

NATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON DEAF-BLINDNESS

A national technical assistance center that works to improve the quality of life for children who are deaf-blind and their families.

512-206-9242

www.nationaldb.org

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

An organization dedicated to helping the nation's blind and educating the general public.

Texas: 512-323-5444

www.nfbtx.org

National: 410-659-9314

www.nfb.org

NFB-NEWSLINE®

Access to daily newspapers and magazines from your touch-tone phone or iDevice for qualified members.

430-558-5630

<https://nfb.org/audio-newspaper-service>

PRECISION EYE PROSTHETICS

TERRY TRAWNIK, BCO

Board Certified Occularist specializing in creating eye prosthesis and serving the East Texas area.

903-796-1245

PREVENT BLINDNESS TEXAS

Vision screening, eye health & safety programs, free eye exams & glasses for those in need, and support groups.

800-331-2020

www.preventblindness.org

READING & RADIO RESOURCE

News, literature, and talk available through a radio reading service online.

800-871-7668

www.readingresource.org

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Children from birth up to age 18 may qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Children may also be eligible for Medicaid and other provided benefits.

800-772-1213

www.ssa.gov

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE EXEMPTIONS

Contact phone company to get an exemption from fees for dialing 411.

TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

An organization to inspire and support parents of children with visual impairments.

Texas: 866-998-2784

www.tapvi.com

National: 800-562-6265

www.spedex.com/napvi/

TEXAS PARENTS OF BLIND CHILDREN

An organization of parents and friends of blind children, a division of the National Federation of the Blind of Texas.

www.tpobc.org

TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Residential school and outreach services.

800-872-5273

www.tsbvi.edu

TEXAS SENSE-ABILITIES NEWSLETTER

A quarterly newsletter on issues related to students with visual impairment and deaf blindness, available in print, on the web, in podcast, and in Braille.

www.tsbvi.edu/tx-sensabilities

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY

Free library service for Texans who are unable to read standard print material. Books are available on digital cartridge, Braille, large print, & cassette. Playback equipment also available for loan.

800-252-9605

www.texastalkingbooks.org

TEXAS WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

Vocational Rehabilitation:

Blind Services Offices

Resources, tips and tools to connect job seekers with employers.

Tyler Office: 800-687-7042

Lufkin Office: 800-687-7033

www.twc.state.tx.us

TYLER PARATRANSIT SERVICES

Door to door transportation services for people with disabilities. To schedule a trip, you must call between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Reservations must be made no later than 5 p.m. the day before and can be made up to 14 days in advance.

Schedule Trip: 903-592-3232

Tyler Transit: 903-533-8057

www.cityoftyler.org/Departments/

TylerTransit.aspx



Region 7 ESC

1909 N Longview Street

Kilgore, TX 75662

(903) 988-6700

Cheryl Schulik

Region 7 ESC Assistant Director

(903) 988-6903

CSchulik@esc7.net

East Texas Area

Services for Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired



ALLIANCE OF AND FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED TEXANS (AVIT)

A network of organizations bringing a unified voice to policymakers & state/community boards.

469-522-1803

www.alliancevitexans.org

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND (ACB)

Organization for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Texas: 866-929-2228

National: 800-424-8666

www.acbtexas.org

www.acb.org

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND (AFB)

A national non-profit organization that expands possibilities for people with vision loss.

AFB Center on Vision Loss (Dallas, TX):

Offers solutions for independence, information and demonstrations of home adaptations, high and low tech devices, and connection to appropriate resources to support programming for children and adults.

214-352-7222

dallas@afb.net

www.afb.org

Family Connect: *A web site for parents of children with visual impairments.*

www.familyconnect.org

Career Connect: *A free resource for people who want to learn about the range and diversity of jobs performed by adults who are blind or visually impaired throughout the United States and Canada.*

www.afb.org/Section.asp?SectionID=7

AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND (APH)

Provider of accessible educational and daily living products for people with visual impairments.

800-223-1839

www.aph.org

BOOKSHARE: ACCESSIBLE BOOKS FOR TEXAS

Online library offering unlimited access to accessible books, textbooks, newspapers and magazines to qualifying students.

www.accessiblebooks4tx.org

DEAF & BLIND MULTI-HANDICAPPED ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS (DBMAT)

Organization for families with deaf-blind children.

www.dbmat-tx.org

BLIND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES CENTER (HHSC)

Vocational and independent living services to persons of all ages and their families.

Tyler Office: 903-533-4188

Lufkin Office: 936-663-3663

Texarkana Office: 903-791-3334

www.hhsc.state.tx.us

EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION (ECI)

Program for families with children, birth to three, with disabilities and developmental delays.

www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis

Tyler: 866-610-0400 or 903-597-5067

www.andrewscenter.com/eci.htm

Longview: 888-504-2229 or 903-757-8194

www.communityhealthcore.com

Lufkin: 877-205-3630 or 936-639-1141

<http://www.burke-center.org/eci.asp>

EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS RURAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (GOBUS)

Rides are scheduled Monday through Friday. There is a 24 hour advance notice required for scheduled pickup. Please call before 2 pm for next day service. Vehicles are equipped with wheelchair lifts. See website for schedules.

800-590-3371

Service Area (Counties): Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood.

www.etcog.org/234/GoBus.htm

EAST TEXAS LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Organization that helps with the rehabilitation, education, training and employment of people who are blind or visually impaired.

411 W Front Street

Tyler, TX 75702

888-565-ETLB (3852)

www.etlb.org

Children's Program: *These programs encompass a wide array of areas including employment, education, and expanded core curriculum.*

www.etlb.org/Childrens_Program.html

EDUCATION SERVICE CENTERS

Supplemental services to local education programs and training for parents; birth to age 21.

Region 7 ESC, Kilgore: 903-988-6700

www.esc7.net

HADLEY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Tuition-free distance education for families and people with visual impairments.

800-323-4238

www.hadley-school.org

JOB ACCOMODATIONS NETWORK

Free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues.

800-526-7234

877-781-9403 (TTY)

www.askjan.org

LEARNING ALLY

Audiobooks for K-12 and college students, from core curriculum textbooks to best-selling novels, available on PC, MAC, any i-device, or DAISY devices for qualifying students

800-221-4792

www.learningally.org/texas

LONGVIEW EYE ASSOCIATES

DR. JUSTIN WARD

Low Vision Specialist

1506 Judson Road

Longview, TX 75601

903-758-8832

www.longvieweyeassociates.com

LONGVIEW TRANSIT

Longview Transit's Paratransit Service offers rides on all days the regular bus service operates within Longview to qualified individuals. Call for more information and to ask about applying for the service.

903-753-2287 ext. 10

TTY: 903-753-5265

www.longviewtransit.com/para.php