

QUALITY ASSURANCE	
GOAL 1 1,000 self-advocates and family members of persons with developmental disabilities will advocate for policies and practices that promote the self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all facets of community life.	
Objective 1.1 Louisiana’s self-advocacy organization consisting of people with developmental disabilities will promote advocacy by guiding local chapters and provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities.	
<p>People First of Louisiana (PFL) supports 239 members in self-advocacy and leadership and is working with three regions to develop new chapters in Baton Rouge, Lafayette and Shreveport. This project year (October-November 2012) two PFL Board members received one training session on “Legislative Advocacy” and conducted this training for 59 self-advocates. Two advocacy training sessions on disability rights and advocacy strategies conducted by community leaders for self-advocates included 118 participants on the topics “Community Advocacy-Transportation” and “Community Advocacy-Housing.”</p> <p>During the Annual Meeting held October 13th, PFL determined advocacy issues to address. The PFL advocacy agenda for 2013 includes ABLE Act legislation, La. Rehabilitation Services funding, preventing additional provider rate cuts, and additional waiver slots. PFL will define goals and strategies for the advocacy agenda in January.</p> <p>Donna Spears, Advocacy Facilitator, is working with Region 4 to start a People First Chapter in Lafayette. Ms. Spears attended the Council’s Legislative Kickoff and Families Helping Families staff meetings in Lake Charles and Lafayette. She provided support to two PFL Board Members in Lake Charles by clarifying information in “Leadership Bingo” and presented on LaCAN’s history and purpose during the PFL Annual Meeting.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
Objective 1.2 Individuals with developmental disabilities will participate on cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.	

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<p>Council staff shares information with PFL members on joining and participating in various boards of interest to them statewide. Self-advocates attending the PFL Annual Meeting received support to sign up for LaCAN and LaTEACH and to receive LaDDC News, the Council’s electronic newsletter.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 1.3 75 to 100 individuals with developmental disabilities and parents of young children with developmental disabilities will develop skills in leadership development and systems change activities.</p>	
<p>Partners in Policymaking accepted 24 participants for the 2013 class with five self-advocates and 19 parents including five dads. Liz Gary, Partners Coordinator, is in the process of collecting required documentation from participants and final preparations for the 2013 class. She continues to network through the Partners Alumni page and e-mails graduates as things come up that are relevant and important to them.</p> <p><u>Partners in advocacy</u> As of December 14, 2012 there were 112 members on the La Partners in Policymaking Alumni Facebook page.</p> <p>Kem Dwyer (Class of 2012) posted a challenge to all Partners alumni to work on getting one or two people to apply for the 2013 class. In addition to his full-time employment and his position as Region 4 LaTEACH Coordinator, Mr. Dwyer is planning a Partners Graduates Training Session during the opening weekend of Partners 2013. He is acting as Partners Coordinator for graduates by arranging room assignments and scheduling speakers to rejuvenate them for systems change. He also continues to advocate in his area and is working on an employment initiative for adults with disabilities.</p> <p>Jason Durham (Class of 2012) continues to advocate for LaCAN and LaTEACH with Ashley Reynolds in Region 2. They have set up a table at a farmer’s market in Ascension Parish to inform the public about these two initiatives.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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<p>Objective 1.4 375 people with developmental disabilities and their family members will advance their knowledge of home- and community- based supports and services and promote advocacy leadership through participation in conferences and other training events.</p>	
<p>Thirty-one individuals with disabilities and family members received stipends through Families Helping Families to attend conferences and workshops since October 1, 2012. Each stipend contract is on target.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>My Choice is scheduled to provide ten training sessions this project year on five topics. The project is updating the three existing topics and developing two additional topics as determined by individuals with developmental disabilities. Existing topics include “Communicating My Wants and Needs,” “Economic Abuse,” and “Identifying Abuse.” New training topics being developed are about emergency preparedness and possibly safety in the community.</p> <p>Since October one training was conducted for 63 participants in Region 5 on “Economic Abuse.” A train-the-trainer course was conducted for a self-advocate trainer in the new emergency preparedness topic. An additional train-the-trainer is scheduled for December and a new trainer was identified.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>Objective 1.5 Members of the Council and its committees will be supported to serve as effective advocates for state and national systems change and receive staff and administrative support to effectively implement the Council’s mission and goals.</p>	
<p>Eleven self-advocates and family members were supported to participate in the July Council meeting.</p> <p>There were no Council member stipends awarded this quarter. Year to date no Council member stipends have been awarded. The balance of the Council member Stipend Fund is \$3,000.</p>	
<p>GOAL 2 Improve the quality of community-based supports and services for Louisianans with developmental disabilities.</p>	

