

**Background:**

Staff compiled a report of recent public information activities for the Committee's review.

Discussion topics include:

- Public Information Report
- Graphics

<b><u>Project Development Committee</u></b>  <b><u>Agenda Item 6. A.</u></b>	<b><u>Expected Action:</u></b>  The Committee will receive an update regarding recent public information activities and provide guidance as needed. No action is anticipated.
<b><u>Public Policy Committee</u></b>  <b><u>Agenda Item 8.</u></b>	<b><u>Expected Action:</u></b>  The Committee will receive an update regarding recent public information activities and provide guidance as needed. No action is anticipated.
<b><u>Council Meeting</u></b>  <b><u>Agenda Item 13. A.</u></b>	<b><u>Expected Action:</u></b>  The Council will receive a report of Committee discussions on this item. No action is anticipated.

# Public Information Report

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## Creating Awareness and Building Connections

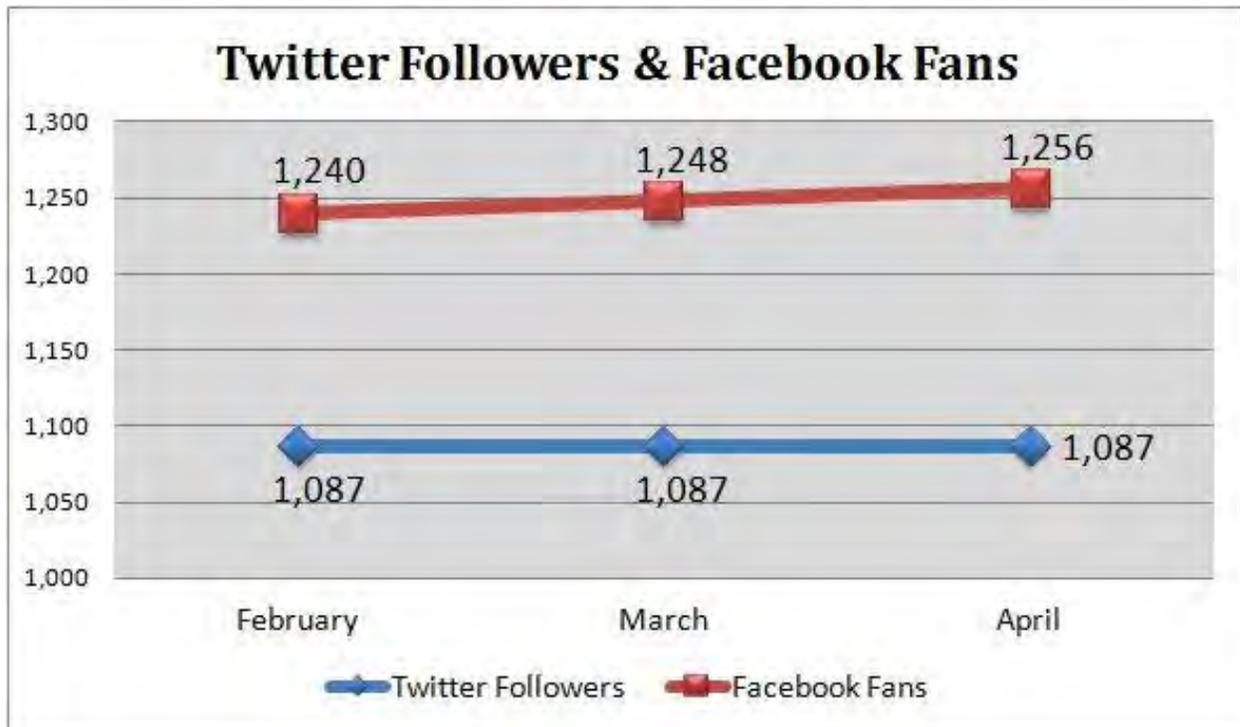
- Staff completed the [TCDD's Annual Report](#) for fiscal year 2013.
- Many places picked up or linked to our social media and News and Features information on “[14 Facts about the recently updated Texas service dog law for 2014.](#)” This feature resulted in a lot of inquiries about the topic and good publicity for TCDD. A few of the organizations that publicized the feature are the:
  - [Deaf Network](#);
  - [Texas Veterans Commission](#), under News from State and Federal Partners; and [Texas State Independent Living Council](#).
- The [March edition of NACDD Field Notes](#), an information and technical assistance newsletter for the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities, included an article and photo we submitted about [TCDD's Faith-Based Projects](#), with a focus on the Austin Interfaith Inclusion Network.
- As the result of another, [education related article in the October 2013 Field Notes](#) (page 2), the Idaho DD Council contacted us to learn more about Project IDEAL and legislation that Texas passed last year regarding teacher training.
- Several grant projects received **publicity**, such as
  - Some current and former TCDD **projects presented at the [2014 Texas Transition conference](#)**, Feb. 27-28, 2014, in Austin. This included presentations on:
    - [Project CASE](#) (Connections for Academic Success and Employment) by Texas Tech University;
    - [Project HIRE](#) (Helping Individuals Reach Employment) in the Rio Grande Valley by the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services; and
    - [TALAC](#), (Texas Advanced Leadership and Advocacy Conference) through Texas A&M University.
  - The **West Central Texas Aging and Disability Resource Center** obtained coverage in the [Abilene newspaper](#) regarding its inclusive faith-based symposium, “Bridging the Gap: Communities Supporting Persons with Disabilities and their Families,” on Feb. 25, 2014.
  - **Project SPEAK** by Imagine Enterprises obtained coverage in the [Galveston Daily News](#) regarding its training on public speaking for students with developmental disabilities in Dickinson ISD. Six junior high and high school students are developing new skills and self-confidence to talk about the needs of people with disabilities and become powerful advocates for themselves and others.

