



**Candra Schatz**, Secretary of the Autism Speaks Dallas/Fort Worth Executive Leadership Council, is the mother/guardian of a 21-year-old young man (Dylan) with profound autism, as well as mom to another son and daughter who live in Oklahoma. Candra and Dylan relocated to the great state of Texas in 2020, during the height of COVID, when Dylan was in crisis due to extreme behaviors that put himself and the family in harm's way. While the journey to find support for Dylan in Texas has been challenging, they eventually found some amazing resources and support. Candra is active in her son's life as his advocate and serves as the Vice President of the Denton State Supported Living Center Family Association, where Dylan is thriving today. Candra has a career in aviation and safety, including 23 years at American Airlines, and now serves as Assistant Vice President, Safety and Leave Administration, at DFW International Airport.