

Beyond the Medical Diagnosis: Supporting the Person, Community Resources

Laura G. Buckner, M.Ed., LPC, M.O.M.

Program Manager, Community Education

Texas Center for Disability Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

**“This child will be as disabled
as YOU CHOOSE to see him.”**

~ Pediatric Neurologist as he diagnosed our 3-month old son

The greatest discovery of my generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind.

- William James, 1842 – 1910
American psychologist & Philosopher

A Disability
Label is
ONLY a
Medical
Diagnosis!

Autism
Attachment disorder
AD/HD
epilepsy
Spina bifida
Spina Bifida
OCD
CP
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
Deaf-blind
Down Syndrome
IDD
Fragile X
LD
TBI
Williams Syndrome
Tuberous sclerosis
Spinal cord injury

YADA YADA YADA...

A
Disability
Label is a
Passport
to Services



Provide

- ✓ knowledgeable
- ✓ up-to-date
- ✓ Reliable
- ✓ accessible

resources!

Or don't!

NEWS

Visit our news page to read about the latest updates.

[Read More](#)

<https://txpartners.org/>

Texas Partners in Policymaking

Texas Partners in Policymaking is an advanced leadership development training program for self-advocates and family members of people with developmental disabilities.

ABOUT US



Learn more about Texas Partners in Policymaking.

APPLY NOW



Applications for the class of 2024-2025 are closed. Learn how to apply for our next class.

ALUMNI PROGRAM

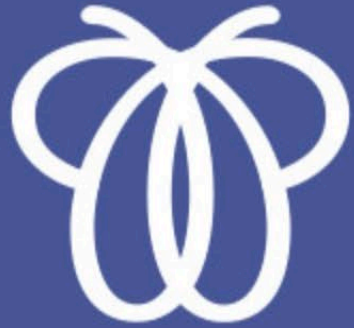


Learn about how Partners Alumni stay connected, informed, and engaged.

IMPACT



Take a look at what impact graduates are making.



Texas Parent to Parent

<https://www.txp2p.org/>



Connect With Other Parents



TxP2P Parent Conference



Pathways to Adulthood

Join Our Family

Sign up to receive information



DONATE!

TxP2P Upcoming Events:

Regional Parent

Texas Parent to Parent provides support, information, and education for families of children and adults with disabilities, chronic and mental health conditions and other health care



Navigate Life Texas

For families raising children with disabilities

Español or Select Language

Enter a keyword

Search



Home



Diagnosis & Health Care



Education & Schools



Insurance & Financial Help



Family Support



Transition to Adulthood



Find Services, Groups & Events



End of Continuous Medicaid Coverage >

RESOURCES & SUPPORT

For families raising children with disabilities

Top 10 Things to Do

if you have a child with a disability in Texas >



Sign Up for Our Newsletter

Get the latest articles—written by parents, for parents—sent straight to your inbox!

Email Address *

Choose a Language *

<https://www.navigatelifetexas.org/>

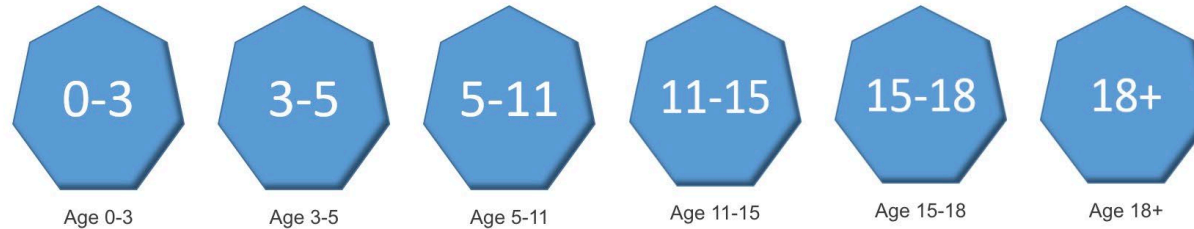


Providing Accurate and Consistent Information on the Special Education Process

Created By Parents, For Parents: Welcome!

***Helping Families & Caregivers Gain Educational Services for their children,
Understand the IEP Process***

***Where do you start?
What age is your child?***



What Matters to Family Members!

***Has your child recently been diagnosed with a disability?
Do you have concerns about your child's learning and are [trying to find help](#)?
Your child may be receiving special education services and [you need to learn more](#).***

***Wherever you are in the special education process, we've been there.
We know the maze in which you find yourself.***

MEDICAID WAIVERS – GET ON THE LIST!

[Navigate Life - TX Waivers explained in Parent Friendly Language](#)

GO HERE FIRST!



