

LOUISIANA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
October 20, 2016
MEETING SUMMARY

Holiday Inn South
Baton Rouge, LA

8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sue Berry, OPH/CSHS
Craig Blackburn
Randall Brown Jr.
Sharon Buchert
Bonnie Buckelew
Carmen Cetnar
Donnica Conway
April Dunn
Michelle Hurst
Raymond Jasper
Tara LeBlanc
Mark Martin, LRS
Paula Moreau
Lou Ann Owen, BHSF
Stephanie Patrick, AC
Bambi Polotzola, GODA
Delery Rice
Stuart Simon
Tara Nunez-Smith
Mary Tarver
Patsy White
Jamie Wong, LDOE

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mark Thomas
Phil Wilson

GUESTS PRESENT

Donna Breaux
Wesley Cagle, SCLHSD
W. Alan Coulter, HDC
Ashley Courville, Arc of Louisiana
Tiffany Dickerson, OCDD
Erin Bendily, LDOE
Julie Foster Hagan, OCDD
Liz Gary, Partners in Policymaking
Lynsey Hebert, Transcriptionist
Ashley McReynolds, LaCAN
Kelly Monroe, Arc of Louisiana
Paul Rhorer, OCDD
Brenda Sharp, OCDD
James Sprinkle, FHF at the Crossroads
Jill Zimmerman, LDOE

STAFF PRESENT

Brenton Andrus
Shawn Fleming
Kourtney Gaines
Robbie Gray
Derek White
Sandee Winchell

SUMMARY OF OCTOBER MEETING

MOTION PASSED. Motion to accept the summary of the October Council meeting made by Michelle Hurst, second by Bonnie Buckelew, passed without objection.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Delery Rice

Ms. Rice welcomed everyone and indicated Margaret McGarity from the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs (GOEA) retired. Sharon Buchert is awaiting appointment by the Governor to serve as the GOEA representative.

Ms. Rice shared the results of the quarterly meeting with LA Department of Health (LDH) Secretary Dr. Gee. The main purpose was to review the recommendations from the Community and Family Support System Task Force.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Rice opened discussion on the Executive Committee's recommendations for the Council's 2017 Legislative Advocacy Agenda to include:

MOTION

The committee recommends the following list of issues for the Council's 2017 legislative advocacy agenda and is offering that as a motion for your consideration:

- Provide waiver services to 500 individuals on the waiting list
 - If LA Department of Health's (LDH) budget request includes funding for more than 500, the Council would support that request.
- Funding to bring all Local Governing Entities (LGEs) to an equitable State General Fund (SGF) level based on a formula that would include population, poverty, and other factors. (\$67 Million in SGF is needed to bring all LGEs up to the funding level of Metropolitan Human Services District but this would be achieved incrementally. Funding request for FY18 would be \$20 Million.)
 - This would be contingent on the inclusion of the following clause in the contracts between the LGEs and LDH: A mandatory minimum percentage of SGF in each LGE shall be dedicated to Act 378 programs (10% to DD; 1.5% to BH children's services).
- Support LDH's budget request for an enhanced rate to support people with complex behavioral support needs.
- Support LDH's budget request to increase the rate for Personal Care Services under EPSDT.
- Mandate that the weighted formula be used on the local share of the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) for all school systems, including charter schools.

- Change home and community based waiver services on the federal level to where it is no longer optional. This would remove the institutional bias from Medicaid.

A request was made for Council staff to develop and send legislators a cover letter with an explanation of the need for more funding for certain regional Human Services Districts and Authorities (or Local Governing Entities) and the percentage of state funds committed to direct supports and services for people with disabilities.

MOTION to AMEND PASSED.

A motion to amend the Executive Committee’s motion for the Council’s advocacy agenda to add advocating for state appropriation to access full federal vocational rehabilitation allotment made by Mark Martin, second by Tara Smith, passed without objection.

AMENDED MOTION – PASSED.

The amended motion to include the following list of issues for the Council’s 2017 legislative advocacy agenda passed without objection, Jamie Wong abstained:

- Provide waiver services to 500 individuals on the waiting list
 - If LA Department of Health’s (LDH) budget request includes funding for more than 500, the Council would support that request.
- Funding to bring all Local Governing Entities (LGEs) to an equitable State General Fund (SGF) level based on a formula that would include population, poverty, and other factors. (\$67 Million in SGF is needed to bring all LGEs up to the funding level of Metropolitan Human Services District but this would be achieved incrementally. Funding request for FY18 would be \$20 Million.)
 - This would be contingent on the inclusion of the following clause in the contracts between the LGEs and LDH: A mandatory minimum percentage of SGF in each LGE shall be dedicated to Act 378 programs (10% to DD; 1.5% to BH children’s services).
- Support LDH’s budget request for an enhanced rate to support people with complex behavioral support needs.
- Support LDH’s budget request to increase the rate for Personal Care Services under EPSDT.
- Mandate that the weighted formula be used on the local share of the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) for all school systems, including charter schools.
- Change home and community based waiver services on the federal level to where it is no longer optional. This would remove the institutional bias from Medicaid.
- Appropriate state funds to access the full federal vocational rehabilitation allotment.

MOTION

A motion for invitations to any DD Council advocacy related meetings be extended to all DD Council members and the Council Committees have standing agenda items to

discuss any advocacy efforts and initiative priorities prior to Council adoption made by Jamie Wong, seconded by Tara Smith.

Motion to AMEND PASSED.

A motion to the extent possible, have LaCAN leaders include metrics on standing agenda items regarding advocacy initiative priorities, made by Tara Smith, seconded by Jamie Wong, passed without objection.

