



Texas Beacons of Excellence

Newsletter: March 2024

### Upcoming Conferences

**National APSE:** June 17-20  
Click here for more information:  
[apse.org/events/2024](https://apse.org/events/2024)

**TX Parent-to-Parent:** August 9-10  
Click here for more information:  
[txp2p.org/conference/](https://txp2p.org/conference/)

**Texas Advocates:** August 22-23  
Click here for more information:  
[texadvocates.org](https://texadvocates.org)

**Texas APSE:** October 20-23  
Click here for more information:  
[txapse.org](https://txapse.org)

### Informative Links

**Job Accommodation Network:**  
[askjan.org](https://askjan.org)

### TBE Spotlight: Anne Henderson



Anne is the Lead Caregiver at Autumn Oaks Nursing Home. She shared, "I have found fulfillment (in this role) and personal growth through helping others. Recognizing the importance of others and the value they bring can be incredibly rewarding. Being a part of a program that provides opportunities to individuals with disabilities has changed my life and the lenses in which I see the world. Through these experiences, I am a better person. This is great work, and I am blessed to be a part of it."

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TEXAS WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS  
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES



## Texas Beacons of Excellence in the Community

The TBE team continues the good work by maintaining collaborative efforts with project partners and onboarding new participants. We are excited about the participants and their journey toward competitive integrated employment.

The TBE provided training to Amarillo's Panhandle Independent Living Center (PILC) staff, who will provide employment services to our TBE participants currently enrolled within the Amarillo Independent School District (AISD). TBE scheduled meetings with families to introduce them to PILC staff members.

Goodwill-Dallas has made great progress towards inclusivity by integrating their 14c clients to work alongside people without disabilities. Additionally, Goodwill leadership discussed and created internship opportunities for some of their 14c employees to help them gain additional skills and income.

U&I Spread the Light is working with TBE's Embedded Employment Specialist to assist their clients with obtaining competitive integrated employment. On March 23, 2024, U&I hosted its annual walk (*The Dash*) in Dallas, Texas at Klyde Warren Park. TBE had an opportunity to meet and mingle with participants and their families during the event.

To best support our participants, the TBE is recruiting their VCU partners to provide additional staffing for both 14c organizations and the school district, all which will incorporate bi-weekly virtual and bi-monthly in-person technical assistance meetings.