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<p>Objective 2.1 The quality of waiver services in Louisiana will improve through the development and implementation of a comprehensive home- and community-based services plan.</p>	
<p>A report on the status of the implementation of the Act 299 plan is due to the legislature on or before February 1, 2013. The Council is represented on the Act 299 Steering Committee but the committee did not meet this quarter. See Office of Aging and Adult Services quarterly report for more information.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 2.2 Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) serving Louisianans with developmental disabilities will receive competitive compensation.</p>	
<p>The Dept. of Health and Hospitals has been collecting cost reports from providers since July. There was no Council activity this quarter. See Office of Aging and Adult Services quarterly report for more information.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 2.3 DSPs serving Louisianans with developmental disabilities will display a minimum skills set and have access to a graduated certification process with corresponding compensation increases.</p>	
<p>There was no Council activity this quarter. See Office of Aging and Adult Services quarterly report for more information.</p>	<p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 2.4 500 additional individuals with developmental disabilities will self-direct their waiver services.</p>	
<p>Staff developed a fact sheet with key points and benefits that will promote self-direction. This fact sheet and additional information will be disseminated once additional self-direction “slots” are approved.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 2.5 People with developmental disabilities receiving Supported Independent Living (SIL) services are kept safe and their rights are protected.</p>	

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<p>The Supported Independent Living Ombudsman Program served 4 individuals living in Jefferson Parish by protecting their rights to live in safe housing, to make their own financial and lifestyle choices, and to access appropriate health care resources. In addition, these individuals were assisted with accessing other useful community resources.</p> <p>The Advocacy Center continues to negotiate with the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities and the Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority (JPHSA) to develop a process in which the JPHSA will identify and refer a minimum of ten individuals in need of ombudsman services to the Advocacy Center.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>COMMUNITY SUPPORTS</p>	
<p>GOAL 3 Changes to policies and practices in Louisiana’s developmental disability system will result in adequate funding and availability of quality supports and services in the community and reduce reliance on public and private residential facilities for people with developmental disabilities.</p>	
<p>Objective 3.1 4,000 people on the waiting list will begin receiving home- and community-based services by educating stakeholders, policy makers and the public about the waiting list and needed systems reforms.</p>	
<p>LaCAN currently has over 2,700 members on its listserv, an increase of 68 since October 1st.</p> <p>LaCAN Team Leaders are coordinating with regional members and other advocacy leaders to plan legislative visits and roundtables throughout the state. Eight legislative visits have been made since October 1st. Eleven roundtables have been scheduled between the dates of January 10th and January 30th, 2013. A power point presentation was developed for the round tables to educate LaCAN members on the Council’s advocacy agenda issues and how to be an effective advocate.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>Objective 3.2 Admissions to developmental centers will cease by increasing access to behavioral and medical intervention in the community and the discontinuation of people adjudicated into developmental centers.</p>	

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<p>The Council and Advocacy Center have requested a meeting with the Magellan CEO in early January to discuss behavioral health services for people with developmental disabilities. We have identified family members to accompany us to this meeting to share their experiences. See Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities' quarterly report for their efforts to expand capacity in this area.</p>	<p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 3.3 The number of people in private ICFs/DD per capita in Louisiana will decrease to reach the national average through the transition of people to home- and community-based services.</p>	
<p>There has been no progress on this objective this quarter. Although residents of private ICFs/DD are included in the target population of the Money Follows the Person (MFP) grant, without funded waiver slots, or an MFP policy whereby the money would truly follow them out of the facility to pay for their waiver services, there is no funding mechanism for them to move into their own home.</p>	<p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 3.4 The number of people at large public residential facilities will decrease thirty percent through transition to home and community-based services.</p>	
<p>After the Legislative Auditor's Report was released, residents of the Special Education Center who were beyond the age of twenty-one were transitioned to other settings and/or services. At the time of this report it is unknown how many of these individuals transitioned and what types of settings/services they selected. The Council leadership continues to work with DHH leadership on this objective.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>GOAL 4 Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain the information, training, and support they need.</p>	
<p>Objective 4.1 75,000 individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain information, training, and support.</p>	

