The REACH organization will proudly celebrate 25 years of the Americans with Disabilities Act by hosting a Silver Anniversary Luncheon that pays tribute to those who worked to highlight our contributions to society and those who continue to guard our independence.

Attendees will enjoy a seated luncheon, a keynote speaker who was one of the writers of the ADA - Dr. Richard Scotch, Mistress of Ceremonies - Amanda Baze, Ms. Wheelchair Texas 2011, the presentation of 4 ADA Warrior Awards and the unveiling of an artistic masterpiece created specifically to celebrate the ADA and commissioned by Lift-Aids, Inc.

Silver Anniversary

July 23, 2015
11:30am-1:00pm

Tickets are limited and must be presented for admittance into the Southfork Hotel's ballroom.

Visit the REACH website at www.reachcils.org & Facebook for more info and a link to the ticket site.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Call us if you need any accommodations such as a sign language interpreter, Braille materials, etc.**

**June 2015**

3. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
4. Oliver Garden Restaurant, 4700 SW Loop 820, [www.olivergarden.com](http://www.olivergarden.com). Lunch on your own from 1:00-2:15 PM. Prices range from $10+. please don’t forget to tip.
10. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
11. Red Robin, 4800 S. Hulen St., [www.redrobin.com](http://www.redrobin.com). Lunch on your own from 1:00-2:15 PM. Prices range from $10.00+. Window shopping encouraged!
17. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
18. Movie Day @ the center 1:00 - 3:00 PM
19. Office Closed (4th of July)
22-26. REACH Youth Camp for kids 13 - 22 years of age. We will meet everyday @ the center from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Pre-register with Miaka Palmer.
24. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
25. No Support Group

**July 2015**

1. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
2. Dickey’s Barbeque, 6219 Oakmont St. Lunch on your own from 1:00-3:00 PM. Prices range from $8.00+. Bring extra money if you care to shop.
3. Office Closed (4th of July)
8. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
9. Bowling at Brunswick Lanes, 3025 Altamesa Blvd., 1:00 - 3:00 PM. $3.50 per game; shoes are $2.00. Bring extra money if you want to order from the snack bar.
15. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
16. Rave Movie, 1888 Green Oaks. Please call the day before for times and movie options. The movie costs $5.00 which doesn’t include popcorn and drinks.
22. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
23. Chicken Foot & snacks @ the center 1:00-3:00 PM
29. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
30. Surprise @ the center 1:00 - 3:00 PM

**August 2015**

5. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
6. Pappas Burger, 2700 West Freeway, [www.pappasburger.com](http://www.pappasburger.com). Lunch on your own from 1:00 - 2:15 PM. Menu includes hot dogs, burgers, shakes, etc. from $9.00+.
12. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
13. Red Lobster, located at 4805 S. Hulen St., [www.redlobster.com](http://www.redlobster.com). They now have new lunch special starting from $7.99. Lunch will be on your own, 1:00 - 2:15 PM.
19. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
20. Movie Day & hot dogs @ the center 1:00-3:00 PM. Please bring a $1.00 for a hotdog; drinks will be provided.
26. Adjustment to Disability Training @ the center 10:00-11:00 AM
27. Card Games @ the center 1:00-3:00 PM

The above scheduled events are subject to change or cancellation. Please schedule your ride times based on the time of listed events. Staff will only be present during scheduled activities times.

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**WEB WORLD**

**Caring.com** - Adults caring for aging parents, spouses or other loved ones with debilitating diseases.

**Abilityjobs.com** - The largest resume bank and job board for job seekers with disabilities.

**choicemagazinelistening.org** - Free talking magazines.

**IHadCancer.com** - Cancer survivors, patients, and caregivers share.
Do you or someone you know need a ramp built and/or handrails or grab bars installed?

The REACH of Fort Worth Resource Center on Independent Living offers these accessible home modifications for low-income individuals with mobility impairments who live in the City of Fort Worth. If you meet the following guidelines, you may be eligible for assistance in making these accessibility modifications.

