

**Background:**

TCDD has provided funds since FY 2000 to support travel of public members to participate on state level advisory committees, councils, and workgroups that focus on issues of importance to individuals with developmental disabilities. This support recognizes the importance for individuals with disabilities and their families to participate in policy discussions about the services and programs that impact their lives. TCDD funding approval is intended to support self-advocates with disabilities or their family members who do not have support of a sponsoring organization or association for their travel to enable their participation as members of advisory bodies that are established by statute, approval of the agency’s governing board, or authorization of agency head. In FY 2012 TCDD supported approximately 20 public members on six committees for approximately \$35,000 - \$40,000. Additional funding is budgeted for FY 2013 of \$45,000 - \$50,000 to include support for additional responsibilities taken on by the Children’s Policy Council.

The supported committees:

- Children’s Policy Council
- Consumer Direction Workgroup
- Council on Children & Families
- Task Force for Children with Special Needs
- Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council
- Texas Integrated Funding Initiative

TCDD will be reviewing the results of these efforts and considering approval of funding support for the next two years.

**Public Policy Committee**

**Agenda Item 7. C.**

**Expected Action:**

The Public Policy Committee will discuss the executive summary and may make recommendations to the Council.

**Council**

**Agenda Item 11. C.**

**Expected Action:**

The Council will consider recommendations from the Public Policy Committee.