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GCEH REPORT



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Reflections: General Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon

On October 1, 1982 the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped (GCEH) General Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon was held at the Best Western Villa Capri in Austin. The meeting opened with a plenary session featuring presentation of awards by Justin W. Dart, Jr., Chairman, GCEH, to Midland Cerebral Palsy Center; Individual Development Center, Wichita Falls; Lex Frieden, Houston; and William Starnes, San Antonio; for significant contributions to increased public awareness of and improved quality of life opportunities for disabled persons in Texas.

Chairman Dart also presented a President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped (PCEH), Citation for Meritorious Service to Harry Burgman, for his outstanding service with GCEH and for his long term service to disabled Texans through his career and other personal endeavors. Thomas Croft, Dallas, was awarded the

PCEH Certificate of Appreciation for his outstanding contributions as a Governor's Committee member.

Three communities expressed their commitment to promote employment and improve quality of life opportunities for disabled persons through local committees on employment of the handicapped. In accordance with this commitment the cities of Dallas, Texarkana, and Tyler were presented Certificates of Affiliation from the GCEH. Continued on page 5

GCEH Communications Awards Named

At the GCEH General Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon, Texas' First Lady, Rita Clements, named the GCEH Communication Awards in honor of Professor Barbara Jordan, one of Texas' most distinguished citizens and articulate spokespersons for social justice.

The new Barbara Jordan Awards will be presented annually in the categories of TV, newspaper, radio, film, advertising and public relations, and special contributions for associated activities. More than 100 nominations in all categories have been received to date for the Barbara Jordan Awards.

Media products will receive recognition for:

- effectively promoting fulfillment of the quality of life potential of disabled citizens
 - conveying the message that full equal participation in society by disabled people is feasible, natural and desirable
- Continued on page 5



Mrs. Rita Clements is pictured with Laurie Gerken, co-chairperson of the 1983 Barbara Jordan Awards banquet, and internationally prominent Austin sculptor, David Deming, who designed the medallion bearing Jordan's likeness.

General Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon

Handicapped Person of the Year



Al Baker, a quadriplegic since 1957, was rehabilitated in Gonzales and Dallas. Baker entered competitive employment as a photo retoucher at Meisel Corporation in Dallas.

In 1974 Baker visited Mexico and was deeply moved by the poverty and desperate plight of orphans and disabled children. Baker decided to move to Oaxaca, Mexico and established a home for children who were blind, deaf, mobility impaired and diabetic. He enrolled the children in school and transported them daily to a free rehabilitation clinic. Baker instilled in the children self-respect and motivated them to rise above their disabilities.

In 1977 Baker married Brenda Pensinger, a missionary, who untiringly joined Baker in his work.

In February of this year Al Baker became very ill with a kidney infection. His death at age 44 left a great void in the lives of many people.

Brenda Baker, the one who shared and loved this work, graciously accepted the Handicapped Person of the Year Award on Al's behalf.

Physician of the Year



Dr. George Wharton, Medical Director of the Dallas Rehabilitation Institute, accepted this year's Physician of the Year Award.

Wharton, a strong proponent of early vocational assessment and planning, makes this an integral part of his overall medical treatment program. His approach to state vocational rehabilitation counselors, private rehabilitation counselors, and worker's compensation nurses has consistently focused upon the residual functional capacities of disabled individuals.

Wharton possesses keen insight into how medical and vocational concepts can be initiated simultaneously early in the medical treatment process.

Since assuming his position as Medical Director of Dallas Rehabilitation Institute, Wharton has contributed not only to public understanding of the employment capabilities of persons with disabilities, but also to the understanding of local physicians and rehabilitation specialists.

Large Employer



Richard S. Sofinowsky, Plant Manager, Ethicon, accepted the Large Employer of the Year Award on behalf of Ethicon, Inc., a division of Johnson and Johnson, Inc.

