

# Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council

## Status of FFY 2013 Activities

As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2013 – August 30, 2013).

### 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.

**Activity 1.1.1** Provide financial support and technical assistance for the operation of People First of Louisiana. People First will develop a plan to become self-sustaining by 2016.

**Approximate Cost: \$94,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress: People First of Louisiana** (PFL) supports 278 members in self-advocacy and leadership. Three self-advocates joined PFL this quarter.

#### Trainings

- Trainings for PFL Board of Directors (2 sessions; 3 participants).
- PFL Board to self-advocates (2 sessions; 22 participants).
- PFL Presentations (2 sessions; 37 participants)

#### Advocacy activities

- Provided information and support to members and Congressional delegates regarding accumulation of resources without jeopardizing eligibility to means-tested programs (i.e., Medicaid, SSI) as is contained in the ABLE Act.
- Provided information to the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH), the Administration and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding the impact on its members of proposed changes to the Medicaid Purchase Plan (MPP).

#### Advocacy Facilitator activities

- Scheduled a PF chapter meeting in Lafayette.
- Participated in Families Helping Families (FHF) staff meeting and PFL special board meeting.
- Presented "Our Past, Present, and Future" for 2 participants.

#### PFL Members on boards

- Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) Regional Advisory Committees (Regions 5 & 7).
- Down Syndrome Association of Greater New Orleans.
- Mayor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs (Lake Charles).

#### Implementing a plan for financial sustainability

- PFL board no longer wishes to pursue a foundation and is researching other options that include a fiscal sponsorship. This would allow PFL to build name recognition and accumulate working capital.

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- PFL will explore establishing 501(c)(3) status before starting a fundraising campaign to raise money using the PFL name rather than The Arc.
- PFL is collecting fund raising ideas from Board members.

**On target:**  Initiative  Expenditures

**Objective 1.2** Individuals with developmental disabilities will participate on cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.

**Activity 1.2.1** Provide information to People First of Louisiana board members and other leaders to participate on the Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs (GACDA), OCDD Regional Advisory Councils (RACs), and other identified coalitions.

**Progress:** Council staff provide information to People First of LA members on joining and participating in various boards of interest to them statewide.

**On target:**  Initiative

**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.

**Activity 1.3.1** Provide financial support and technical assistance for Partners in Policymaking.

**Approximate Cost: \$80,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress: Partners in Policymaking** began planning for the 2014 session. The application was revised and dates have been set. Applications will be accepted through September 30 and selections completed mid-November.

### Partners in advocacy

- Forty-two Graduates were very active and shared information with legislators following the Governor's veto of the services the legislature funded in HB1.
- Eight graduates attended the OCDD System Transformation stakeholders meeting in Baton Rouge held by DHH Secretary Kathy Kliebert.
- The class of 2013 continues to be actively involved in systems change.
  1. Two 2013 graduates are members of the LSU Human Development Center Constituent Advisory Council.
  2. A 2013 Graduate serves on the La. Dept. of Education (LDE) Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) task force.

**On target:**  Initiative  Expenditures

**Activity 1.3.2** Support up to two Council members' participation in Partners in Policymaking.

**Approximate Cost: \$3,000 in FFY 2013**

## Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Status of FFY 2013 Activities

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**Progress:** No current Council members participated in this year's class.

**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.

**Activity 1.4.1** Contract with FHF Regional Resource Centers to financially support stipends for persons with developmental disabilities and their family members to participate in training, conferences, meetings, and events.  
**Approximate Cost: \$25,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress:** Sixteen individuals with disabilities and family members received **stipends through FHF** to attend conferences and workshops this quarter for a total of 61 since October 1, 2012. Remaining stipend balances are being provided to the Louisiana Chapter of the Autism Society to support individuals attending their Biannual Autism Conference. Each stipend contract is on target.