# Public Information Report

- The following **TCDD materials were requested** and distributed to other organizations:
  - 500 [People First handouts](#)
  - 67 [Higher Education Resource Guides](#) (52 in English + 15 in Spanish)
  - 2 [Employability Skills: Job Success through Social Skills](#) (by Richardson ISD, 2004)
  - 1 [Biennial Disability Report](#) (in English)
- Staff responded to more than **105 requests for information and referral** in the past quarter.

## Social Media Update

TCDD uses its Facebook fan page and Twitter account on a daily basis to share and learn about pertinent news stories, resources and policy information.



(February 1 through April 9, 2014)

# Public Information Report

## Samples of responses to TCDD Tweet:

 **TxCnIDevDisabilities,**  
Liz Lewis replied to your Tweet! 

 **TxCnIDevDisabilities @TXCDD**  
[@LizLewisAnthro](#) thanks for sharing the info about our Fellows RFP!  
- 27 Feb

 **Liz Lewis @LizLewisAnthro** Follow  
[@TxCDD](#) My pleasure! It looks like a fantastic and much-needed program. So important to build a better future for Texans with [#disabilities!](#)  
05:36 PM - 27 Feb 14

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 **TxCnIDevDisabilities,**  
You were mentioned in a Tweet! 

 **Mark Hagen @MarkwHagen**  
Critical read! RT [@TxCDD](#): Challenging Guardianship & Pressing for Supported Decision-Making for Ind. w/ Disabilities  
[ow.ly/sy5ri](http://ow.ly/sy5ri)  
03:15 PM - 23 Jan 14

[Reply to @MarkwHagen](#)  Retweet  Favorite

# Public Information Report

**TxCnDevDisabilities**  
Sue Johnson replied to your Tweet!

**TxCnDevDisabilities @TxCDD**  
@vocadvisor thanks for the RT and favorite! -31 Jan

**Sue Johnson @vocadvisor**  
@TxCDD You bet, and thank you for the info!  
I'm glad I found ya!  
04:26 PM - 31 Jan 14

Reply to @vocadvisor Retweet Favorite

@vocadvisor retweeted and favorited “(Video) For practical information for job applicants w/disabilities, view “Employment Challenges and Legal Options” <http://ow.ly/sTdle>

## Accessibility Update

Staff has increased the accessibility of the TCDD website to 95% as of April 2014. Accessibility describes the "ability to access" and benefit from some system or entity.

