



Texas Beacons of Excellence

Newsletter: December 2023

## Announcements

### Disability Etiquette/Inclusion Training for Goodwill Staff

Jan. 8th, 2024

### U&I Luncheon

Jan. 18th, 2024

### Goodwill Leadership and Social Security Benefits

Jan. 19, 2024

## Upcoming Events

### Texas Transition Conference

Feb. 28th - Mar. 1st, 2024

[twc.texas.gov/events](http://twc.texas.gov/events)

## Informative Links

### Job Accommodation Network:

[askjan.org](http://askjan.org)

### Texas APSE:

[txapse.org](http://txapse.org)

Partnership Led by:



Left to right: Karina Saucedo, Sonia Martinez, Ticcara Cassell

## Texas Beacons of Excellence in the Community

The TBE team continues to meet with our 14c sites (Goodwill Dallas & U&I Spread the Light) and school district (Amarillo ISD) on a bi-weekly basis to coordinate project implementation at each site. On December 5th, 2023, the TBE team hosted a project informational session at U&I Spread the Light. The team talked to potential participants and family members to address any questions or concerns they may have regarding the project.

A key aspect of the project is partnering with community businesses to identify employment opportunities for our TBE participants. The TBE team regularly attends DisabilityIN events to network with employers in the North Texas region who are looking to diversify their workforce. Recently, we met with Children's Health to discuss work-based opportunities for our TBE participants in the various hospital departments. We continue our efforts to connect our talent pool with local employers. The goal is to create a happy marriage, pairing the job seeker's skills and abilities with the right employer.

In January, the TBE team will travel to Richmond, Virginia, and attend an employment services workshop training hosted by Virginia Commonwealth University. Additionally, they will have an opportunity to shadow job coaches in various work settings. The training will maximize our efforts to support the TBE project participants.