**On target:**  Initiative

**Activity 1.4.2** Provide financial support for the continuation and expansion of a training program for people with developmental disabilities by individuals with developmental disabilities on advocacy, independence, self-determination, productivity, integration, and inclusion leadership topics.  
**Approximate Cost: \$10,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress: My Choice** provided three trainings for 69 participants this quarter with the final training completed on September 16, 2013. The topic "Communicating My Wants and Needs to My Support Staff" was presented in two Parishes of Region 2 and "Staying Safe in Your Community" was presented in Region 4. A total of ten trainings for 368 participants were conducted this contract year in Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9. Additional topics presented were "Economic Abuse" and "Identifying Abuse."

**On target:**  Initiative  Expenditures

**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.

**Activity 1.5.1** Support individuals with developmental disabilities and family members of individuals with developmental disabilities in participation in Council meetings and other functions.

**Progress:** Council members are supported in participation in Council meetings and other functions.

## Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Status of FFY 2013 Activities

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- Activity 1.5.2** Support Council members' participation in training and educational opportunities.  
**Approximate Cost: \$3,000 in FFY 2012**

**Progress:** One Council member stipend was used for \$1,500. The balance in the Council member Stipend Fund is \$1,500.

- Activity 1.5.3** Support the Council leadership's participation in national training, networking events and advocacy opportunities.  
**Approximate Cost: \$7,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress:** Council Vice-Chair Rocky Fuselier and Deputy Director Shawn Fleming participated in the 2013 Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) Technical Assistance Institute and National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) Annual Conference held in Washington, D.C.

- Goal 2** Improve the quality of community-based supports and services for Louisianans with developmental disabilities.

- 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.

- Activity 2.1.1** Participate in the further development, implementation, and monitoring of the plan mandated by Act 299 of 2011.

**Progress:** No Council activity this quarter.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

- Activity 2.1.2** Advocate for sharing provider data online to assist individuals and families in making informed choices regarding waiver providers.

**Progress:** This activity was added in January 2013. One OCDD workgroup meeting was held to make initial plans for implementation. The second meeting was cancelled and has not yet been re-scheduled by OCDD.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

- Objective 2.2** Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) serving Louisianans with developmental disabilities will receive competitive compensation.

- Activity 2.2.1** Participate in and monitor activities of the Act 299 workgroup for
- the starting DSP compensation level to be at or above the national average and
  - the dedication of a certain percentage of the HCBS rate to DSP costs (based on provider cost reports).
- Timeline: FFY 2015 (second bullet only)*

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**Progress:** DHH will begin collecting cost reports from providers in the Fall of 2013.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**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.

**Activity 2.3.1** Advocate for

- the development of a (or use of existing) comprehensive and evidence-based training curriculum and certification for DSPs statewide and
- the implementation of graduated pay increases for DSPs to correspond with performance on a graduated certification process.

*Timeline: FFY 2015 (second bullet only)*

**Progress:** There was no Council activity this fiscal year.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**Objective 2.4** 500 additional individuals with developmental disabilities will self-direct their waiver services.

**Activity 2.4.1** Promote self-direction through community education through the creation and dissemination of key selling points and benefits and resources to assist in the process (i.e., LaDDC News, Fact sheets, etc.)

**Progress:** An *LaDDC News* article and fact sheet on self-direction were released on April 1<sup>st</sup> to promote the expansion of self-direction in the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW). The fact sheet was revised in August and on August 13<sup>th</sup> the Council promoted the availability of self-direction in the NOW and Residential Options Waiver (ROW) by posting it on Facebook.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**Objective 2.5** People with developmental disabilities receiving Supported Independent Living (SIL) services are kept safe and their rights are protected.

**Activity 2.5.1** Provide financial support for a SIL ombudsman pilot program in Jefferson Parish.  
**Approximate Cost: \$90,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress:** The **Supported Independent Living Ombudsman Program** has served eighteen individuals living in Jefferson and Orleans Parishes 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. Of the eighteen individuals served five cases have been closed.

## Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Status of FFY 2013 Activities

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The Advocacy Center has received four referrals from Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority (JPHSA), two referrals from Metropolitan Human Services District (MHSD), and twelve referrals from within the community. Monthly, the Advocacy Center reports the status of individuals served as well as systematic issues identified to the Council, OCDD, JPHSA and MHSD.