Ethicon, based in San Angelo, was selected as a model employer because the company takes a very refreshing approach to affirmative action. Ethicon managers have demonstrated that people with disabilities can be a valuable resource when properly trained and placed into jobs for which they have received training.

As an example of their commitment, Ethicon provided financing for a training program through the Concho Valley Center for Human Advancement in 1978. The program continues to provide skills training to sheltered workshop clients for the handwinding of surgical sutures. Fourteen clients have been placed at Ethicon through this program to date.

Ethicon currently employs 235 handicapped individuals, a total of 14% of their workforce. The company also purchases services from a homebound paraplegic and the Concho Valley sheltered workshop.

General Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon

Small Employer



Don Castleberry, President of Castleberry Instruments and Avionics, Austin, received the Small Employer of the Year Award for a business with less than 200 employees.

Castleberry Instruments employs a quadriplegic line supervisor and four mobility-impaired technicians in highly skilled positions rebuilding aircraft avionics. Modifications have been made to make the worksite completely accessible for these employees.

Don Castleberry stated, "We are so impressed with these employees that we have become involved in community activities with them. The company helped sponsor a wheelchair basketball association and has built and repaired a number of athletic wheelchairs. We have one employee who has won many wheelchair athletic competitions."

Castleberry Instruments is a member of the Austin Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and has assisted this committee in projects including a seminar for employers and a slide show on architectural barriers.

Meritorious Service



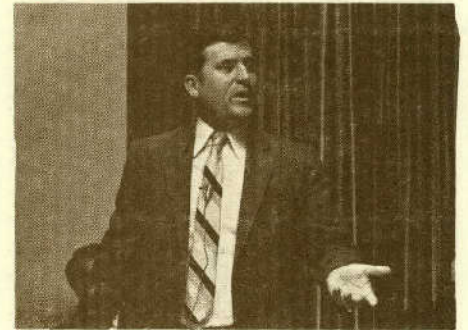
John F. Sammons, Jr., Mayor of Temple, accepted the Governor's Citation for Meritorious Service, a special award for those who have made an especially significant contribution to improve the environment for disabled persons.

Shortly after he began his term of office Sammons decided to sponsor a Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped in Temple in response to a request by local citizens. Sammons expressed his full support as Mayor and his personal enthusiasm for the committee. The Temple Mayor's Committee is organized and functioning, because of Sammons' leadership and the support of the community.

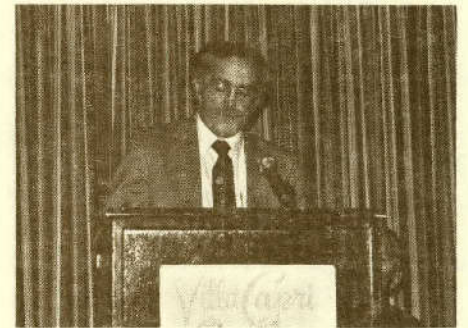
Mayor Sammons participated actively in several projects of the Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and has been instrumental in assuring the implementation of the Committee's recommendations for making downtown Temple accessible.

The Mayor's most significant contribution recognized by the disabled citizens of Temple, is the atmosphere of respect and acceptance he has created.

Speakers



Allen B. Clark, Jr.
Guest Speaker



Vernon M. Arrell
TRC Commissioner
Guest Speaker



Pat Pound
Luncheon Speaker



General Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon

Certificates of Affiliation



Left to right: Bob Layton, Tyler; Ross Parker, Texarkana; and Bonnie Franke, Dallas.

Texarkana - Texarkana MCEH Chairman, Ross Parker, accepted a Certificate of Affiliation for the newly-organized committee at the GCEH General Meeting. Since Texarkana straddles the Texas-Arkansas border, this committee is sponsored by the Governors of both states and the Mayors of both sides of the City. It is the only dual-state MCEH in Texas.

Tyler - Bob Layton, Chairman of the Tyler MCEH, organized in June, attended the GCEH General Meeting to accept a Certificate of Affiliation for Tyler. The committee is presently conducting a survey of employers in the Tyler area to determine their needs relating to employment of persons with disabilities.

