



# Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council



SELF-DETERMINATION ♦ INDEPENDENCE ♦ PRODUCTIVITY ♦ INTEGRATION ♦ INCLUSION

April 27, 2015

The Honorable Bobby Jindal  
Governor of Louisiana  
P. O. Box 94004  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Jindal:

The Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (the Council) urges you to release the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Managed Long-Term Supports and Services (MLTSS) as written by the Department of Health and Hospitals and submitted to the Division of Administration. DHH is to be commended for actively engaging a broad array of stakeholders and building consensus throughout a two-year planning process for the new MLTSS system. The overall design of the new system reflects the CMS guiding principles of MLTSS, as well as those of other national disability groups. While the Council believes all of those principles are critically important, one principle is paramount to the success of MLTSS – the inclusion of both institutional and home and community-based services. The MLTSS Advisory Committee, along with DHH officials, agreed that if managed long-term care is to be successful, it needs to cover all long-term supports and services.

The RFP is reportedly delayed because the nursing home industry is attempting to be carved out. Louisianans have contributed their valuable time, experience and knowledge by serving on the MLTSS Advisory Committee and made a clear recommendation, with agreement by DHH, that institutional services be included in MLTSS. Louisiana spends the majority of its long-term care dollars on institutional services yet the majority of people want to remain at home. Advocates supported the move to MLTSS with the expectation it would lead to additional opportunities and resources for people to receive supports in their own homes and move out of institutional settings. If nursing homes are excluded from the RFP, we anticipate advocates losing any remaining trust they have in the system and their elected officials.

Sincerely,

Sandra "Sam" Beech  
Chairperson

SB/SW

c: Kathy Kliebert, Secretary, Department of Health and Hospitals