

State of Louisiana  
Governor's Office of Disability Affairs



**Bobby Jindal**  
Governor

Governor's Office of Disability Affairs Report  
October 9, 2013

The Governor's Office of Disability Affairs has been adjusting to their new office location in the basement of the Claiborne Building. Our office had to rearrange meeting dates for our executive committees and council meetings due to the fact that the State Office Building was no longer available. We are still awaiting the build out of our conference room and some office space.

We are in the process of appointing new members to the Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs. We sought out new member's applications and received an overwhelming number of qualified applicants. At the current time, we are working with Boards and Commissions to finalize the appointments of seven new members.

The SILC has just entered into the 2014-2016 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL), which became effective this October 2013. The SPIL is mandated by Section 704 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The SPIL specifies the objectives to be achieved under the plan and establish timelines for the achievement of the objectives, as well as explain how such objectives are consistent with and further the purpose of independent living per Section 704. The SILC has established three sub-committees at the last quarterly SILC meeting, October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013, in order to implement this SPIL throughout the next three years and to present reports at the quarterly SILC meetings based upon to stated timelines within the SPIL.

The main topic of constituent calls that the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs has received lately revolves around the Federal Government shutdown. We are on schedule to field over 1,000 constituent calls for the year. Our office worked with the Governor's Constituent Service office to declare

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October Disability Awareness Month. A copy of the proclamation is available on the Governor's Website and the GODA website.

We are very excited about the upcoming GOLD Awards on November 6, 2013 at the Old State Capitol. The Award show is one month earlier than normal due to construction at the Old State Capitol. The event will be hosted by Donna Breaux, chair of GACDA, and Jamar Ennis, Assistant Director of GODA. For years now Jamar has been the master mind behind the Award show and it will be great for him to receive the recognition he deserves.