



Building a Way Forward

2025 IMPACT REPORT

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ABOUT US

Disability Rights Texas (DRTx) is part of the U.S. protection and advocacy (P&A) system created by Congress in 1975 after national news exposed deplorable conditions at a facility where children with disabilities lived. Since opening in 1977, DRTx has advocated for millions of Texans with disabilities so they can live meaningful, productive, and full lives.

Our staff accomplishes our work in a number of ways. Sometimes it's through individual advocacy for those whose rights are violated. Other times it's with legal action in the courts. We also educate policymakers about how issues impact the disability community, and we empower self-advocates by teaching them about their rights. If we can't provide direct services, we refer people with disabilities who call us to other programs and services when needed.

NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Supporters,

If I could select a theme for 2025, I think it would be “Expect the Unexpected.” But even in the face of many unforeseen issues this year, we’re glad to say we’re still standing and building a way forward because of your generous support. Your unwavering commitment keeps us advancing ahead in the fight to ensure Texans with disabilities are treated with dignity and respect and have access to critical things like healthcare, jobs, education, housing, and much more.

With sincerest appreciation,

Sean A. Jackson



IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT IN 2025



7,051
applications for
our services



4,303
people received
rights and referral
information



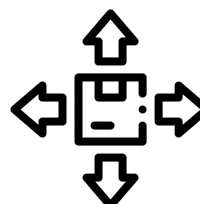
215,975
uses of our online
self-advocacy
resources



2,697
new cases opened



10,622
people received
self-advocacy
training



25,046
resources distributed
at community events

WHAT OUR CLIENTS ARE SAYING

Your support is positively impacting the lives of thousands of Texans each year. Here are a few examples of how you make that happen.

Protecting Lives Behind Closed Doors

DRTx is the primary watchdog that monitors and investigates state-run facilities to ensure the people with disabilities who live there are not being abused or neglected. Alice, a family member of a person who resides in one of these facilities, told us, "My family benefited greatly from the services provided by one of your attorneys. We are so thankful for the role she played in our lives."



Breaking Through Barriers to Secure Essential Medical Services

DRTx represents adults and children at Medicaid fair hearings so they can get the critical medical services they need. One client we helped said, "We never expected to run into so many obstacles when trying to get equipment and services for my son with profound autism. If we hadn't reached out for help from DRTx, we would have never been able to get what he needed. Our attorney fought and advocated for my son who was able to finally get the medical equipment he desperately needed."



WHAT OUR CLIENTS ARE SAYING (CONT.)

Preventing Unfair Evictions and Housing Injustice

Everyone deserves a safe place to live. But people with disabilities can face housing discrimination that results in being forced out of their home. Misty, one of our clients, explained, “My property management prevented me from paying my rent, and then attempted to evict my son and me for non-payment of rent. As a disabled, bedbound/bedridden, single parent with a nine-year-old child, it was an extremely unfair and discriminatory situation.

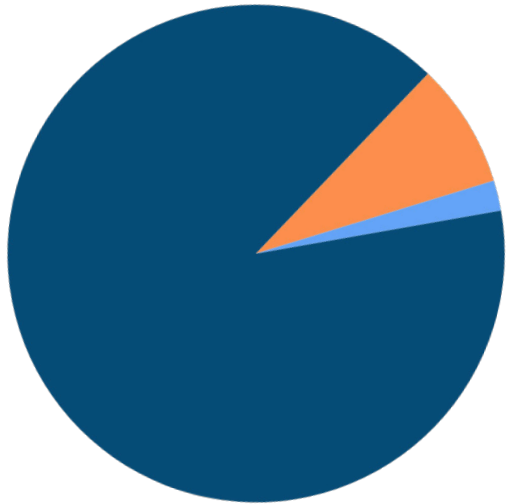
“My DRTx attorney took immediate action. She educated me about my rights and worked with my property management to ensure that they no longer violated my rights. She also got them to reimburse me for previous violations. I’m so relieved that my son and I no longer have to be fearful of becoming homeless.”

STRATEGIC LITIGATION, SYSTEMIC IMPACT

In addition to these individual cases, we experienced some large-scale legal victories that will protect the lives of thousands of Texans for years to come. Read about the successful outcome of our [lawsuit against the city of San Antonio](#) regarding inclusive emergency services and a [long-awaited ruling in favor of our clients](#) in a class action lawsuit regarding nursing homes.



