

CELEBRATE *Independence Day*

MISSION ROAD MINISTRIES

FOCUSING ON POTENTIAL,
NOT LIMITATIONS SINCE 1947



Save the Date!

46th Annual Grand Western Shindig
Thursday, November 6, 2025
Mays Family Center, Witte Museum



Reserve your table today
Contact Lynette for info
210.334.2455
info@mrmsat.org



Special Thanks to
Sydney & Parker Hensley
Bank of Texas
Shindig Chairmen 2025



Independence starts at Shindig!

Our 46th Annual Grand Western Shindig is right around the corner and we need your (cowboy!) boots on the ground! This unforgettable evening is more than just a celebration of Texas spirit. It's our largest and most important fundraiser of the year, supporting vital programs and services that help children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) live with greater **independence**, dignity, and joy.

Every dollar raised at Shindig directly fuels daily care, life skills coaching, job training, and residential support for the people we are honored to serve. With your help, we can ensure that our neighbors with IDD have every opportunity to be included, productive, and truly independent. Join us and make a difference - one life, one two-step, one dance at a time.

Summer Camp That Builds Independence, One Day at a Time

At Mission Road Ministries, our S.O.A.R. and MORE summer camp is more than just fun and games - it's a lifeline for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families. Designed specifically for children who live in loving family homes across San Antonio, our six-week day camp offers safe, enriching, and joyful experiences that promote growth and independence.

Our S.O.A.R summer camp takes place on our beautiful 22-acre Southside campus, where we provide scholarship support to ensure access for underserved families. The camp runs for six weeks, offering consistent services and support throughout the summer.

A six-week curriculum, thoughtfully designed by skilled professionals, helps these fragile children with IDD retain important behavioral, academic, and emotional skills - reducing the risk of regression during the long summer break. Our camp offers hands-on activities, life skills practice, and social learning in a nurturing environment where every child is loved, celebrated, and supported.



A structured and active summer with a predictable schedule helps children with IDD thrive by reducing anxiety, building confidence, and supporting meaningful growth.



Just as importantly, S.O.A.R. and MORE brings daily relief to the families who love and care for these extraordinary children. With dependable, full-day programming, parents and caregivers can continue working and supporting their families without interruption. Siblings and extended family members also benefit from a balanced home life, while the risk of caregiver burnout is eased through regular, dependable respite.

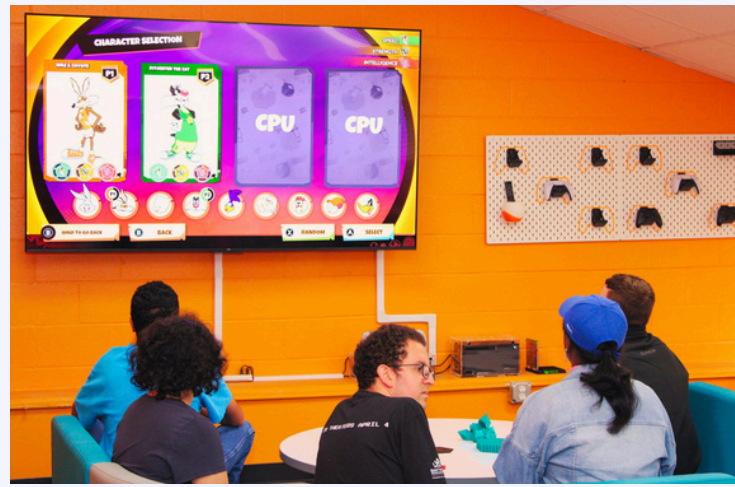
At Mission Road, we believe that when we support the whole family, children with IDD can truly flourish.

Empowering Digital Independence at Unicorn Centers Campus

We're thrilled to announce the grand opening of our new computer lab at our Unicorn Centers campus in San Antonio - an exciting milestone made possible thanks to the generous support of **Methodist Healthcare Ministries**. Their recent \$21 million commitment to digital equity across South Texas ensures that vulnerable communities - including people with special needs - gain access to reliable devices, broadband, and safe online training.

Accessible digital tools are more than just screens - they're gateways to greater community inclusion for people with IDD. Online learning, social media, and virtual exploration empower our individuals to build essential life skills, broaden their social circles, and connect meaningfully with others. Yet access must come with careful oversight: our lab offers structured, supervised guidance so our folks learn safely - protecting them from online risks while teaching them how to navigate the digital world responsibly.

What makes this lab truly unique is our inclusive family model. We will open the space to the extended families of our clients... parents, siblings, and loved ones can use the lab some evenings to manage vital services, join support groups, and give them access to state and federal online portals to make sure they don't lose vital funding that is critical to their



Our bright, colorful, and welcoming new computer lab is outfitted with brand-new computers, tablets, and a cozy lounge area designed to foster social interaction and friendship among our adult participants in our Mission Road Day Activity Program.



loved ones' ongoing participation in services like those provided by Mission Road.

By providing sustained access - not just a one-time event - our computer lab aligns with best practices in digital equity and health. Methodist Healthcare Ministries and Mission Road Ministries understand that safe, ongoing access to technology is a critical social determinant of health. At our Unicorn Centers campus, this resource represents more than technology - it's a step toward true independence, inclusion, and well-being for individuals with IDD and their families.

Our second computer lab will be opening at our southside campus in early July.



8706 Mission Road
San Antonio, Texas 78214

PRSRT
FIRST CLASS
US POSTAGE
PAID
San Antonio, TX
PERMIT NO. 1001

Standing Strong for Caregivers in Texas

More than 485,000 children and adults in Texas live with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD), yet only about 97,000 receive services through the state. This shortage - paired with dangerously low wages for direct care professionals - is pushing our system to the brink. Community-based caregivers are paid an average of just \$10.60/hour, while their peers at state-run facilities earn closer to \$17.50/hour and more. This inequity has led to chronic staff shortages, group home closures, and heartbreak for families who lose trusted caregivers.

At Mission Road Ministries, we are proudly and stridently focused on providing exceptional, kind, and thoughtful care for the individuals with IDD who rely on us. Our direct care specialists are the heart of our mission - nurturing long-term relationships that help our clients live safe, healthy, and joyful lives. But we cannot keep these extraordinary people if we can't offer them fair and competitive wages.

During the most recent session of the Texas Legislature, Mission Road's leadership collaborated formally with Time To Care Texas and alongside other organizations like ours across the state. Together, we all worked tirelessly to advocate for increased wages for direct care professionals. Though we were not nearly as successful as we had hoped, we made real progress in educating key decision-makers. We've raised awareness, built momentum, and deepened relationships that will strengthen future advocacy efforts.

We are not done. We will keep advocating for our clients and our team. Mission Road Ministries remains steadfast in our goal: to ensure a livable, competitive wage for direct care professionals who perform some of the most important work for some of the most vulnerable Texans. Together with our statewide partners, we will continue to push forward until our caregivers - and the people they serve - get the support and stability they deserve.

There are three main tracks in which the IDD population are served in Texas. These are highly regulated by the HHSC. Here are the average annual costs to serve one individual in each of the three tracks. →



IN-HOME
Avg. cost: \$25k
per resident



GROUP HOME
Avg. cost: \$55k
per resident



SSLC
Avg. cost: \$300k
per resident
State Supported Living Center

May we help your family & friends?

It is our honor to partner with families in the care of their loved ones with IDD and other special needs. Please encourage your family and friends to contact and learn more about our available services.

(210) 924-9265 info@mrmsat.org missionroadministries.org

Mission Road Ministries 8706 Mission Road, San Antonio Texas 78214

