

Developmental Disabilities

October 2008 FAQ

Presentation to CAN Resource Council

Nov 14, 2008

Developmental Disabilities

- The term developmental disabilities covers persons whose disability occurs before age 22 and includes a mental or physical impairment or a combination of both.

The Problem

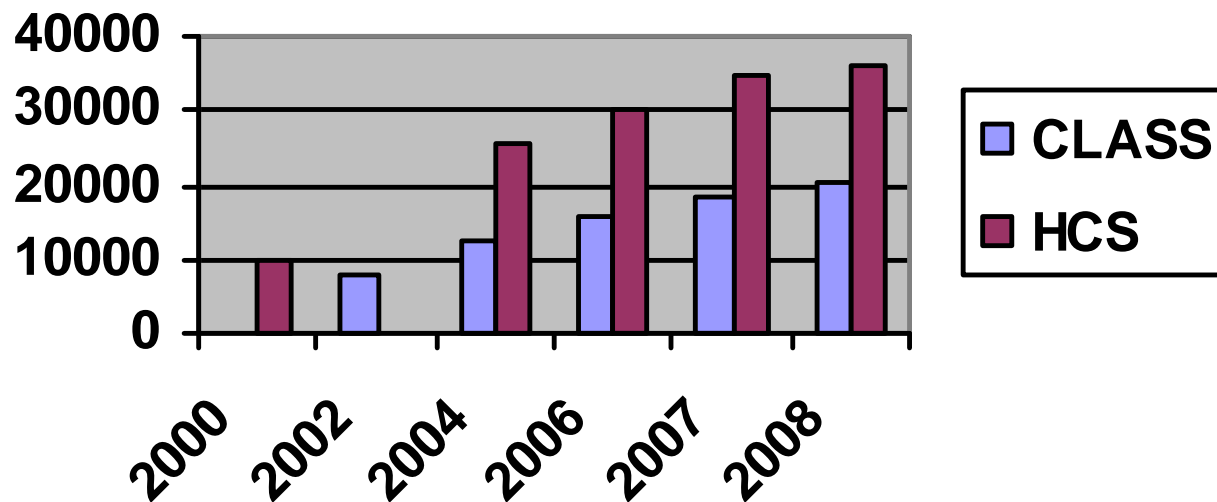
- Half a million Texans live with developmental disabilities
- 11 of the 13 State Schools are under investigation by U.S. Justice Department
- In 2007, 11,504 Texans lived in institutions
- State Auditor report found 70% who want placements outside of institutionalized settings did not receive them.
- 80% increase in children placed in state schools

Community-Based Care

- Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS) provides services to people with DD in their homes.
- Home and Community-Based Services (HCS) provides services to people with mental retardation who live with their family, in their own home or in a community care setting.
- CLASS and HCS cost 15%-25% less than institutionalized care

Wait Lists Increasing

of People on Texas Waiting Lists for CLASS and HCS



Wait time for CLASS is 2.4 years. Wait time for HCS is 3.4 years.

Health Issues

- Most with DD rely on Medicaid.
- Texas' physician Medicaid participation rate is worst in nation.
- Texas Medicaid does not cover dental care for adults.
- People with DD are less likely to receive medical screenings and tests.
- People with DD are more likely to have little emotional support.

Education

- Children with DD have right to free public education from 3 – 21 years of age.
- After “aging out” adults with DD are at a loss for meaningful daily activities.



Caregiver Challenges



- 750,000 people with DD in US live with aging parents
- Life expectancy for people with DD has increased from only 19 years in 1930's to 66 years in 1990's.
- Older family caregivers need support

Other Challenges: Personal Safety

- People with DD are more vulnerable to crime
- 2006 study found young adults with MR were 7-times more likely to have been attacked within the past year
- Less able to recognize danger or to seek recourse through criminal justice system