**On target:**  Initiative  Expenditures

### COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

**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.

**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.

**Activity 3.1.1** Provide financial and other support for the grassroots advocacy organization Louisiana Citizens for Action Now (LaCAN).  
**Approximate Cost: \$125,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress:** LaCAN's listserv is currently at 2,049. This represents a decrease of 583 since October 1, 2012 as a result of the removal of over 800 contacts with bad email addresses. LaCAN Leaders are currently working on updating contact information for their regional members, including the correcting of these email addresses.

LaCAN Leaders met for Legislative Debriefing on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and Annual Training on August 9<sup>th</sup>. LaCAN's Leadership is involved in planning the Council's 2013 Advocacy Leadership Conference – Together One Voice.

#### Advocacy Activities

- 219 confirmations on one action alert this quarter: Medicaid Purchase Plan Eligibility.

#### Leader Positions

- Three LaCAN Team Leaders have been hired during the last quarter: Sharon Delvisco (Region 9), Darla Louviere (Region 4), and Johnette Adams (Region 8 who later resigned).
- There are currently two vacant positions in Regions 3 and 8.

**On target:**  Initiative  Expenditures

**Activity 3.1.2** Collaborate with other advocacy groups to plan and support Disability Rights Rallies.  
**Approximate Cost: \$5,000 in FFY 2013**

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**Progress:** The Disability Rights Rally was held Wednesday, May 1, 2013 at the Louisiana State Capitol with over 400 participants.

**Activity 3.1.3** Advocate for systems change initiatives, revenue generating strategies, policies and practices needed to expand supports and services.

**Progress:** The Council leadership meets quarterly with DHH Secretary Kathy Kliebert and OCDD Assistant Secretary Laura Brackin to advocate for systems change initiatives. The Council is also represented on various DHH workgroups, such as the OCDD System Transformation Work Group and the DHH Managed Care for Long Term Supports and Services Advisory Council.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**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.

**Activity 3.2.1** Advocate in collaboration with the Advocacy Center for

- additional short-term emergency placement for behavioral and medical stabilization; and
- improving the home and community based system by soliciting feedback from individual families using or trying to access behavioral health services and sharing that information with the DHH leadership.

**Progress:** The Council and Advocacy Center met with the Magellan CEO in January to discuss behavioral health services for people with developmental disabilities. Three parents of children with a dual diagnosis were included in the meeting to share their experiences/difficulties accessing services. Continued and increased advocacy to build the capacity of the system is needed as families continue to report a lack of services. There was no Council activity this quarter.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**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.

**Activity 3.3.1** Advocate for

- changes to the rate structure of the Residential Options Waiver (ROW) to encourage private ICF/DD providers to convert their beds so individuals can transition to waiver services, and
- the MFP grant program to target residents of private ICFs/DD.  
**Accomplished FFY 2012** (second bullet only)

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**Progress:** Despite Council advocacy, there has been very little progress on this objective this fiscal year. Sec. Kliebert and Asst. Sec. Brackin agreed and have recruited one or two ICF/DD providers interested in participating in a ROW conversion pilot. If these can be done successfully, the goal is for others to follow.

Residents of private ICFs/DD are included in the target population of the Money Follows the Person grant, but without funded waiver slots, there is no funding mechanism for them to move into their own home.

New strategies are needed to address the high number of people in private ICFs/DD.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**Activity 3.3.2** Monitor and participate in the implementation of the Money Follows the Person (MFP) initiative to allow residents of private ICFs/DD to obtain waiver services.

**Progress:** Despite Council advocacy there is no Money Follows the Person initiative at DHH. A new strategy is needed to advocate for policy change.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**Activity 3.3.3** Collaborate with the Community Living Ombudsman Program (CLOP) on the implementation of the MFP initiative.

**Progress:** There has been no progress on this objective this fiscal year.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**Objective 3.4** The number of people at large public residential facilities will decrease thirty percent through transition to home and community-based services.