Dallas - Bonnie Franke, Vice Chairperson of the Dallas MCEH, organized in May of this year, accepted a Certificate of Affiliation for the City of Dallas.

Singer



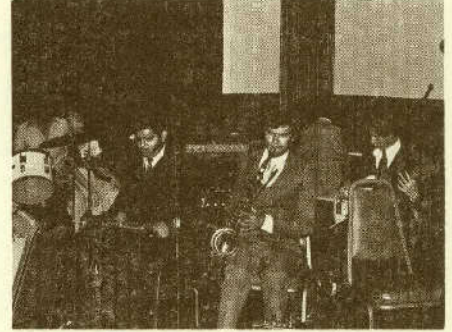
Beulah Agnes Curry-Jones, a native of Austin, filled the banquet room at the GCEH Annual Awards Luncheon with beautiful music which captured the attention of all participants. Her selections included the favorites God Bless America, Amazing Grace, Battle Hymn of the Republic, and Didn't the Lord Deliver Daniel.

Mrs. Curry-Jones holds a doctorate in Music Education. She has attended Prairie View, Texas Southern University, UT at Austin, University of Houston and has also studied in Europe.

Mrs. Curry-Jones was accompanied by her husband, Jimmie L. Jones on piano and guitar. Mr. Jones is supervisor of music at Gary Job Corps Training Center. Kimberly Jones, cousin of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, played accompanying guitar. Ms. Kimberly Jones plays piano for their church choir.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones have individually and as a team worked with and trained choirs and community singing groups for many years.

Jazz Combo



Giving their usual high quality performance, the Texas School for the Blind Jazz Combo entertained the audience during intermission at the General Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon.

Under the direction of Paula Wright the Jazz Combo played two George Gershwin selections: "It Ain't Necessarily So" featuring Ray Paz as vocalist and "Summertime" featuring Caroline Raven as vocalist. Jimmy Vinson played a trombone solo during the song "Around Midnight".

Several members of the group play for other jazz bands in the Austin area. GCEH appreciates the students' time and effort to make a public appearance so early in the school year.

Special Entertainment

Don McDowell, a member of the GCEH since April, 1981, provided special entertainment at the banquet by playing jazz guitar. McDowell, accompanied by vocalist, Robert Kelly, is a favorite at Austin nightclubs in the University district.

General Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon

Continued from page 1

The plenary session closed with a special address by Allen B. Clark, Jr., Vice President of Exploration, Inc. Clark formerly served as Special Assistant for Administration to Governor Clements. Aspects of Clark's responsibilities in that capacity were supervision of the Governor's Task Force for Handicapped Citizens and liaison to the GCEH.

Morning activities included a choice of workshops targeted toward career fields with high employment potential in the 80's. The presenters of the workshops emphasized employment of disabled persons in the Media, Hospitality and Computer Industries. Employers from both the public and private

sector served as panelists for each workshop session.

Speaking to an audience of 300 persons at the Annual Awards Luncheon, Rita Clements honored five Texans for their individual and organizational contributions to the rehabilitation and employment of disabled persons. She also made an important announcement concerning the GCEH Communications Awards program.

Pat Pound, a newly appointed member of the GCEH, delivered a luncheon address concerning the impact of the public communication media on perceptions of disabled persons. She urged individuals, community organizations and employers to work with media professionals to promote realistic nonstereo-

typical images of disabled persons. Pound feels the negative stereotypes of disabled persons account for some of the difficulties disabled individuals experience when seeking employment.

Pound promotes quality of life opportunities for disabled Texans through her work with Austin Resource Center for Independent Living (ARCIL), Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD), and the Long Range Planning Group for Texans with Disabilities.

Afternoon workshops dealing with recruitment of disabled job applicants and job readiness skills closed the meeting.

GCEH Communications Awards Named

Continued from page 1

- reflecting effective use of qualified disabled media professionals and artists in policy making, production, and performance.