Other Challenges: Employment

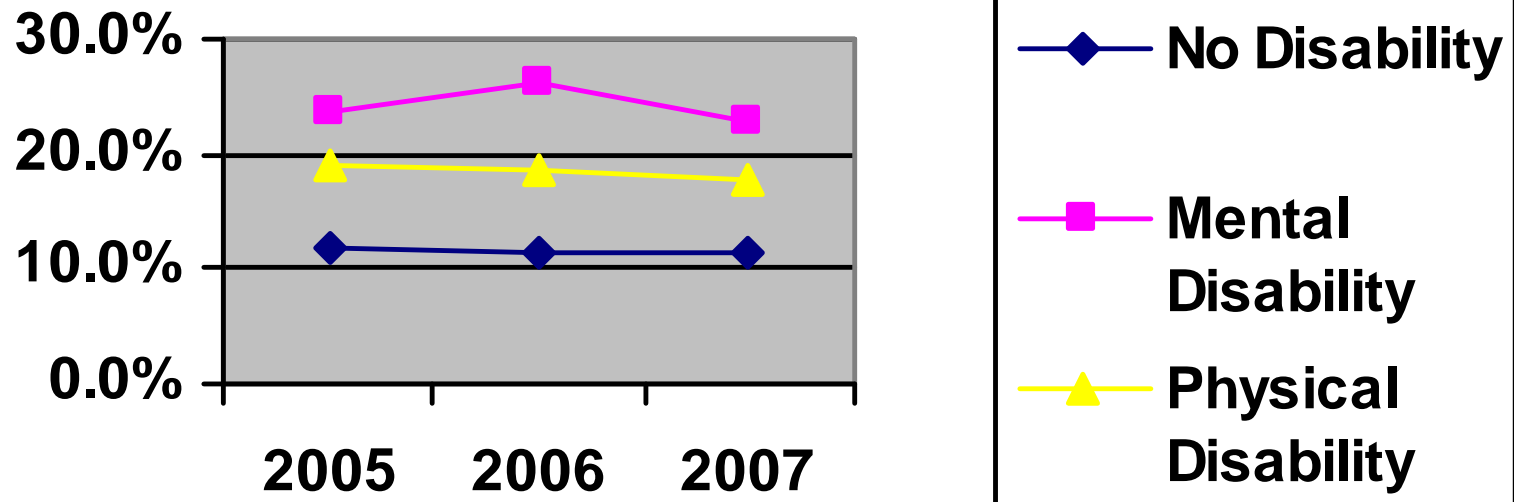
People with DD are less likely to be employed and often work part-time for minimum wage.

% Employed in Austin Round Rock MSA

	2005	2006	2007
No disability	75%	77%	77%
Physical disability	35%	41%	40%
Mental disability	32%	36%	40%

Other Challenges: Poverty

% Individuals Below the Federal Poverty Line in the Austin-Round Rock MSA by Type of Disability



Other Challenges: Transportation

- People with DD often rely on public transportation
- 2006 study of people with DD found:
 - 45% wanted to make trips but could not
 - 46% had difficulty reading transit schedules
 - 49% had difficulty understanding transit schedules

Legislative Agenda Issues

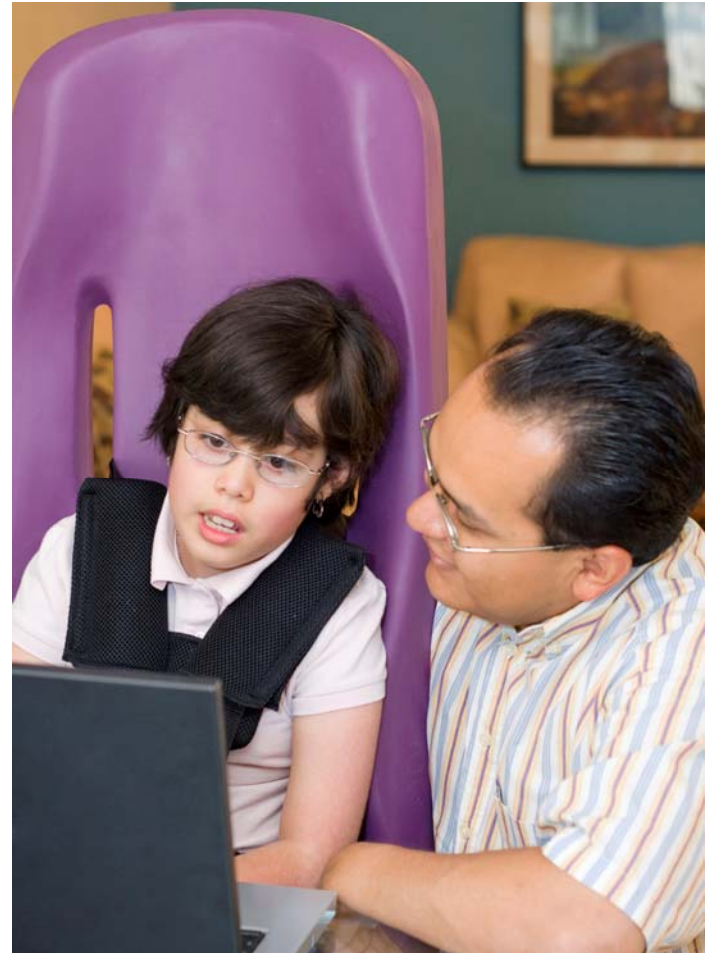
- Strategies for long term needs & promote community based services
- Better availability & timely access to quality health care programs
- Wages and benefits that recruit/retain quality health care providers & enrollment personnel
- Fund adequate service reimbursement rates
- Institute seamless transition from pediatric to adult care
- Implement & fund quality respite care

Developmental Disabilities Planning Partnership

- Arc of the Capital Area
- Austin Travis County MHMR
- Easter Seals Central Texas
- Family Eldercare
- Marbridge
- United Way Capital Area
- Vaughn House

Priority Issues

- Community-based care is less expensive.
- As people with developmental disabilities grow into adults, they lose access to healthcare.
- As family caregivers age, they are less able to care for their grown children.



Developmental Disabilities Frequently Asked Questions

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