**Activity 3.4.1** Advocate for residents of the Special Education Center to be added to the Developmental Center pool of waiver slots.  
**Accomplished FFY 2012**

**Activity 3.4.2** Monitor OCDD activities in reference to informing families of Special Education Center residents about home and community-based options and advocate with DHH leadership regarding this objective.

**Progress:** After the Legislative Auditor's Report was released, residents of the Louisiana Special Education Center who were beyond the age of twenty-one were transitioned to other settings. It is unknown how many of these individuals transitioned, but it is our understanding they all selected other ICFs/DD. Recently the Special Education Center renewed efforts at promoting themselves and advertising to fill their beds. The Council leadership continues to advocate with DHH leadership on this objective, but little progress has been made.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

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**Activity 3.4.3** Provide information to the Department of Education and BESE on home and community-based services.

**Progress:** Information was provided to Supt. White on home and community based services at the Council's request by DHH Leadership about nine months ago. No other Council action has been taken. New strategies are needed for this activity.

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

**Goal 4** Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain the information, training, and support they need.

**Objective 4.1** 75,000 individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain information, training, and support.

**Activity 4.1.1** Provide funding (from state general funds) and technical assistance to nine Families Helping Families (FHF) Regional Resource Centers across the state.

**Progress: FHF Resource Centers** assisted 6,491 individuals and families with information, referral, or other support this quarter for a total of 25,089 since October 1, 2012.

**On target:**  Initiative

**Activity 4.1.2** Provide information to hospitals and health care professionals on resources available to individuals with developmental disabilities.

**Progress:** FHF Centers performed outreach to 33 hospitals and health care providers to inform them of resources available this quarter. A total of 126 outreach activities have occurred since October 1, 2012.

**On target:**  Initiative

**Goal 5** The Community and Family Support System will continue to deliver flexible, individualized, and person-centered supports.

**Objective 5.1** 3,500 individuals with developmental disabilities will receive (Act 378 of 1989) state-funded supports.

**Activity 5.1.1** Oversee implementation of, and advocate for, the continuation of the Community and Family Support System Plan.

**Progress:** Although advocacy efforts directed toward Legislators resulted in funding for Individual and Family Support Services, additional NOW slots, and FHF Centers, all components of the Community and Family Support System, each of these items was vetoed by the Governor.

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

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### HEALTH

**Goal 6** Policies and practices will result in improved health outcomes for Louisiana citizens with developmental disabilities.

**Objective 6.1** Access to quality medical services for individuals with developmental disabilities will increase.

**Activity 6.1.1** Advocate for BAYOU HEALTH policies to ensure people with developmental disabilities have access to adequate health care services.

**Progress:** Medicaid has postponed enrollment of waiver recipients into Bayou Health 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. There has been no Council activity this quarter.

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

**Activity 6.1.2** Advocate for the implementation of ongoing multiagency health data collection, management, sharing and analysis to reduce redundancies for individual eligibility determinations and to increase early detection and intervention of health care issues.

**Progress:** There has been no progress on this objective this fiscal year.

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

**Activity 6.1.3** Provide support for the modification of a curriculum for Nurse Practitioner (NP) and Physician Assistant (PA) students, development of a curriculum for online Continuing Medical Education (CME) units for physicians, and the expansion of Operation House Call to Shreveport that provides an understanding of experiences of individuals with significant disabilities and their families.

**Approximate Cost: \$ 91,100 for FFY 2013**

**Progress:** The **DD Health Care Training Project** has continued development of training modules. Operation House Call Shreveport is identifying participant families. Accreditation to provide CME units to physicians has been secured. Two training modules for NP and PA students were developed. Each module includes: Powerpoint Presentation with embedded videos, links, and resources, and Instructor Guide Manual. Two web-based modules for Physician CMEs were developed. It is anticipated the project will complete development of four additional modules in September (two for NPs and PAs and two for Physicians).

**On target:**  Initiative  Expenditures

**Objective 6.2** Families will have access to information regarding Medicaid providers.

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**Activity 6.2.1** Disseminate Medicaid's web-based listing of providers searchable by region through a variety of methods (i.e. Council's website and Facebook page, FHF, etc.).