Awards will be given at the first annual Barbara Jordan Communication Awards banquet scheduled to be held on April 7, 1983, at the Westin Oaks Hotel in Houston.

Record Attendance at Public Forums

More than 1,300 disabled people and their advocates attended statewide public forums sponsored by the Long Range Planning Group for Texans with Disabilities. The Long Range Planning Group is composed of 22 members and 10 advisors including leaders of disability advocacy and service organizations, state agency board chairpersons, state legislators, and prominent private sector volunteers.

The group, charged with developing a plan to facilitate effective implementation of state policy regarding disabled citizens, held public forums throughout the state to provide an opportunity for an exchange of ideas on proposed goals which were developed by the Long Range Planning Group.

The Long Range Planning Group is creating goals, objectives and action steps which will comprise a plan to implement state policy regarding disabled individuals. The plan expresses the concerns and suggestions voiced during the public forums and also input from state and national volunteer consultants.

Local Committee Notes

Job Leads for Disabled San Antonians

The San Antonio Mayor's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped announced a unique, totally community-sponsored, "Job Opportunities Bank" for disabled individuals. The project, called "JOB LEAD", is the culmination of nearly two years of effort on the part of local private employers and handicapped placement agencies working in cooperative partnership.

There are estimated to be some 33,000 unemployed disabled persons of working age in San Antonio. JOB LEAD will serve as an information link between community employers interested in hiring qualified handicapped workers and qualified disabled individuals seeking employment.

Mayor Henry Cisneros, in expressing his full and enthusiastic support for the endeavor declared, "I see this as a very positive and

important initiative, not only in terms of the human aspect of providing disabled persons with the opportunity to achieve dignity and self-sufficiency, but also in terms of the very real economic benefits to our community."

The announcement that JOB LEAD is now open for business was made on October 6 at the 2nd Annual Job Fair sponsored by the SAMCEH and held at the Centro de Artes building on Market Square.

Jim Stone, Director of Salary Administration at USAA and Larry Johnson, Asst. Staff Supervisor for Employment with Southwestern Bell, who are the co-chairmen for the JOB LEAD project, emphasized the broad community support which has made it all possible. "We secured free office space from Texas Rehabilitation Commission. Our printing and office

supplies came from Valero Energy Corp. Our office furniture was provided through the courtesy of USAA. An electric typewriter was donated by the Executive Service Center. Telephone service and a TTY have been made available to us by the City of San Antonio. Everyone has helped. Cash contributions from Southwestern Bell and the IBM Corp. have given us our first \$2,000 and seed money for the first year of operation. We are looking for an additional \$8,000 to cover the remainder of our projected operational expenses for the first fiscal year."

The JOB LEAD office is located at 1222 N. Main, Suite 321, San Antonio, (512) 299-7007. The Committee selected Jerome Wright as JOB LEAD's first Executive Director.

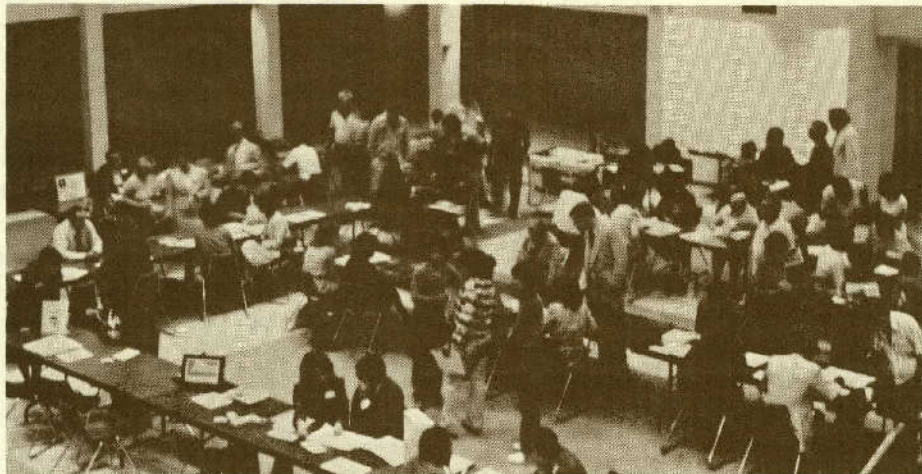
The San Antonio Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped second annual job fair was held on October 6, 1982 at Market Square in San Antonio.