You must be a person with a mobility impairment.
You can be any age.
You must be a homeowner, live with the homeowner or have a letter from the landlord giving permission to make the accessible modifications to the home. (No apartments.)
Must provide proof of total household income and must meet federal guidelines for low-income households. (You must provide a copy of income verification and a Social Security number from each family member living in the household who is 18+ years of age.)
Your property taxes must be current

*FUNDS WILL BE USED ON A FIRST REQUESTED, FIRST SERVED BASIS*

If you need more information about this program, please call Amira Z. Salas, Project Ramp Coordinator, at 817-870-9082.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Call us if you need any accommodations such as a sign language interpreter, Braille materials, etc.

June 2015
3  General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM  
10 General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM  
16-18 Youth Summer Camp @ the center 11:00 AM-3:00 PM  
17 No General Support Group Session  
24 General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM

July 2015
1  General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM  
3 Office Closed (4th of July)  
8 General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM  
15 General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM  
22 ADA Celebration @ the center 1:00-3:00 PM  
29 No General Support Group Session

August 2015
5  General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM  
12 General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM  
19 General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM  
26 General Support Group @ the center 1:00-2:00 PM

REACH of Denton will be offering Increasing Your Independence workshops throughout 2015. Contact the center for dates and times. You must preregister with Becky Teal, Office Manager, if you want to attend the workshops.

REACH of Plano Receives Recognition

REACH of Plano received special recognition for the activities of the center’s Youth Transition program participants who have concentrated their efforts over the past few months on the issue of bullying and how it impacts students’ lives. To get their message out, the youth, with guidance from REACH’s Youth Transition Specialist Sierrah Willis-Winbush, created posters depicting the effects of bullying. On April 7, the students presented their posters to invited guests at the center to demonstrate their commitment to stop bullying by reporting it and standing up to it. The guests included the Plano Fire Chief, a guest of the Plano Fire Department who is a Police Chief in Belgium, the Plano Police Chief, a representative from Congressman Sam Johnson’s office, DARS counselors, a Plano Star Courier reporter, youth transition leaders, and an active member of Army Special Forces.

A Special Recognition Certificate that was given to the center read as follows:
“Whereas, the Plano ISD and the Allen ISD, with the help of REACH, are launching a campaign against bullying students, especially those with disabilities. REACH works to provide services that assist people with disabilities to lead self-directed lives. REACH also strives to educate the public.
On this special occasion, we welcome students, teachers, REACH staff, and honored guests. We thank you for your efforts to combat bullying of Plano ISD and Allen ISD students. Therefore, I, Harry LaRosiliere, Mayor of the City of Plano, Texas, do hereby welcome and extend our gratitude on behalf of the Plano City Council.”

A Proclamation from the City of Allen that was given to the center read as follows:
“Whereas, Every year 3.2 million students are victims of bullying; and 
Whereas, 17% of American students report being bullied two to three times a month or more within a school semester; and 
Whereas, Students with disabilities or special needs are at higher risk of being bullied than other children; and 
Whereas, REACH of Plano is launching a new campaign project called “A Walk In My Shoes” calling for advocacy, community outreach and involvement, spreading awareness, and social media regarding bullying against students with disabilities.

Now, Therefore, I, Stephen Terrell, Mayor of the City of Allen, Collin County, Texas, do hereby proclaim April 7, 2015 as: “A Walk in My Shoes Day” in Allen, Texas, and I urge all citizens to take cognizance of this event and participate in all the events related thereto in this community.
Signed: Stephen Terrell, Mayor

The staff at REACH of Plano wish to thank Mayors LaRosiliere and Terrell for their participation and support of the center’s youth transition program’s students.

Submitted by Susie Reukema, REACH of Plano Assistant Director, who wanted to thank Sierrah Willis-Winbush, Community Living & Youth Transition Specialist, for her hard work and dedication to the youth in Collin County!
REACHING OUT - June - August 2015

REACH of Denton is hosting a Youth Summer Camp!

