

## Did you know?

One in six children has a developmental disability.

The cost of addressing the issues that children with developmental disabilities experience is estimated to be \$2 million per child; the human cost and impact cannot be quantified.

Children with developmental disabilities frequently need services from a large cross-section of systems in Texas throughout their lifetime. Accessing services can be a struggle.

Living with developmental disabilities creates tremendous stress on the individuals, their families and communities.

## Prevention Matters!

Prevention approaches can and should be integrated at home, in school, in the workplace and in the community. We need to improve safety; interventions for people in crisis; improve education about health; and actively promote policies for wellness.

**We can all have a positive impact in Prevention and improving the lives of Texas children!**



The effects of developmental disabilities are broad and potentially impact every aspect of life.

## Connect with us!

Online: [www.topdd.state.tx.us](http://www.topdd.state.tx.us)

Twitter: PreventDD

Like us and share your story on Facebook

## Executive Committee Members

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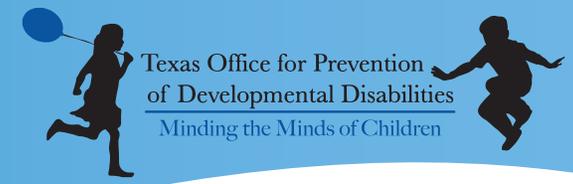
**Mary S. Tijerina, Ph.D., LMSW-AP**



## Minding the Minds of Children

— Preventable Developmental Disabilities —

*Our mission is to minimize the economic and human losses caused by preventable developmental disabilities.*



## **Texas Office for Prevention of Developmental Disabilities (TOPDD)**

is an independent state office that builds public-private partnerships with organizations across the state to prevent developmental disabilities.

Our office is minding the minds of children by:

- Spearheading state planning
- Developing resources
- Educating and engaging stakeholders
- Convening leaders to facilitate collaboration
- Integrating prevention across systems
- Improving public policy

Many developmental disabilities are preventable! We must address the root causes and identify prevention opportunities.

TOPDD achieves its goals through a public-private partnership model, with special focus on:

- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- Child Safety and Injury Prevention
- Developmental Disabilities and Mental Health

TOPDD organizes leadership to identify needs and develop statewide planning with over 100 leaders from across the state.

## **Causes of Preventable Developmental Disabilities**

- Prenatal substance use
- Infant head trauma
- Child falls
- Child maltreatment
- Poor nutrition
- Shaken Baby Syndrome
- Concussion
- Sports-related head injury
- Bicycle accident
- Transportation-related child injury
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Environmental toxins

## **Preventing Developmental Disabilities by:**

- Addressing women's health, nutrition, alcohol and other drug use practices; before and during pregnancy.
- Providing early identification and intervention to prevent secondary disabilities.
- Providing education and mentoring to parents to prevent child maltreatment and trauma.
- Providing services that address complex needs such as co-occurring developmental disabilities and mental illness, thereby improving family functioning and reducing risk to children.
- Strengthening the safety net which provides families with medical care, treatment, nutrition, child safety equipment and other basic services.

