

LOUISIANA CITIZENS FOR ACTION NOW

Advocating for Louisiana Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

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## LaCAN Information Alert - Community First Disability Rights Rallies and Legislative Session March 23, 2011

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- 2011 Community First Disability Rights Rallies extremely successful
- 2011 Legislative Session
- New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Slots update
- Any Questions?

2011 Community First Disability Rights Rallies extremely successful

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Congratulations to the hundreds of LaCAN members who participated in and made the 2011 Community First Disability Rights Rallies a huge success last week. Advocates expressed appreciation for Governor Jindal's Executive Budget that spared waiver providers from additional rate cuts.

[Click here](#) to see pictures and press coverage from the rallies.

The Rallies were also great motivators to get everyone ready to continue educating legislators on the importance of home and community based supports so we can maintain these rates throughout the session.

### **2011 Legislative Session**

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The Appropriations Committee is expected to the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) budget on March 30.

The 2011 legislative session will run from April 25 to June 23.

LaCAN will be advocating for full funding of all individual and family support services. Although we were appreciative that the Executive Budget did not include cuts to waiver provider rates, it did include cuts to state funded services. These included:

- About \$1 million in OCDD Individual and Family Support Services
- \$125,000 to the Independent Living program in the Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS)

Both of these programs are vital to assisting people to live in their own homes.

LaCAN will send alerts on these issues as more information becomes available.

[Click here](#) to see the Governor's Executive Budget

New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Slots update

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LaCAN has been advocating for OCDD to fill all available NOW slots. At this time OCDD continues to make offers and fill slots. As long as this progress continues, no further advocacy action is needed.

**Any Questions?**

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If there are any questions about the information in this email please contact your regional LaCAN leader or call the toll free number listed below.

- [Our Website](#)

Contact Information

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