

About TCDD: The Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (TCDD) draws from the principles identified in the Federal Developmental Disabilities Act (Public Law 106–402) in evaluating and responding to current and future policy issues that impact the developmental disabilities (DD) community. **TCDD invests its funds on promising practices that advance the inclusion of people with DD in all facets of community life by eliminating barriers, creating opportunities, and promoting innovation.**

2019 Public Policy Priority:

Most Integrated, Person-Centered Setting

Strengthen the community's capacity to support all people with disabilities to live in the most integrated, person-centered setting of their choosing, while consolidating and/or closing more restrictive settings like state supported living centers (SSLCs). Individuals should not be unnecessarily segregated in an institution because the state has not adequately funded community supports.

TCDD Investments & Impact: Most Integrated, Person-Centered Setting

TCDD's recent project investments to build capacity to improve the system in Texas:

Family-Based Alternatives [EveryChild, Inc.]: This project developed a model for family-based alternatives for children with disabilities who live in institutions or who are at risk of being placed in institutions. This model encompasses the unique needs of the child, the birth family, and the alternative family. Currently, more than 1,100 children under the age of 21 live in institutions in Texas.

Accessible Housing

- Coalition of Texans with Disabilities: Project provided training and technical assistance to Public Housing Authorities in Texas to increase integrated housing for people with disabilities.
- The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR) & Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU): A coalition of organizations increased the number of visitable new single-family homes throughout the state, which include the first level of accessibility for people with disabilities. This project included training, outreach, and technical assistance to builders and building inspectors to recognize and promote features that make a home visitable.

Other 2019 Public Policy Priorities:

- Home and Community-Based Services
- Accessible Parking
- Community Attendant Rates and Wages
- Employment First
- Accessible Transportation
- Health Care

More Information: To learn more about TCDD's public policy priorities for the 86th Texas Legislature, contact Scott Daigle, Public Policy Director, at scott.daigle@tcdd.texas.gov or (512) 437-5417.