



HUNTING FOR COMMUNITY RESOURCES

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Abby, Rutherford and Jackson



**Texas Children's
Health Plan**

The best decision a family can make.

Rutherford at Age 24



Special Education Resources

Partners Resource Network www.partnerstx.org

- Parent Information and Training (PTI) Grantee from the US Dept. of Education, Office of Special Education Programs for the state of Texas, holds all three grants:
 - PATH – East Texas including Austin and Dallas/Fort Worth;
 - TEAM – South Texas including Houston and San Antonio;
 - PEN – West Texas;
- provide training, education, information, referral, emotional support, and individual assistance in obtaining appropriate services for Special Education.

Special Education Resources

Partners Resource Network, Inc. offers:

- Individual assistance over the phone and in-person to families who have questions about their child's needs;
- Workshops for parents and professionals take place on an ongoing basis throughout Texas;
- Resources such as printed publications and online materials are available on a variety of relevant topics;

Special Education Resources

Partners Resource Network, Inc helps to:

- Understand their child's disability;
- Understand their rights and responsibilities under IDEA;
- Obtain and evaluate resources and services;
- Participate as team members with professionals in planning services for their children.

All Regional Coordinators are parents of children with disabilities.

Resources in General

- ARC Chapters throughout the state – find local chapters on the ARC of the US; www.thearc.org/find-a-chapter
- Texas Parent to Parent – peer to peer model, huge state annual conference; <http://txp2p.org/index.html>
- University Centers for Excellence in Disability and Development
 - Center for Disability and Development, Texas A&M University - support the self-determination, community integration, and quality of life of people with disabilities and their families; <http://cdd.tamu.edu/>
 - Texas Center for Disability Studies, University of Texas - Our mission is to serve Texas as a catalyst so that people with disabilities are living the lives they choose in supportive communities; <http://tcds.edb.utexas.edu/>

Resources in General

- Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities - The mission of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities is to create change so that all people with disabilities are fully included in their communities and exercise control over their own lives.
<http://www.tcdd.texas.gov/>
- Disability Rights Texas - is the federally designated legal protection and advocacy agency (P&A) for people with disabilities in Texas with offices with six offices across the state, great information sheets; www.disabilityrightstx.org
- Easter Seals in Houston, San Antonio, Center, East, North and Rio Grande; <http://www.easterseals.com/connect-locally/?state=TX>

Parent Organizations

- National Chapter of Different Disabilities such as Down Syndrome, Autism, Spina Bifida websites
- Texas Dept. of State Health Services Children with Special Health Care Needs Contractors

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/Community-Based-Contractors.shtm>

- Texas Parent to Parent <http://txp2p.org/index.html>
- Facebook
- Find that Pivotal Parent!

Sports Programs – Challenger League

The Challenger Division was established in 1989 as a separate division of Little League to enable boys and girls with physical and mental challenges, ages 4-18, or up to age 22 if still enrolled in high school, to enjoy the game of baseball along with the millions of other children who participate in this sport worldwide. Today, more than 30,000 children participate in more than 900 Challenger Divisions worldwide.

Teams are set up according to abilities, rather than age, and can include as many as 15-20 players. Challenger games can be played as tee ball games, coach pitch, player pitch, or a combination of the three.

<http://www.littleleague.org/learn/about/divisions/challenger.htm>

My son Rutherford at Challenger Baseball



Soap Box Derby - Super Kids Division

The National Super Kids Classic is a Soap Box Derby race for physically and mentally challenged children from around the world. Local races are held throughout the year. Winners from each local race advance to the world famous Derby Downs Track in Akron, Ohio for the world championship, which is held in conjunction with the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby Race. Region 3 includes Texas.

<http://www.aasbd.org/race-programs/national-super-kids-classic.aspx>

Resources

- Overnight Camps for Children with Disabilities

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/Summer-Camps.aspx>

- Sensory Friendly Films - The program provides a special opportunity for families to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment. The auditoriums dedicated to the program have their lights up, the sound turned down and audience members are invited to get up and dance, walk, shout or sing!

<http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/events/sensory-friendly-films>

Resources in the Community

County Website Resources Section

United Way Websites for the area

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