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L
3rd Child's Name (first & last):		Child # 3 T- Shirt Size:	YOUTH ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L
4th Child's Name (first & last):		Child # 4 T- Shirt Size:	YOUTH ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L
5th Child's Name (first & last):		Child # 5 T- Shirt Size:	YOUTH ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L
6th Child's Name (first & last):		Child # 6 T- Shirt Size:	YOUTH ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L

Days childcare will be needed. (Please check all that apply) Friday Saturday

Sibshops

* Please note this session is ONLY for the siblings of children with disabilities.

I/We would like our child without disabilities to attend the Sibshop Event on Saturday Saturday

Sibshop T-shirt size: YOUTH: M L OR ADULT: S M

Peer to Peer Summit

* Please note - Lunch is provided, and each participant receives a t-shirt with paid registration. *

1st Teen's Name (first & last):		Age		Shirt Size:	ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL
2nd Teen's Name (first & last):		Age		Shirt Size:	ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL
3rd Teen's Name (first & last):		Age		Shirt Size:	ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL
4th Teen's Name (first & last):		Age		Shirt Size:	ADULT	<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - REQUEST A STIPEND

PLEASE READ THIS WHOLE THING IF YOU NEED SOME ASSISTANCE PAYING FOR THE CONFERENCE

We know that the cost of this conference can be a problem for families (we are all parents of children with disabilities ourselves and know how expensive life is) so we have secured some funds to help families who may need it. Please fill out the information below if you want to request a stipend. We cannot cover the whole cost of the conference for you because we have so many families asking for assistance, but we try to cover some expenses for everyone who asks. First consideration for lodging stipends is given to those who live **more than 70 miles** away from the conference hotel and who have not received lodging stipends in the past 2 years.

We have a lot of families that cancel in the last 2 weeks before the conference and have typically been able to cover some expenses for everyone. But you must stay on the registration list until the very end - if you cancel, you lose your position in the line and go to the bottom and may not get funding. So just stay on the list until the end.

We will try to cover 1 of the items shown below - please pick the 2 you need the most.

- #1 - Hotel costs for 1 adult 18 or over (we can only cover \$110 of the room cost, parking not included) or for 2 adults
- #2 - Registration for 1 or 2 parents
- #3 - Childcare costs, up to 2 children
- #4 - Peer to Peer Summit or self-advocate for the main conference - up to 2 self-advocates

Registration Summary and Payment

<u>Participant Registration</u>	Early Bird Ends June 30 th	Regular Ends July 11 th	Total Number of Participants	<u>ONSITE Registration</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Parent / Family Member/Self Advocate (Check, cash, credit)	\$350.00	\$400.00		\$450.00	
Professional (Check, cash, credit)	\$550.00	\$600.00		\$650.00	
Peer to Peer Summit (check, cash, credit)	\$200.00	\$250.00		NA	
ANY PAYMENT BY PURCHASE ORDER	\$700.00	\$700.00		\$700.00	
CEUs - Per Participant	\$150.00	\$150.00		\$150.00	
2025 TxP2P Conference <input type="checkbox"/> Speaker <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibitor <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor					No Fee
Child Care & Sibshop Registration		I Child	Each additional child		<u>TOTAL</u>
Child Care (2 days)		\$200.00	\$ 75.00		
Sibshop Registration - SATURDAY ONLY (waived if paying child care)		\$100.00	\$ 75.00		

PAYMENT INFORMATION

I would like to help pay another family's conference expenses (enter amount)	
I would like to purchase additional noon lunches @\$75.00 each ___Friday ___Saturday / _____meals x \$75.00 =	
I would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to TxP2P (enter amount)	

Total Amount Due <i>(Including Fees for Participant Registration, CEUs, Teen Summit, Child Care, Sibshops)</i>	\$
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Method of Payment:	<input type="checkbox"/> Check (made payable to TxP2P) <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase Order <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Discover
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For your convenience, payment can also be made on our secure website: www.txp2p.org or call us at 866-896-6001.