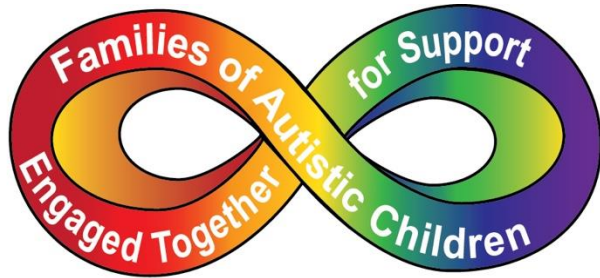




bvcil 
Brazos Valley Center
for Independent Living



FACETS



ATM
**CENTER ON DISABILITY
& DEVELOPMENT**
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Housekeeping

- **Got Questions?**
 - Email purposefullifebcs@gmail.com
- **We Value Your Input! Surveys**



CINEMARK™

Showtimes Near 77845

Today	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed
	5/3	5/4	5/5	5/6	5/7	5/8

Cinemark College Station an... >

College Station, TX

Sensory Friendly

Sensory Friendly Assisted Listening Device

10:30am

Standard Format

Luxury Lounger Assisted Listening Device

12:00pm

2:40pm

5:10pm

7:40pm

Sensory Movies

- Cinemark National Program: One Film Per Month
- First viewing of the day on the first Saturday of the month (usually at 10:30 a.m.)
- Tickets will be available for purchase on their website prior to the event dates
- Next is October 5: Harold and the Purple Crayon.



**CENTER ON DISABILITY
& DEVELOPMENT**
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

A University Center for Excellence in
Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)

Aimee Ortiz-Day

Director of PCP and Family Outreach

Lucinda Thelen

Program Assistant

cdd.tamu.edu

WACO

Work and College Opportunities

The Work and College Opportunities (W.A.C.O.) project at Texas A&M University is a 6-week program held in the summer for young adults with a disability. TWC-VR Transition Services, Brazos Valley Center for Independent Living (BVCIL) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension & Center on Disability and Development collaborate to put together a unique college and employment experience.

This college and work opportunity program for TWC customers is held at Texas A&M University. Participants receive development and instruction in professionalism, self-determination, self-advocacy, teamwork, assistive technology, independent living skills, and other related areas connected to employment and college attendance while participating in a paid work experience. Must be 18 years old by the beginning of the program and receiving services from TWC-VR. Applications will open at the end of October.

<https://cdd.tamu.edu/education/waco-project/>



HOPS

Horticultural Options in Plant Sciences



<https://cdd.tamu.edu/education/hops-program/>

The HOPS Project is a two semester (approximately 32 weeks) training program whose purpose is to provide instruction and support individuals with disabilities to gain the necessary skills and experiences in work readiness in order to successfully transition into competitive integrated employment in the horticulture industry. Students have the option to become certified on the state/national level. HOPS students must attend WACO.

Floral Design

- Floral Designer
- Floral Clerk
- Floral Specialist
- Florist, Flower Shop Laborer
- Wedding Decorator

Landscape Management

- Grounds Maintenance Specialist
- Gardener
- Landscape Specialist
- Landscape Technician

Greenhouse/Nursery

- Greenhouse Technician
- Harvester
- Plant Nursery Technician
- Orchard Worker
- Propagation Specialist
- Farm Laborer

PATHS

Postsecondary Access and Training in Human Services

The Postsecondary Access and Training in Human Services (PATHS) Program is a two-year certificate training program that prepares individuals for employment as a Direct Support Professional - General (DSP-G), Direct Support Professional - Paraprofessional (DSP-P) or as Child Care Professionals (CCP).

Students are required to successfully complete the Summer I semester prior to entering the PATHS Program. After completing six semesters at the PATHS Program, participants earn a certificate that combines classroom instruction with practical career building experiences.

<https://paths.tamu.edu/>



Aggie ACHIEVE

Aggie ACHIEVE at Texas A&M University is a comprehensive transition program (CTP) for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) who have exited high school. Aggie ACHIEVE provides an inclusive and immersive college education and equips students for employment in the community.

Aggie ACHIEVE aligns coursework, internship opportunities, and extracurricular activities with each student's academic interests and employment goals. Aggie ACHIEVE is designed to enroll students for up to four years. For the first two years, students reside in Texas A&M residence halls and have access to TAMU coursework and all campus-related activities. During the third and fourth years, students will select off-campus housing with their families. Aggie ACHIEVE staff will continue to provide support for independent living as needed. Students may attend Aggie ACHIEVE for up to four years.