Dates: June 16 - 18, 2015
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: REACH of Denton office, 405 S. Elm St., Suite 202, Denton, TX 76201

This camp is for any young person with a disability who is between the ages of 16-22. Attendant care will not be provided.

Registration: Please contact Murphy Hardinger to see if your child qualifies. Space is limited!

FREE Lunch!

REACH would like to recognize Julie Espinoza, Independent Living Specialist at REACH of Plano, who was honored on March 3, 2015 as one of several Texans who have been Trailblazers in defending and advancing the ADA and Civil Rights for people with disabilities. The “ADA 25 Texas Trailblazers Celebration” took place at the Bob Bullock Museum in Austin. Julie has worked hard to offer opportunities to educate consumers and the community about the ADA and those who were responsible for its passage into law. As an ADAPT member, she has traveled on her own time to various cities to advocate for changes in order to protect the civil rights of people with disabilities. We are proud of the work that Julie has done and continues to do to protect the civil rights of people with disabilities!

Call us if you need any accommodations such as a sign language interpreter, Braille materials, etc.

July 2015
3 Office Closed (4th of July)
7-8 XPloring Me Camp @ TBD 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, please contact Sierrah Winbush

Allen ISD students involved in the center’s youth transition program presented a program titled A Walk In My Shoes to the community in March. The goal of the A Walk In My Shoes campaign was to bring awareness on bullying against students with disabilities. The students did an awesome job of launching their first ever education campaign and look forward to doing more work on raising awareness in the community by using social media and special events that will end bullying once and for all! It’s time to “Take A Stand and Lace Up.”

A Special thanks to all of our colleagues and supporters that attended the program and donated their time and energy to make this event successful. Thank you to the Plano and Allen City Councils, DARS, Plano Police Chief Rushin, Plano Fire Marshal Kerr and a visiting Fire Chief from Belgium, Kevin Cummings with the Plano Star Courier newspaper, representatives from the Alliance Elite Youth Leadership organization, Chris Watson with Congressman Sam Johnson’s Plano office, and Jimmy Johns (for the delicious sub sandwiches).

Plano ISD students involved in the center’s youth transition program visited the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) campus and got a chance to experience virtual reality and see robots in action in the School of Engineering for the STEAM program. UTD will be partnering with REACH of Plano to assist with this summer’s two-day XPloring Me camp session for the students. The students had a lot of fun and were excited to learn about robots and how they are getting ready to change our world.

XPloring Me Camp

What to Expect at Camp: UTD STEM / Skill Building, Building Friendships, Goody Bags, Lunch, Award Ceremony
Location: Plano Senior Center, 401 West 16th Street, Plano, Texas 75075
Time: 9:00am-12noon
~Lunch will be provided~
~The Cost for the Camp is Free!~
~Parents are encouraged to attend and come out to the award ceremony on July 8th @ 11:30am~
Registration begins promptly at 9:00am and Camp will start at 9:15am until 12noon on both days
~To RSVP please contact Sierrah Winbush @ Swillis-Winbush@reachcils.org
~Please note any accommodations/ or food allergies need to be made 2 weeks prior to camp~
FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK
By Charlotte A. Stewart

Staffing Change
Employees and consumers said goodbye to Mary Nanez who retired from her position as the part time Office Clerk at REACH of Plano in mid-November. James Payne was hired and began working on March 23 as the new Office Clerk. James’ past work history includes working as an independent advocator at the Center for Independence in Lakewood, WA, a customer service manager at McFrugal’s in Plano and a senior customer service associate at Montgomery Wards in Plano.

North Texas Giving Day
REACH will be participating in this year’s North Texas Giving Day (NTGD) event on September 17. NTGD is an opportunity for REACH supporters to make an online financial donation to help us continue our work in providing services for people with disabilities and educating the public about disability-related topics. Check the REACH website at www.reachcils.org for more information about NTGD beginning in June.

New Assisitive Technology
Evergaze, Inc. has created powerful digital eyewear called See Boost that assists the eyesight of people with low or decreasing central vision due to factors such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Visit www.evergaze.com for more information.