EXPENSES

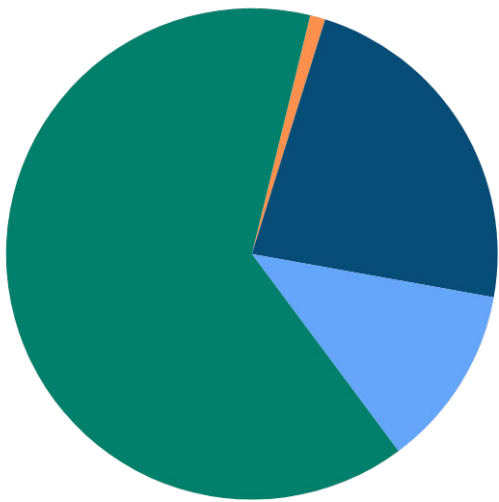


●
Program Costs:
\$18,646,905
(91.65%)

●
Administrative Costs:
\$1,682,179
(8.27%)

●
Fundraising Costs:
\$16,674
(0.08%)

INCOME



●
Federal:
\$13,228,750
(64%)

●
Texas Access to Justice Foundation:
\$4,732,570
(23%)

●
Other/Non-Federal:
\$2,421,922
(12%)

●
In-Kind Donated Services:
\$193,151
(1%)

For more details on our federal grants, visit the funding page on our website. Our thanks also to our non-federal funders including:

- Equal Justice Works
- Harris County Juvenile Probation Department Education Advocacy Program
- Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
- Houston Endowment
- Texas Access to Justice Foundation (TAJF): Basic Civil Legal Services, Community Justice Workers, and Legal Aid for Children’s Health Services
- Texas Appleseed

DONOR RECOGNITION

Our sincerest gratitude goes out to all of you who supported us in 2025. Your donations make a difference in the lives of millions of Texans with disabilities.

Lone Star Champions of Access Hall of Fame Members

In our recurring giving program, the amount given isn't what matters here – it's your continued support at any level that makes you a true champion.

Silver Spur Circle

3 years or more of continuous recurring giving

- Brandon Duke
- Laurel Goodroe
- Carl Gustafson
- Karen Hale
- Amanda Storer
- Edie Surtees
- Allison Walker

Trailblazer Circle

2 years of continuous recurring giving

- Jennifer Covington
- Laura Márquez
- Jeffrey Schagren

Live Oak Circle

1 year of continuous recurring giving

- Frankie Cloman
- Joseph Muniz
- Robert Stevens

Bluebonnet Circle

6 months of continuous recurring giving

- Fernando Lopez



Annual Donor Hall of Fame

Legacy Circle (\$5,000+)

- Anonymous Donor
- Capitol One Legal Department
- Mary Faithfull
- Winston-Strawn LLP

Patron (\$2,500 – \$4,999)

- David Lee Cox
- Perkins Coie LLP

Ambassadors (\$1,000 – \$2,499)

- Blast Resource Group
- Brandon Duke
- James and Michelle Lunday
- Frank and Donna McCamant
- Shepherd Mullin LLP
- Robin Pare-Tomai

Supporters (\$100 – \$999)

- Ansar Baizhanov
- Amanda Bowman
- Brigette Breaux
- Barbara Brewer
- James Carrera
- Frankie Cloman
- Bruce Coane
- Billy Covington
- Jennifer Covington
- Alan Crede
- Annmarie Cross
- Brian East
- Desiree Evans
- Harry Folloder
- Susie and Paul Gold
- Laurel Goodroe
- Carl Gustafson
- Karen Hale
- Melissa Holman
- Polly Hughes
- Sean Jackson
- Brian Joseph
- Sun Lee
- Fernando López
- Michela Marinelli
- Laura Márquez
- Greg Meehan
- Joseph Muniz
- Charles Noe
- L.O.
- Gina Pepchinski
- Mandi Phares
- Michelle Phi
- Joshua Ryf
- Jeffrey Schagren
- Emily Shafron
- Madiha Siddiqui
- Ernesto Sifuentes
- Robert Stevens
- Amanda Storer
- Edie Surtees
- Angelica Thomas
- Julie VanDolen
- Emily Vinson
- Allison Walker
- Chava White
- Deborah Wilson



PRO BONO LAW FIRM SUPPORT

Private law firms and company legal departments donate thousands of pro bono hours to DRTx every year, helping us to meet the constantly increasing demand for our legal services. Thank you to the following for their ongoing commitment to protecting the rights of Texans with disabilities.

- The Law Office of Alan H. Crede
- Geoff Courtney
- DLA Piper
- Fulton Jeang
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Latham and Watkins
- Melanie Finch
- Sidley Austin
- Winston & Strawn
- Whitburn and Pevsner
- Vinson & Elkins

A special thank you to our summer law interns, including those who participated in our Fair Housing Clerkship Program, and to the law students who participated in our Fair Housing Workshops at the following law schools: SMU, St. Mary's, University of Texas, and Baylor. The Fair Housing Clerkship Program and Workshops were established by our Equal Justice Works Fellow who is sponsored by an anonymous donor.





**Disability Rights Texas can only do
this important work because of
your ongoing generous support.
Thank you!**

www.DRTx.org