Navigate Life Texas
For families raising children with disabilities

[Español](#) or  [Select Language](#) ▼

Enter a keyword

-  Home
-  Diagnosis & Health Care
-  Education & Schools
-  Insurance & Financial Help
-  Family Support
-  Transition to Adulthood
-  Find Services, Groups & Events

[Home](#) > [Insurance & Financial Help](#) > [Medicaid Waivers](#) > Medicaid Waivers Overview

Waivers

Video: Waivers and Wait Lists



Waivers and Wait Lists (English)
From an accredited US hospital >

Navigate Life Texas

Waivers and Wait Lists
Watch on  YouTube



More About:

 **Insurance & Financial Help**

- [Insurance & Financial Help Overview](#)
- [Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\)](#)
- [Social Security Disability Insurance \(SSDI\)](#)
- [Medicare](#)
- [Funding and Services From Age 18](#)
- [Non-Government Funding and Grants](#)

Getting on “the list(s)”, the Family/Child **does NOT...**

- **Have to “qualify for services”**
- **Need to know what services the child will or will not need or qualify for to get on the list.**

- **Give families this information in writing**
- **suggest a loved one help make the calls (don’t let it get lost in the midst of everything else!)**
- **Or make the calls with them!**
- **Remind them to update their information annually – especially if contact information/mailing address changes**

DO have a clear conversation with the family about the financial restrictions involved in Medicaid Waivers and Social Security benefits.

This child can never have more than \$2000 in his/her name.

You could be entitled to \$3,882 per month! Free Disability Evaluation:

STEP 1. CASE INFO

STEP 2. CONTACT INFO

Is applicant currently receiving Social Security benefits? ⓘ

Yes No

Does applicant expect to be out of work for at least 12 months? ⓘ

Yes No

Does applicant have an attorney helping with this case? ⓘ

Yes No

Is applicant receiving treatment from a doctor? ⓘ

Yes No

Next

[Get Disability Benefits Help!](#) >> [Resources \(Updated for 2024\)](#)
>> [Social Security Disability Medical Resources](#)

McAllen Social Security Disability Resources

Applying for social security disability in McAllen, TX requires you to present medical evidence to the Social Security Administration that you have experienced a physical or mental impairment which prevents you from working for at least twelve months. The SSA will pay benefits to you if you are a qualifying worker with injuries that prevent you from earning at least \$1,550 per month in what the SSA defines as "gainful employment."

You can apply for McAllen social security disability benefits either through their online portal or at a McAllen area SSA field office.

Using information from your work history, earnings and financial records, the SSA will make a determination on your eligibility to receive social security disability in McAllen. Once the non-medical review is complete, the SSA will forward your case file to the Texas Division for Disability Services (DDS) where an administrative team will conduct a medical review using records provided by your treating physician.

Usually, two-thirds of the initial SSD claims received by the state of Texas were denied. Of those that

Social Security Programs

[Social Security Disability Insurance \(SSDI\)](#)
[Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\)](#)

Application Process

[Can You Get Disability Benefits?](#)
[How to Apply for Social Security Disability](#)

Disability Resources

[Social Security Disability Resources](#)

Disability Calculator

[Calculate Disability Payments](#)

Search form





Assist individuals with disabilities to achieve their goals



Marketplace Health Insurance Navigator Services

Healthcare Navigator Program- Health Insurance Marketplace, established through the Affordable Care Act, enables people to find quality affordable health coverage. CBCIL Coastal Bend Navigators provide free confidential services to consumers...

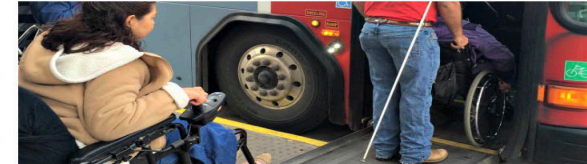
[Learn More About Marketplace Health Insurance Navigator Services](#)



Independent Living Purchased Services Program

Additional Resources may be available to assist you! ILS funds will assist individuals in the Coastal Bend with products and services that will increase their ability to live independently without...

[Learn More About](#)



Mobility Options Program

The Mobility Options Program (MOP) is a transportation project under the CBCIL Mobility Services Program, assisting individuals with disabilities and seniors to access transportation in the Coastal Bend. Funding for...

[Learn More About Mobility Options Project](#)

Announcements

Join CBCIL and the Functional Needs Support Team (FNST) with City Hurricane Evacuation Exercise!

Join representatives from the City of Corpus Christi, Texas Division of Emergency Management, and local agencies including the Functional Needs Support Team (FNST) this Friday, June 17th from 2:00 p.m....

Locations

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE – CORPUS CHRISTI

3462 S. Alameda St., Corpus Christi, TX 78411
Phone: 361-334-1206
Fax: 361-334-3669

MAIN OFFICE – CORPUS CHRISTI



<https://disabilityrightstx.org/en/home/>

About Us ▾

What We Do ▾

Get Help ▾

Get Involved ▾

Resources ▾

Español



Are you being discriminated against in your housing? Find out more about [our new online tool](#) that can help you take action.