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<p>Families Helping Families Resource Centers assisted 5,495 individuals and families with information, referral, or other support since October 1, 2012.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>GOAL 5 The Community and Family Support System will continue to deliver flexible, individualized, and person-centered supports.</p>	
<p>Objective 5.1 3,500 individuals with developmental disabilities will receive (Act 378 of 1989) state-funded supports.</p>	
<p>Staff presented on Act 378 history and services to the Human Services Interagency Council and published the LaDDC News article detailing differences in budgets for Individual and Family Support across the regions/districts/authorities. Fact sheets and a power point presentation were created with information about Individual and Family Support and the Flexible Family Fund program to guide advocacy efforts.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>HEALTH</p>	
<p>GOAL 6 Policies and practices will result in improved health outcomes for Louisiana citizens with developmental disabilities.</p>	
<p>Objective 6.1 Access to quality medical services for individuals with developmental disabilities will increase.</p>	
<p>Medicaid planned to enroll some waiver recipients into Bayou Health effective July 1st but has postponed this enrollment until further notice. Council leadership advocated with DHH leadership that no waiver recipients be forced to enroll in Bayou Health, instead allowing waiver recipients to be optional participants.</p> <p>Preliminary steps of the Health Care Training have been completed including acquiring Memorandum of Understanding and Continuing Medical Education policies and procedures. Tentative topics and timelines for development were drafted by project staff: Developmental Screening, Family and Patient Centered Care, Legislation Governing Services for Children with DD and Community Resources for Referral.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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<p>Objective 6.2 Families will have access to information regarding Medicaid providers.</p>	
<p>Completed in FFY 2012</p>	
<p>Objective 6.3 Louisiana recipients of waiver services aged 22 and older will have access to dental services.</p>	
<p>Staff has gained membership on the La. Oral Health Coalition and has advocated to include stronger language in the Coalition’s plan to enhance oral health services to people with developmental disabilities.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>EDUCATION</p>	
<p>GOAL 7 Changes in policies and practices will result in inclusive, evidence-based, and safe educational settings for students with developmental disabilities.</p>	
<p>Objective 7.1 1,000 people will become active in systems advocacy for increased access to inclusive education opportunities among students with developmental disabilities in all publicly funded schools through the support of a statewide family-driven special education grassroots advocacy organization.</p>	

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<p>LaTEACH membership increased by 52 since the beginning of October bringing the total number of members to 1,559. LaTEACH has been busy advocating with 25 meetings with education and government officials. Seven of these meetings were with Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) members and 18 were with legislators and/or La. Dept. of Education administration officials.</p> <p>Thirty-five LaTEACH members confirmed action to the Action Alert regarding the survey on the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Act (Act 3) plan. LaTEACH leadership participated in the Louisiana Special Education Advisory Panel, Legislative Kickoff, BESE, and the Committee of Practitioners meetings. LaTEACH Statewide Coordinator, Christy Cormier, sits on the Louisiana Believes Committee and leads its Funding Workgroup. She met with Superintendent John White in November to talk about the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) and funding issues.</p> <p>There are vacant area LaTEACH Coordinator positions in Regions 3, 6, 7, and 8. Ms. Cormier has spent time providing technical assistance to regions in order to better recruit and maintain leadership in these areas.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>Objective 7.2 Changes in policies and practices that result in students with developmental disabilities attaining competitive employment in integrated settings.</p>	
<p>Staff met with La. Dept. of Education and La. Rehabilitation Services staff to discuss the Louisiana Customized Employment Project. Strategies to enhance coordination between agencies and better align resources for improved transition and post-secondary employment outcomes were developed.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 7.3 There will be an increase in the number of charter schools, early education programs, and other publically funded education facilities that approximate the percentage of students statewide served with developmental disabilities across all LEAs.</p>	
<p>Patsy White and staff supported efforts to increase stakeholder input into policies and practices that impact students with disabilities at the Special Education Advisory Panel and other committees reviewing state policies.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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Objective 7.4 Students will be protected from discipline practices that cause harm and/or violate their rights.	
No activity for this objective occurred during this quarter.	On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative
GOAL 8 Children participating in EarlySteps will demonstrate improved developmental outcomes through increased access to quality services.	
Objective 8.1 Children participating in EarlySteps will demonstrate improved developmental outcomes.	
No activity for this objective occurred during this quarter.	On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative
EMPLOYMENT	
GOAL 9 Changes in public policy and practice will result in an increase of 1,000 people with developmental disabilities in integrated individualized employment.	
Objective 9.1 Louisiana will develop and implement an Employment First plan.	
Council staff participates in the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)'s Employment First Workgroup with several other parent, advocate, and agency members, that developed the Employment First state plan, but since the group has not met since June 5, 2012, the Council has had no recent involvement in the plan's implementation. See OCDD's quarterly report for an update of their employment activities.	On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative
Objective 9.2 The capacity of the employment provider system will improve through evidence-based practice in collaboration with the LSU-HSC Human Development Center.	