The job fair, kicked off by an employer breakfast, officially opened at 9:00 a.m. and concluded at 4:00 p.m.

A total of 38 employers participated in the job fair which drew over 270 applicants from the San Antonio area.

The SAMCEH is in the process of following up with employers to determine how many individuals were hired as a result of the job fair.

San Antonio Mayor's Committee Holds Second Annual Job Fair



Part of the action at SAMCEH job fair held on October 6, 1982 which involved 38 employers and 270 applicants.

Local Committee Notes

Corpus Christi Mayor's Committee Installs New Officers

The Corpus Christi Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped installed new officers at its October 14 annual meeting with Fernando Morales assuming the Chairmanship. Tom Burkhart and Henrietta Newbury will function as First and Second Vice-Chairpersons respectively while Susan Ingles will act as Secretary-Treasurer.

Julius Rosenberg, past Chairperson, reported that the monthly mailing of a list of job-ready disabled workers is continuing to be sent to more than 100 area employers. Twenty-two persons have been hired as a result of this effort during 1982. The Employment Development Subcommittee reports that the City of

Corpus Christi trained 22 department heads and supervisors in selecting and placing disabled persons.

Dallas Mayor's Committee Organized

Mayor Jack Evans hosted the quarterly meeting on November 16 at Bachman Recreation Center. The program highlighted the work of eight subcommittees with more than 100 volunteer members and included a panel presentation regarding needs of disabled persons in employment.

Organized on May 13, 1982 with 250 persons in attendance, the Committee's officers are Harlan Crow - Chairperson, Bonnie Franke - Vice Chairperson, Kerry



JOB LEAD

1222 N. Main Ave., Suite 321
San Antonio, Texas 78212
(512) 299-7007

Goodwin - Secretary and Ralph Rouse - Treasurer. Subcommittee Chairpersons are Consumer Affairs - Vicki Flannery, Employment Development - Jerry Cooper, Environmental Barriers - Wayne Leavitt, Legislation and Legal Awareness - Dan Hopkins, Recognition and Awards - John Luna, Public Information - Jean Farinelli and Brenda Morris, Membership - Delores Connor and Patsey Campbell, and Special Programs and Projects - Elizabeth Criswell.

Golden Triangle Mayor's Committee Holds Job Fair

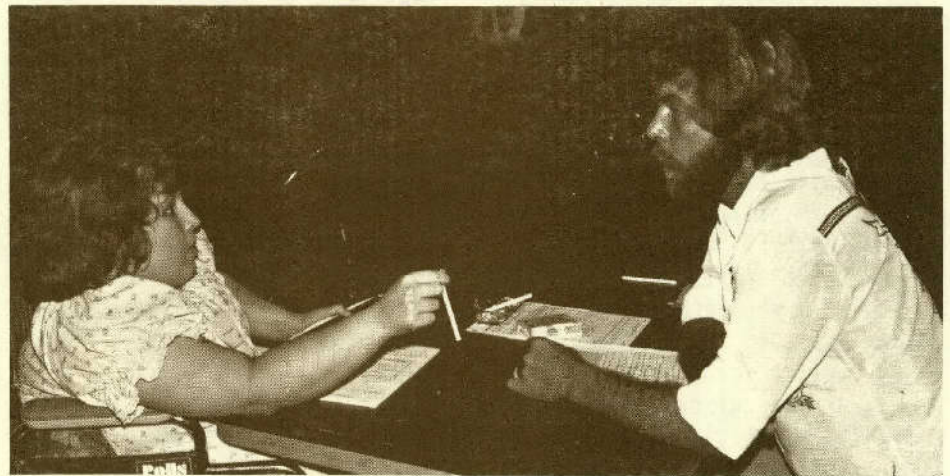
The Golden Triangle Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped sponsored a one-day job fair on October 8, 1982 as part of its activities for National Employ the Handicapped (NETH) week.