**Completed in FFY 2012**

**Objective 6.3** Louisiana recipients of waiver services aged 22 and older will have access to dental services.

**Activity 6.3.1** Advocate for the New Opportunities Waiver and Supports Waiver to be amended to include dental services.

**Progress:** Staff gained membership on the La. Oral Health Coalition and advocated for the inclusion of stronger language in the Coalition's plan to enhance oral health services to people with developmental disabilities. The Coalition is developing a priority action plan through March 2014.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

### EDUCATION

**Goal 7** Changes in policies and practices will result in inclusive, evidence-based, and safe educational settings for students with developmental disabilities.

**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.

**Activity 7.1.1** Provide financial and other support to Louisiana Together Educating All Children (LaTEACH) for the promotion of appropriate, inclusive education for all students.

**Approximate Cost: \$110,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress:** The LaTEACH listserv is currently 1,637. This is an increase of 218 since October 1, 2012.

LaTEACH Leaders participated in the Legislative Debriefing on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and the State Leadership is involved in planning the Council's 2013 Advocacy Leadership Conference – Together One Voice.

#### Advocacy Activities

- Five Purple Shirt Days were called (including two BESE meetings, two MFP Task Force meetings and a Special Education Advisory Panel meeting), and an action alert issued to contact members of the Superintendents' Advisory Council regarding transition to assessments.
- 17 members confirmed action; seven members participated in and testified at BESE meetings regarding increased parental representation on the MFP Task Force, consideration of how school reform efforts and closing schools based on academic

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assessment performance negatively impacts students with disabilities; eleven members participated and testified at the MFP Task Force meetings requesting actual costs of services to students be considered and that recommendations avoid a formula based on student academic assessment performance and/or graduation rates; and seven members participated in and testified at the SEAP meeting regarding the impact of alternate assessments and issues with extended school year services and programs.

- 209 members attended eleven regional events (FHF workshops, trainings, education events).
- 23 contacts were made with Louisiana Department of Education (LDE), BESE members & Legislators by LaTEACH Leaders and members.

### Leader Positions

- Statewide Coordination has been restructured to include a Support Coordinator by adding duties to one of the Regional Leaders. The remaining responsibilities are completed by Council and FHF-SWLA staff.
- Darla Louviere is the new Leader in Region 4. Recruitment for vacancies in Regions 3, 5, 6, 8 & 9 for LaTEACH Leaders continues. Applications were received in Regions 5, 6, 8, and 9. Interviews are pending for Region 9 with additional interviews to be scheduled as appropriate.

**On target:**  Initiative  Expenditures

**Activity 7.1.2** The Council will be represented on a variety of education policy-making/advisory bodies.

**Progress:** The Council is represented on:

- Caddo Parish Special Education Parent Advisory Committee
- Louisiana Council for Exceptional Children
- LDE Special Education Advisory Council

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

**Objective 7.2** Changes in policies and practices that result in students with developmental disabilities attaining competitive employment in integrated settings.

**Activity 7.2.1** Advocate with the LSU-HSC Human Development Center and other collaborators for the development and implementation of policies and practices (i.e., college and career pathways) that ensure students with developmental disabilities have access to and opportunities that prepare them for post-secondary education and/or competitive, integrated employment.

**Progress:** Council members and staff participated in LDE listening tour events related to revamping the diploma and accountability system.

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

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**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.

**Activity 7.3.1** Advocate for improved oversight and monitoring of admissions and service delivery to students with disabilities in Charter Schools, early education programs, and other publicly funded education facilities in collaboration with the Advocacy Center.

**Progress:** Council members and staff have advocated for improved admission oversight and monitoring.

- 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.
- Staff advocated for BESE to ensure Charter Schools are open to all students and not create schools for students with specific disabilities.
- Staff developed roundtable presentations and fact sheets on this issue.

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

**Objective 7.4** Students will be protected from discipline practices that cause harm and/or violate their rights.

**Activity 7.4.1** Educate legislators, policy makers and the general public about harmful practices (e.g., restraint and seclusion, corporal punishment, unnecessary use of law enforcement, etc.) and alternative positive evidence based options (e.g., positive behavior practices, etc.) and advocate for policies and practices that promote the safe and effective practices in collaboration with the Advocacy Center.