The Library of Congress (LOC) is collaborating with the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) to distribute BEP-provided currency-reading devices to eligible individuals who are blind or visually impaired. The iBill Talking Banknote Identifier, created by Orbit Research, announces a bill’s value in one of three ways: voice, pattern of tones, or pattern of vibrations. Users insert a banknote into the 3” x 1.5” x 0.5” device and press the button on its side to have the denomination identified. Eligible individuals who want to order the free-of-charge iBill Talking Banknote Identifier should visit the NLS website at http://loc.gov/nls or the BEP website at http://bep.gov/uscurrencyreaderform.html to download a currency reader application form. Individuals may also phone the BEP call center at 1-844-815-9388 to request an application. (From the Oct.-Dec. 2014, Vol. 46, No. 4 edition of News, published by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress.)

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The REACH Resource Centers on Independent Living are members of the Texas Association of Centers for Independent Living, the National Council on Independent Living, and the Coalition of Texas with Disabilities.

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Words to Live by!!!

IT IS WHAT IT IS…
But it will become what you make of it.
Author Unknown

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Rates for Advertising in the REACH Newsletter

Below are the prices for placing an advertisement in the REACHing Out newsletter. The newsletter is published quarterly in December, March, June, and September. The newsletter is sent/distributed to 2,000+ readers living primarily in Tarrant, Dallas, Denton & Collin Counties and is available online at www.reachcils.org.

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If you have any questions, please call Becky Teal, newsletter editor, at REACH of Denton 940-383-1062 or contact her by email at reachden@reachcils.org

These advertising rates may change without prior notice.

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Choice Medical Equipment, a Member of the National Healthcare Organization, talks about its extensive line of home medical equipment and supplies.

The REACH Resource Centers on Independent Living are Fragrance Free facilities! Please don’t wear scented products when visiting the centers or participating in any of our services or activities.

Thank you!

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Choice Medical Equipment
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Choice Medical Equipment Offers an Extensive Line of Home Medical Equipment and Supplies:

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CARING to HELP

Honor your loved ones with a gift to the REACH Resource Centers on Independent Living. Donations in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, wedding, Christmas, Valentine’s Day, etc. will help REACH continue its work in providing an array of independent living services to North Texans with disabilities.

Enclosed is my contribution of $____________

In Memory or Honor of (Name): ____________________________

   Check one: Memorial _____ Birthday_____ Anniversary_____ Wedding_____ or Other (Explain)______________________________

Send acknowledgement to (Name, Address, City, State & Zip Code):

From (Your Name, Address, City, State & Zip Code):

Make checks payable to REACH, Inc. and mail with this form to 1000 Macon Street, Suite 200, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4527. THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

REACH of Dallas Summer Youth Academies

Academy #1
Location: W.H. Adamson High School
Address: 309 E. Ninth Street, Dallas, TX 75203
Camp Dates: July 13, 2015 thru July 17, 2015

Academy #2
Location: Emmett J. Conrad High School
Address: 7502 Fair Oaks Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231
Dates of Camp: July 20, 2015 thru July 24, 2015

School is out and you have tons of time for fun. Come join us at the REACH of Dallas 2015 Summer Youth Academies. Learn how to advocate for yourself, get a chance to socialize with your peers, learn how to cook, play games, prepare for employment opportunities, participate in field trips and ride public transportation. Come and create some fun memories and make new friends. Registration begins May 1. Contact Pamela Momon at 214-630-4796 for more details.

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Deadlines for Future REACHing Out Newsletters

July 8, 2015 September - November 2015 Edition
October 5, 2015 December 2015 - February 2016 Edition

Plans are underway to save money by e-mailing this newsletter to interested readers rather than continuing to send it via U.S. mail. If you’d like to get the newsletter via e-mail, please send Janie Peachee, Administrative Assistant at REACH of Dallas, your e-mail address. You can reach Janie at jpeachee@reachcils.org.

Thank You!