Approximately 225 disabled individuals and 26 area employers were matched during the fair held in Beaumont's accessible Civic Center. According to Ronnie Gipson, Job Fair Coordinator, three people were hired the day of the fair and an undetermined number have second interviews scheduled.

A follow-up study is

being conducted to determine the number of place-

ments resulting from the job fair.



A well attended job fair occurred on October 8, 1982, at the Beaumont Civic Center. The first annual job fair was sponsored by the Golden Triangle Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

"Handicapped is an Attitude"

At the Oak Hills Country Club the San Antonio Mayor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped sponsored a breakfast for more than 50 top managers involved with the media industry of San Antonio.

"Handicapped is an Attitude" was the theme for the event, which served to heighten the media's sensitivity to their role in the public's perception of disabled individuals.

Correct terminology when referring to disabled individuals, removal of attitudinal barriers and hiring disabled persons were primary areas of discussion.

For more information contact: Judy Babbitt, Coordinator, City of San Antonio Handicapped Access Office, P.O. Box 9066, San Antonio, Texas 78285

Information Express

In August GCEH developed a resource room which is a collection of approximately 1,100 pamphlets, booklets, books, directories, and newsletters concerned with handicapped affairs.

Materials filed in Princeton file boxes are arranged by alphabetical subject heading. To date there are 52 subject headings and a total of 62 different newsletters and periodicals.

GCEH encourages you to visit our resource room and familiarize yourself with materials which are available. We can provide you with a "User's Guide" which discusses the resource room in detail.

Disability Rally Day Planned

"Rally Day" at the State Capitol is scheduled for Wednesday, February 2, 1983. The rally is scheduled to be held from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. with addresses by major leaders, remarks from citizens, awards presentations, and special music.

Designed to encourage disabled persons, their friends, and supporters, to take an active, visible, role in public affairs of interest to them, two days of activities have been planned beginning February 1 and culminating February 2 at the rally. Sponsors for the event include more than 100 advocacy organizations and service providers.

For more information please contact Rally Day Steering Committee, 5555 North Lamar, Suite K-109, Austin, Texas, 78751.

Join in the activities won't you?

"Texas State law provides for a fine of \$50.-\$200 for improper use of a parking space designated for the handicapped."

**THIS IS NOT A TICKET
ONLY A REMINDER**

YOU ARE PARKED

- () in a space reserved for handicapped people.
- () across a ramp used by persons in wheelchairs.



These places are provided for individuals whose physical handicaps require their use.

To order parking reminders contact GCEH.

Issued Quarterly

The GCEH Report is published quarterly by the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped (GCEH) to provide information about employment and related concerns regarding the disabled. Communications may be addressed to: Cindy Counts, Editor, GCEH, 118 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704, 512/445-8741 or TDD, 512/447-8346.

Special Note: GCEH will provide taped copies of the GCEH Report upon request.

Impart Project Update

Serving a nationwide audience, the IMPART Project is a resource which makes information on advanced technology, training, and medical techniques available to disabled individuals in the rehabilitation community.

On September 30, 1982, federal funding for IMPART Project expired. However, after considering the need for IMPART Project effective October 1, 1982, Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC) has decided to fund the project which will be under the supervision of John Wylie, TRC, Director of Program Services.

Staff and materials for the project are housed in TRC Central Office. For specific information concerning the IMPART Project, contact Lydia Arguello at 512-445-8338.

Congressional News

For Federal Congressional News Call:
1-800-424-8666
After 5:00 p.m.-Americian Council of the Blind