**Progress:** Legislators were educated about these issues during the session. Reports from LDE showing school system reported use of restraint and seclusion was shared with FHF and LaTEACH Leaders. A request of examples of parents reporting inappropriate use of these practices did not reveal any results.

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

**Goal 8** Children participating in EarlySteps will demonstrate improved developmental outcomes through increased access to quality services.

**Objective 8.1** EarlySteps will return to a transdisciplinary service delivery system.

**Activity 8.1.1** Advocate for an accountability structure that ensures

- service delivery levels greater than 24 hours in a 6-month period have data-driven team justifications,
- family participation in quarterly team meetings, and
- outcomes in Individual Family Support Plans will be measureable.

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**Progress:** This activity is being carried out in part by the Early Intervention Primary Service Provider (PSP) Training and Coaching contract (Activity 8.1.3).

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

**Activity 8.1.2** Advocate for adequate support and training of Community Outreach Specialists.

**Progress:** This activity is being carried out in part by the Early Intervention Primary Service Provider (PSP) Training and Coaching contract (Activity 8.1.3).

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress

**Activity 8.1.3** Support the preliminary activities of the development of EarlySteps transdisciplinary training and mentoring materials.  
**Approximate Cost: \$19,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress:** The **Early Intervention Primary Service Provider (PSP) Training and Coaching** project continued collaboration with national early intervention experts and EarlySteps staff. The project developed a work plan, updated project goals/objectives, and determined data needs.

The PSP training using coaching methods was provided for 15 participants including The Arc Baton Rouge staff and two EarlySteps staff. The Arc staff submitted, in advance, questions to the trainers to be addressed during the PSP/Coaching training that would better individualize the training to the needs of the EarlySteps providers. Videotaping of The Arc staff at sessions before/after the training and again after technical assistance will help determine their level of coaching effectiveness.

The training was successful and The Arc providers are now using the PSP model with coaching. Providers will receive follow up technical assistance from the national experts to support their work. EarlySteps' collaboration includes assistance with data needed from EarlySteps and possible follow-up trainings for other EarlySteps providers in the future. EarlySteps is supporting the project with hopes that the results show the PSP/Coaching model is effective and cost efficient to use statewide.

**On target:**  Initiative  Expenditures

### 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.

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- Activity 9.1.1** Advocate for
- policies that incentivize services for individualized integrated, competitive employment and dis-incentivize segregated, sheltered day habilitation services,
  - sheltered workshops to transition people into individualized, competitive, paid employment and discontinue admissions into segregated day programs,
  - collaborative policy making and practices across state agencies that promote students being supported in and transitioning into competitive paid employment,
  - implementation of ongoing multiagency employment data collection, management and analysis, and
  - LRS and OCDD will collaborate to mandate that all supported employment vendors/providers complete a university-based 40 hour training.

**Progress:** Council staff participates in OCDD's Employment First Workgroup with several other parent, advocate, and agency members. The group met in early July but minimal progress has been made in moving people into competitive, integrated employment.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

- Activity 9.1.2** Participate in the development and implementation (if awarded) of the Partnerships in Employment Systems Change grant with the LSU-HSC Human Development Center and other collaborators to enhance statewide collaborations that will facilitate the transition process from secondary and post-secondary school, or other pre-vocational training settings, to competitive employment in integrated settings.  
**Completed in FFY 2012**

- Activity 9.1.3** Support family members and other advocates to serve on the Louisiana work team in developing an Employment First agenda and implementation plan including participation in state level meetings.

**Progress:** No activity for this objective occurred during this fiscal year.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

- 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.

- Activity 9.2.1** Provide financial support to the Human Development Center to disseminate a curriculum and provide training to agencies on recommended practices for supporting people with disabilities in employment.  
**Completed in FFY 2012**

## Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Status of FFY 2013 Activities

As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2013 – August 30, 2013).

**Activity 9.2.2** Advocate for the development of a collaborative cross-agency infrastructure supporting the use of consistent definitions and practice, standardized training curriculum and technical assistance for employment providers.