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<p>Council staff continues to collaboratively advocate through Louisiana Association of People Supporting EmploymentFirst and the OCDD Employment First Work Group for consistent definitions and practice, standardized training curriculum and technical assistance for employment providers.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 9.3 The Louisiana Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program’s federal draw down will increase.</p>	
<p>An LaDDC News was published detailing issues with the federal allotment drawdown. Louisiana has relinquished between 33 to 42 percent of these federal funds in each of the past four years – over \$18.4 million for SFY12 alone. There are currently over 2,300 individuals waiting for services from La. Rehabilitation Services (LRS). The Louisiana Rehabilitation Council hopes to build on its progress with educating legislators on the issues surrounding LRS’ budget and drawdown. The Council also wrote a letter of support to the Commissioner of Administration on Sept. 27th in support of fully funding the necessary state match to draw down LA’s federal allotment.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Objective 9.4 Family members and others will be knowledgeable about options for integrated, competitive employment in collaboration with the Advocacy Center and the LSU-HSC Human Development Center.</p>	
<p>Employment Media Campaign, funded at \$24,000, will run TV spots produced two years ago and radio spots from last year.</p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>RECREATION</p>	
<p>GOAL 10 More people with developmental disabilities will participate in inclusive community recreation activities.</p>	
<p>Objective 10.1 Inclusive recreation programs will be developed in at least two areas of the state.</p>	

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<p>A new proposal for a FFY 2013 Inclusive Recreation/ Positive Behavioral Supports Training was removed from consideration by the proposer.</p>	<p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>CHILD CARE</p>	
<p>GOAL 11 The number of quality, affordable, inclusive child care services accessible to parents of children with significant disabilities will increase.</p>	
<p>Objective 11.1 The capacity of Louisiana’s child care system to support children with significant disabilities will improve.</p>	
<p>The Inclusive Child Care Training developed two training modules in Year 1 of the project to assist the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) staff with providing technical assistance to support the inclusion of children with developmental disabilities in child care. The modules are “Methods and Strategies for Providing Technical Assistance for Children with Disabilities in Child Care Centers” and “Adapt That! - Strategies for Adapting and Modifying the Curriculum for All Learners.” There were 10 face-to-face training sessions for 154 participants held around the state on these modules. Participants represented a variety of roles across all regions. Some of these roles include trainers and technical assistance providers; directors of early childhood programs; mental health consultants; child care specialists; quality environmental rating specialists; and education/disability specialists. Many participants worked across different regions and attended both module trainings.</p> <p>Twelve technical assistance consultations were provided to Resource and Referral agency trainers and technical assistance providers across all regions. Four training modules related to including children with disabilities in child care were revised as web-based on-line training modules for the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to place on their website to be completed by child care providers. It is anticipated that further revisions would be completed within the next contract to meet the requirements of the new Early Childhood redesign plan and implementation.</p> <p><i>Inclusive Child Care continued next page</i></p>	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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Inclusive Child Care continued

For Year 2, project staff has requested to be part of the DCFS workgroup currently exploring the possibility of restructuring the Child Care Assistance Program to enhance the likelihood of the special needs rate being included in the process. Project staff participated in Bright Start activities and provided feedback on the state’s plan presented by the Department of Education on the new rating system staff to support inclusion of children with disabilities. Project staff reviewed and made recommendations for revisions to the current training modules to ensure alignment with the state’s Early Childhood Redesign. Recommendations were also developed for the technical assistance protocol used for CCR&R agencies to request technical assistance for children with disabilities. The status of implementation of the recommendations made in Year 1 of the project was requested from DCFS.

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