WorldSpace Sync

Texas DIR Go! TXCDD Go! ☆ [Icons]

**Project Report: TXCDD**

Date Range 03-11-2014 04-10-2014 Practice Accessibility Go! + update now + show potential issues + scans

Project snapshot — effective 4/10/14 4:29 AM

Snapshot for...	Score	Pages				
		Total	Critical	Serious	Fair	Good
TXCDD	95%	150	0	6	21	123

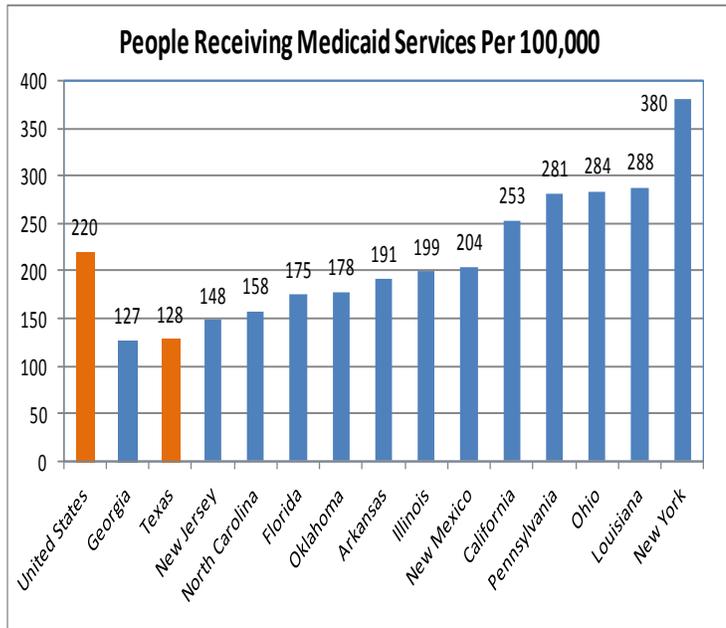
X



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 Andrew Crim, Vice Chair  
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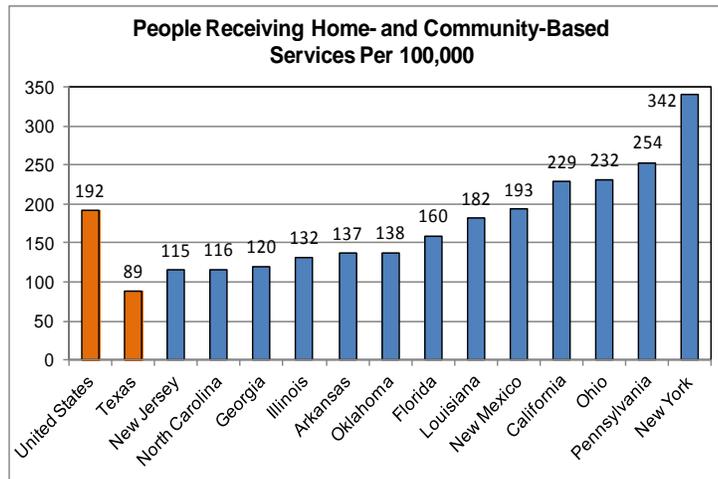
**Texas spends very little on Medicaid developmental disabilities services, and provides services to fewer people than most states.**



Source: Larson, Sheryl, Amanda Ryan, Patricia Salmi, Drew Smith, and Allise Wuorio. "Residential Services and Supports for People with Developmental Disabilities: Status and Trends through 2010." Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, Research and Training Center on Community Living, Institute on Community Integration. 2012:120

- Texas lags the nation, and nearly all comparison states, in the number of persons who receive Medicaid developmental disabilities services.
- Texas provides Medicaid developmental disabilities services to 128 persons per 100,000, compared to the national average of 220 – or 42.9% below the nationwide average.