Aggie ACHIEVE students will graduate with a Certificate in Interdisciplinary Studies from Texas A&M University. As a CTP, students may apply for federal student aid and may qualify for federal pell grants, federal work study or Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants to help pay for tuition.

<https://aggieachieve.tamu.edu/>

Camp LIFE

Leadership, Independence, and Friends through Experiences

- A unique and inclusive camping adventure for children with any disability (ages 6 & up) and their siblings.
- Held twice a year at the barrier-free facilities of Camp For All in Burton, Texas, Camp LIFE provides recreation while offering a weekend of respite for their parents.
- Camp LIFE gives campers the choice to participate in every activity they would see at any other traditional camp. Campers can experience horseback riding, fishing, archery, the zip line, and rope course activities, as well as a petting zoo, canoeing, dancing, and even karaoke.
- Usually 1:1 camper/counselor ratio
- Camp Nurse on site for medications, medical needs
- <https://camplife.tamu.edu/>

Weekend Camps

- Fall Camp October 18-20, 2024 (closed)
- Spring Camp February 7-9, 2025

Rates

- **Tier I** (\$275) is a partially subsidized fee for those who can pay a little but still cannot afford the entire cost of the camp.
- **Tier II** (\$375) most closely accounts for the true costs of the camp. The camp fees are per person.

Family Day Camp

- April 6, 2025
- MBA Association provides funding

Rates

- \$50-\$100 per family





Coach to Communicate

- Multimodal Communication webinar gives parents tools to help their child with autism spectrum disorder improve their communication skills.
- After viewing the webinar and completing the post-assessment, parents who are interested in learning how to apply the webinar concepts to their own situation through online, individualized parent training sessions are invited to read and fill out the information and consent form.
- Training available in English, Spanish & Thai
- <https://autism.tamu.edu/>

Texas Transition Conference

The TTC conference is a three-day event designed to provide individuals with the support and resources they need to navigate the transition process and improve postsecondary opportunities for children and adults with disabilities.

When: February 19-21, 2025

Where: Royal Sonesta Galleria in Houston

- Students, families & preservice teachers rate \$200
- Early Registration Rate \$350 (registration & payment received before 12/13/24)
- Regular Registration Rate \$425 (registrations & payments received after 12/13/24)

<https://ttc.tamu.edu/>



Stephanie Garner
In-home/Parent Trainers

Karen VonGonten
In-home/Parent Trainers
Homebound Teacher

Tonnette Smith
Transition Specialist

Tashauna Green
Transition Specialists

<https://www.bryanisd.org/>

Post-Graduation Opportunities

Bryan ISD provides a continuum of services for students 3-18 years of age. We have an 18+ program and Project Search as post graduation opportunities based on need.