**Progress:** Council staff continues to collaboratively advocate with the Human Development Center and the Louisiana Association of People Supporting Employment First (Louisiana APSE) for consistent definitions and practice, standardized training curriculum and technical assistance for employment providers.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**Objective 9.3** The Louisiana Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program's federal draw down will increase.

**Activity 9.3.1** Advocate for Louisiana to draw down the entire VR grant award and serve individuals with the most severe disabilities.

**Progress:** The Council collaborates with other groups such as the Louisiana Rehabilitation Council which reports progress on educating legislators on the issues surrounding La. Rehabilitation Services' (LRS) budget and drawdown. This issue was included in LaCAN's advocacy agenda for the Legislative session but no additional state match for LRS was obtained from the legislature.

**On target:**  **Effort**  **Satisfactory Progress**

**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.

**Activity 9.4.1** Provide financial support to conduct a media campaign to educate employers, individuals with disabilities, family members, and provider agencies about the benefits of having people with developmental disabilities as part of the community-based workforce.

**Approximate Cost: \$24,000 in FFY 2013**

**Progress: Employment Media Campaign** ran TV and radio spots reaching an estimated 460,000 people statewide during March 2013.

**On target:**  **Initiative**  **Expenditures**

**Activity 9.4.2** Provide funding for an employment education campaign targeting individuals and their family members that emphasizes the benefits of competitive employment.

**Completed in FFY 2012**

# Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council

## Status of FFY 2013 Activities

As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2013 – August 30, 2013).

### RECREATION

**Goal 10** More people with developmental disabilities will participate in inclusive community recreation activities.

**Objective 10.1** Inclusive recreation programs will be developed in at least two areas of the state.

The only proposal received for a FFY 2013 **Inclusive Recreation/ Positive Behavioral Supports Training** was withdrawn from consideration by the proposer. The Council did not reissue the Solicitation of Proposals.

### CHILD CARE

**Goal 11** The number of quality, affordable, inclusive child care services accessible to parents of children with significant disabilities will increase.

**Objective 11.1** The capacity of the Louisiana's child care system to support children with significant disabilities will improve.

**Activity 11.1.1** Provide funding to the Arc of Baton Rouge to increase the capacity of child care centers statewide regarding inclusion to accept children with developmental disabilities.

**Approximate Cost: \$32,500 in FFY 2012**

**Progress: The Inclusive Child Care Training** provided 46 Technical Assistance (TA) opportunities to trainers & TA providers this quarter bringing the total unduplicated count through August to 66 TA sessions provided to 72 participants. Individuals receiving TA included Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Trainers/TA Providers, Child and Family Network Referral Teams, Child Care Development Specialists, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Staff in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Thibodaux, Alexandria, Shreveport, Monroe, and Covington.

Positive feedback was received about the success of TA strategies to appropriately accommodate children with disabilities and assisting transition between programs, addressing challenging behaviors, dispelling myths about including children with disabilities, and collaboration between child care programs when children with disabilities transition from one center to another.

The project, through the Inclusion Workgroup, continues to provide feedback to reform the method of distribution of Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) funds to include an increased rate for Centers serving children with disabilities.

The project's participation on the Pilot Advisory Workgroup and the Inclusion Workgroup was deemed the best strategy for incorporating measures of quality into the new Early Childhood Outcomes-Based Rating System. Feedback and recommendations, specifically about how to include children with disabilities without negatively impacting a program's "grade," will be provided once pilots begin to report data.

**On target:**  **Initiative**  **Expenditures**

## Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council Status of FFY 2013 Activities

As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2013 – August 30, 2013).

- Activity 11.1.2** Advocate for
- state-subsidized day care centers to be paid according to a formula that provides a higher rate for children with disabilities,
  - the day care center star rating system to include inclusive practices, and
  - DCFS to publish a web-based listing of inclusive day care centers searchable by region.

**Progress:** This activity is being carried out by the Inclusive Child Care contract (Activity 11.1.1).

**On target:**  Effort  Satisfactory Progress