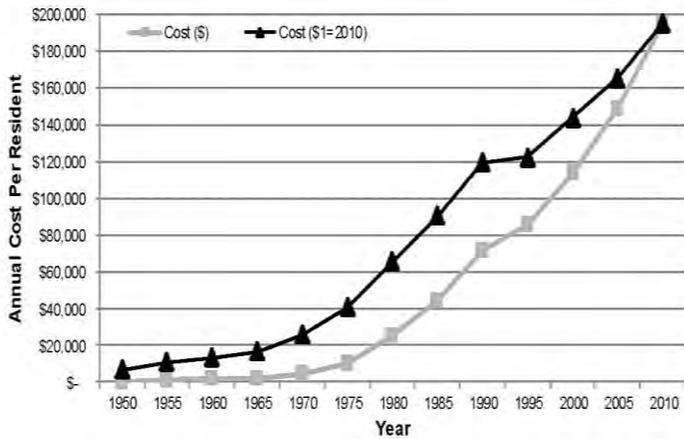
- Although Texas has increased the number of home- and community-based recipients by over 15,000 from 2000 to 2010, it has a relatively low utilization rate of 89 per 100,000 of the state population. This compares to the national average of 192 per 100,000.
- Only Michigan, Mississippi, and Nevada have lower utilization rates than Texas.



Source: Larson, Sheryl, Amanda Ryan, Patricia Salmi, Drew Smith, and Allise Wuorio. "Residential Services and Supports for People with Developmental Disabilities: Status and Trends through 2010." Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, Research and Training Center on Community Living, Institute on Community Integration. 2012:120.

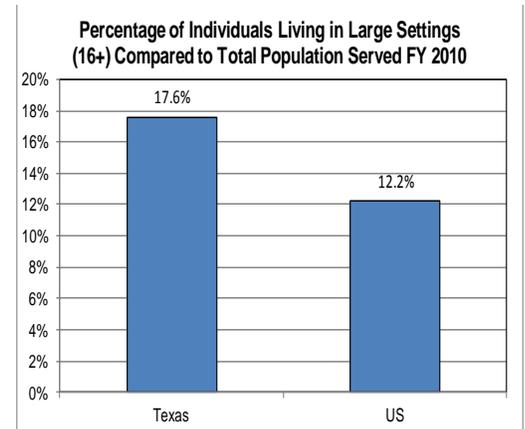
## Texas employs its fiscal resources inefficiently in large state-run institutions.

Figure 1.5 Average Annual Per Resident Expenditures in Large State ID/DD Residential Facilities, 1950-2010



- Texas has a greater proportion of the state population residing in large ICFs (16+ individuals) than the national average.
- Individuals receiving ICF services are similar to those in waivers

- The Texas system emphasizes the use of more expensive services more frequently than other states.
- Texas expends a greater proportion of its Medicaid dollars on ICFs compared to the national average.



Source: Larson, Sheryl, Amanda Ryan, Patricia Salmi, Drew Smith, and Allise Wuorio. "Residential Services and Supports for People with Developmental Disabilities: Status and Trends through 2010." Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, Research and Training Center on Community Living, Institute on Community Integration. 2012: 187.

## TCDD Recommendations

- Rebalance the system that serves persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities by expanding cost-effective policies honoring the choices of individuals to live in the most integrated setting to meet their needs, identifying and providing supports and services to meet the needs of persons when and where they need them, and transferring the savings so that more persons with disabilities have the opportunity to be included in their communities.
- Develop and implement strategies that address the needs of families in crisis to prevent the unnecessary placement of children in any institutional setting.
- Address the direct support workforce shortage by collecting and analyzing trends regarding workforce demographics and wages, developing and promoting a peer support workforce, expanding consumer direction, and restructuring payment methodologies to ensure that the legislature has the ability set direct service wages at levels commensurate with the value and scope of the service.

## Most people live at home.

We should put more  
**Money** where the  
**People** are!



(Source: Braddock, David, Richard Hemp, and Mary C. Rizzolo. The State of the States in Developmental Disabilities 2011. Department of Psychiatry and Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities, The University of Colorado).