Audie is now able to live more independently with his new motorized wheelchair.

[Read his story](#)



Protecting Your Rights

Disability Rights Texas is the protection and advocacy agency for Texans with disabilities. People with disabilities have a right to be included in all aspects of their communities. Our mission is to help people with disabilities understand and exercise their rights under the law, ensuring their full and equal participation in society.

Knowing Your Rights



FOOD



HOUSING



GOODS



TRANSIT



HEALTH



MONEY



CARE



EDUCATION



WORK



LEGAL

Select Language English

Programs provided by:

Disability Rights Texas

Legal advocacy services for adults and children with disabilities in Texas

by Disability Rights Texas

Reviewed on: 08/22/2024

Disability Rights Texas (DRTx) provides free legal advocacy services for children and adults with disabilities experiencing discrimination related to accessibility, education, employment,...

Main Services: housing advice , transportation , help find healthcare , understand government programs , more education , workplace rights , advocacy & legal aid , discrimination & civil rights

Serving: adults, young adults, teens, seniors, all disabilities, individuals, limited english

MORE INFO



SAVE



SHARE



NOTES



SUGGEST

APPLY ON THEIR SITE

Next Steps:

Call 800-252-9108 or apply on their website

Serves your state

Open Now : 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CDT

Special Education

by Disability Rights Texas

Reviewed on: 08/22/2024

Students with disabilities learn best when receiving the special education services and supports they need in settings with their non-disabled peers. For this to be a reality for the more than...

Main Services: navigating the system , one-on-one support , skills & training , advocacy & legal aid

Serving: young adults, teens, children, all disabilities, families, limited english

MORE INFO



SAVE



SHARE



NOTES



SUGGEST

APPLY ON THEIR SITE

Next Steps:

Call 800-252-9108 or apply on their website

Serves your state

Open Now : 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM CDT

Medicaid Waivers and Fair Hearings

by Disability Rights Texas

Reviewed on: 08/22/2024

Disability Rights Texas works to protect and advance the civil rights of people with disabilities, helps people with disabilities when their rights have been violated and seeks to ensure that...

Main Services: navigating the system , one-on-one support , advocacy & legal aid

Next Steps:

Call 800-252-9108 or apply on their website

Network of Care for Seniors and People with Disabilities

[Home](#) [Services](#) [Health Library](#) [Legislate](#) [Community Resources](#) [Health Care](#) [Assistive Devices](#) [My Account](#)

Search

Find Resources By Category

Are You a Veteran, Service Member or Family Member?

We've got information about local programs and services for you.

View Resources

Find Resources By Category ▼

[Abuse and Neglect](#)

[Accessibility and Assistive Devices](#)

[Addiction and Substance Abuse](#)

[Adult Day Care/Day Programs](#)

[Advocacy & Planning](#)

[Benefits Assistance](#)

[Caregiver Support/Respite](#)

[Child & Family Services](#)

[Counseling](#)





But remember...Nobody has a crystal ball. The experts' job is to paint the picture that is possible...as grim as that might be.

The **family's** job is to become The Expert on who this child is, to believe in what's possible and to **HAVE HOPE** for this child and his/her future.



**“This child will be as disabled
as YOU CHOOSE to see him.”**

~ Pediatric Neurologist as he diagnosed our 3-month old son



Help family members become **Experts**

- **Listen** to them
- **Value** their insights, observations,
And questions
- **Teach** them
- **Collaborate** with them
- **Commend** them for what they are
doing well!

Create a One Page Description!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dR6vAVxb18&ab_channel=TexasCenterforDisabilityStudies