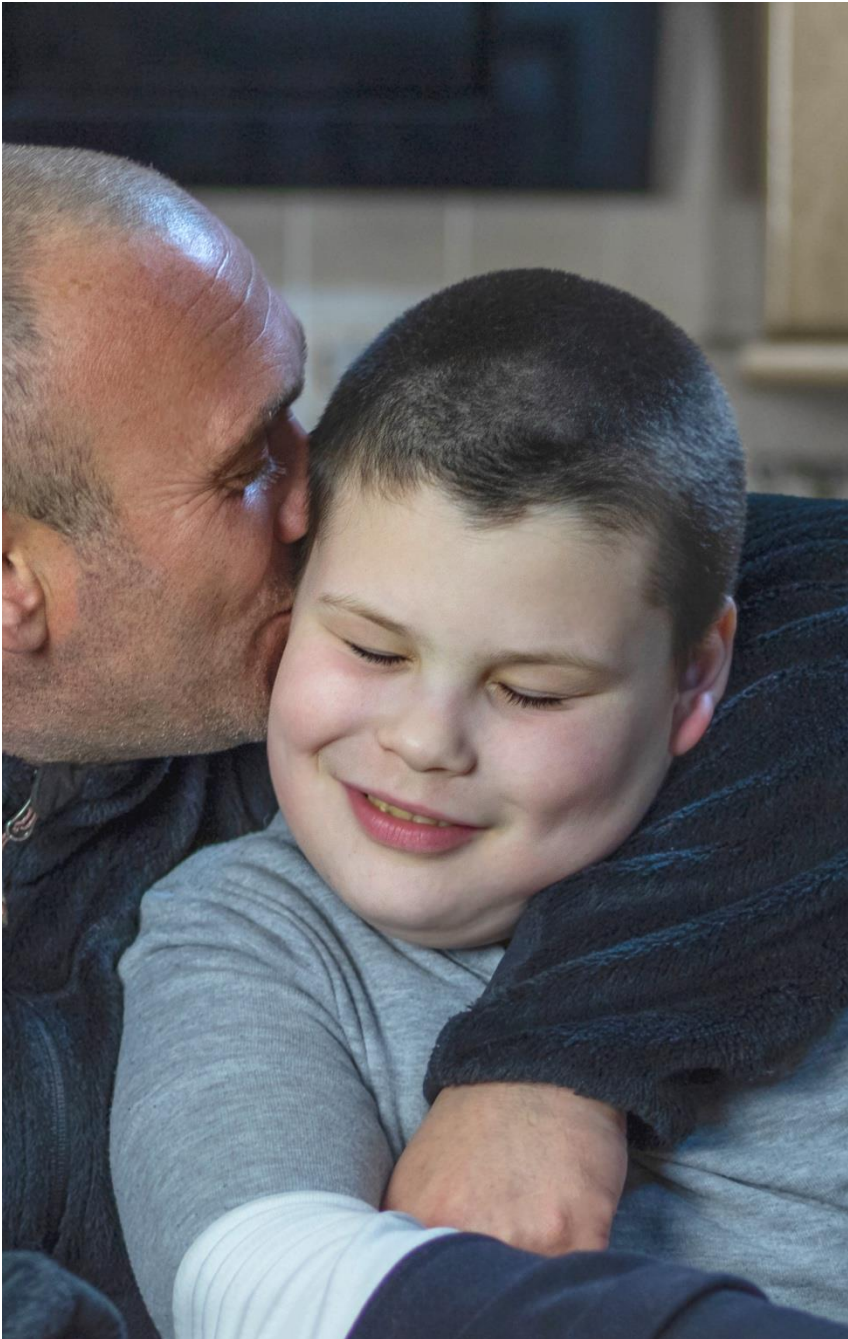
The **Project SEARCH** High School Transition Program is a unique, business-led, one year school-to-work program that takes place entirely at the workplace through the Texas A&M Hotel and Conference Center. Total workplace immersion facilitates a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration, and hands-on training through worksite rotations.

18 Plus Step Program

Step program at Bryan High School to work on necessary daily living skills, self advocacy skills, independence, soft employment skills, and learning about their community through structured instruction.

18+ Programming

18+ Programming is a program within the special education setting and community setting. In the 18+ Program students utilize a variety of community support systems such as transportation, Brazos Valley Center for Independent Living, and workforce. Students also learn skills that are needed to help them with obtaining employment and access supports in his/her community.



Parent Training

Bryan ISD hosts **Parenting on the Spectrum** which meets six times a year at Bowen Elementary. Child Care is provided.

This year's topics include:

- Autism 101

- Routines

- Challenging Behaviors (part 1 & 2)

- Sensory Processing and Self-Regulation

- Social Communication



Ami Cecil
Transition Coordinator

Amanda Uresti
CSISD Special Services High School
& 18+ Coordinator



At College Station ISD, we are committed to providing individualized and comprehensive special education programs that empower students with diverse needs. Our goal is to foster independence, life skills, and academic success for every student. Through specialized instruction, therapy, and support services, we ensure that students from Pre-K through 12th grade thrive in inclusive and adaptive environments.

Our 18+ Services throughout our Pathways, Bridges, and Project Search programs extend this support beyond traditional high school, offering young adults access to continued education, job training, and community-based experiences. We partner with local businesses and organizations to create meaningful post-secondary opportunities that emphasize self-sufficiency and community integration.

At CSISD, we believe in preparing every student for a bright future, equipping them with the tools they need to lead fulfilling, independent lives.



Craig Davis
BVCIL Program Manager

Pat Morse
Consumer Advocate



BVCIL is a cross-disability, consumer-directed, community-based not-for-profit organization that provides: resources for disability-related services; peer counseling; independent living skills instruction; advocacy (both individual and systems), transition services (includes youth, nursing home diversion, and nursing home relocation to community) and other support services (i.e., accessible transportation, communication access, support to 18+ programs in Special Services).

We support advocacy and vocational/employment projects in collaboration with community partner organizations such as TAMU Center on Disability & Development & TAMU AgriLife; Employment Service Program with TWC Vocational Rehab Services).

<https://www.bvcil.org/>

SATISFACTION SURVEY