The Ins and Outs: One Page Profiles for Healthcare Settings

Watch later Share

The Ins and Outs: One Page Profiles for Healthcare Settings

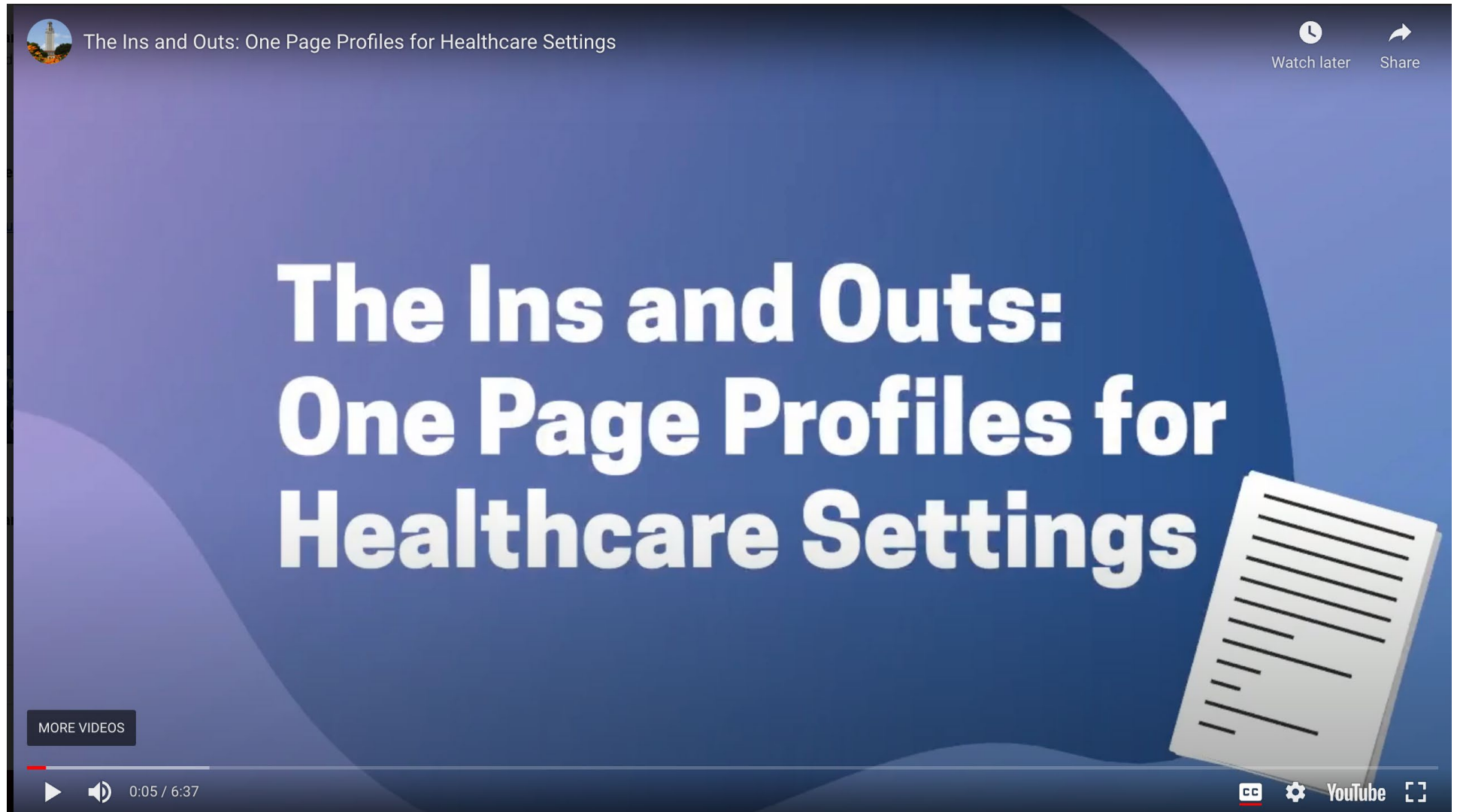
MORE VIDEOS

0:05 / 6:37

CC YouTube

The video player shows a blue background with white text. In the bottom right corner, there is a graphic of a document with lines of text. The video title is 'The Ins and Outs: One Page Profiles for Healthcare Settings'. The video is from the channel 'Texas Center for Disability Studies'. The video is currently at 0:05 of 6:37. There are icons for 'Watch later' and 'Share' in the top right. There is a 'MORE VIDEOS' button in the bottom left. The video player controls are visible at the bottom, including a play button, a volume icon, and the YouTube logo.

Create a One Page Description!



The Ins and Outs: One Page Profiles for Healthcare Settings

Watch later Share

The Ins and Outs: One Page Profiles for Healthcare Settings

MORE VIDEOS

0:05 / 6:37

CC Settings YouTube

The image shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top left, there is a circular profile picture and the video title "The Ins and Outs: One Page Profiles for Healthcare Settings". To the right of the title are icons for "Watch later" and "Share". The main content area features a large blue background with white text that reads "The Ins and Outs: One Page Profiles for Healthcare Settings". In the bottom right corner of the video area, there is a graphic of a document with horizontal lines representing text. Below the video area, there is a "MORE VIDEOS" button. At the very bottom, there is a video progress bar showing "0:05 / 6:37" and icons for closed captions, settings, the YouTube logo, and a full-screen button.

Cultivate HOPE.

And leave your passport in your pocket unless
you need it to open the door to services!





The University of Texas at Austin

Texas Center for Disability Studies

Laura G. Buckner, M.Ed., LPC

Texas Center for Disability Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Laura.buckner@utexas.edu

512-232-0741

<https://tcds.edb.utexas.edu/>