AMENDED MOTION – PASSED

The amended motion for invitations to any DD Council advocacy related meetings be extended to all DD Council members and the Council Committees have standing agenda items to discuss any advocacy efforts and initiative priorities prior to Council adoption and to the extent possible, have LaCAN leaders include metrics on standing agenda items regarding advocacy initiative priorities passed without objection.

MOTION PASSED.

The Executive Committee recommendation to begin work on developing a differentiated funding formula based on student need in the Minimum Foundation Program for the Council's 2018 Advocacy Agenda passed without objection.

MOTION PASSED.

The Executive Committee recommendation for the Council to amend the Council FFY17 Action Plan by adding under Activity 2.2.1, "Approximate FFY2017 Cost: \$30,000" and adding "Activity 7.3.4 Promote the benefits of and provide family peer-to-peer support for successful competitive integrated individualized employment. Approximate FFY 2017 Cost: \$42,500" passed without objection.

MOTION PASSED.

The Executive Committee recommendation for the Council be listed as a cosponsor for the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Conference on February 3rd passed without objection.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Sandee Winchell

Ms. Winchell welcomed Ms. Buchert and expressed appreciation for Robbie Gray's eleven years of service to the Council. Ms. Winchell clarified the opportunity to share information from committee meetings and ask questions during the Wednesday evening portion of the Council meetings.

BUDGET REPORT – Shawn Fleming

Mr. Fleming shared issues with some contractors not being paid timely and efforts to resolve the issues creating payment delays. A discussion followed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Ms. April Dunn shared the Membership Committee, comprised of Robert Paddy, Mary Tarver, Patsy White and herself, met on October 11th to consider eight applicants for two Council member vacancies.

MOTION

The Membership committee recommends that Hilary Bordelon, a parent from Slidell, and Jill Egle', a self-advocate from New Orleans, be approved by the Council and sent to the Governor for consideration for appointment.

MOTION to AMEND - PASSED.

A motion to substitute Brittany Quebedeaux for Jill Egle' as the self-advocate submitted for Council Membership made by Donnica Conway, seconded by Craig Blackburn, passed without objection.

Substitute Motion FAILED to PASS.

A motion to keep the original motion with Hilary Bordelon, a parent from Slidell, and Jill Egle', a self-advocate from New Orleans be submitted to the Governor and to submit Brittany Quebedeaux as a candidate if Kris Hebert resigns made by Bambi Polotzola, seconded by Craig Blackburn, failed to pass (5 yeses to 12 nos).

AMENDED MOTION – PASSED

The amended motion that Hilary Bordelon, a parent from Slidell, and Brittany Quebedeaux, a self-advocate from Krotz Springs, be approved by the Council and sent to the Governor for consideration for appointment passed without objection.

MOTION FAILED.

A motion to have Jill Egle' submitted to the Governor for Council membership if Kris Hebert resigns made by Stuart Simon, seconded by Patsy White, failed to pass (2 yeses and 15 nos).

MOTION PASSED.

A motion to authorize the membership committee to submit a candidate directly to the Governor in the event Kristopher Hebert resigns, made by Stuart Simon, seconded by Donnica Conway, passed without objection.

MOTION

The Membership Committee recommends that Elaine Harmon, a parent from Lake Charles, and Brittany Quebedeaux, a self-advocate from Krotz Springs, be approved by the Council as alternates.

MOTION to AMEND – PASSED.

A motion to amend the motion by removing Brittany Quebedeaux from the original motion made by Lou Ann Owen, seconded by Paula Moreua, passed without objection.

AMENDED MOTION – PASSED.

The amended motion that Elaine Harmon, a parent from Lake Charles be approved by the Council as an alternate passed without objection.

SELF DETERMINATION/COMMUNITY INCLUSION/ COMMITTEE – Michelle Hurst

Michelle Hurst reported the recommendations developed by the Community and Family Support System Task Force. The recommendations have been presented to LDH and will be shared with the Governor.

MOTION PASSED.

The Committee recommends the Council form an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss support for Families Helping Families Centers, passed without objection.

Ms. Hurst indicated there were plenty of applicants to participate in the Partners in Policymaking Class of 2017.

EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE – Bonnie Buckelew

Ms. Buckelew shared two decisions made by the Education and Employment Committee. First, the Committee requested for the Self Determination and Community Inclusion Committee to oversee Activity 5.1.1 in the Council Plan. Activity 5.1.1 is related to addressing policies that lead to segregation of children in pediatric day healthcare centers.

The second decision the Committee made was to develop a quantifiable and measurable definition for authentic, meaningful stakeholder input.

ACT 378 SUB-COMMITTEE – Bambi Polotzola

The Act 378 Sub-Committee made two decisions regarding Individual and Family Supports and Services and Consumer Care Resources. The first decision by the Committee was to recommend the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities seek clarification from each Human Service District/Authority on the individual and family support requests that were approved pending funding and how many of those requests were priority levels one and two.

The Committee also recommends the Council seek clarity from Capital Area Human Service District on the police mentor contract funded through the consumer care resource program.

COUNCIL AGENCY REPORTS

ADVOCACY CENTER (AC) - STEPHANIE PATRICK

The Advocacy Center has a new Executive Director, Kim Jones.

Ms. Patrick invited Council members to participate in the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Conference on February 3rd at the LSU Human Development Center in New Orleans.

Information about the Advocacy Center resources related to elections was shared.

LOUISIANA REHABILITATION SERVICES (LRS) – MARK MARTIN

Mr. Martin shared efforts in trying to secure a waiver for vocational rehabilitation dollars as a result of the August 2016 flood. LRS has been working with Congressman Graves' office and federal partners to have Congress agree for Louisiana to have a waiver. This waiver has the potential to increase VR services for those individuals impacted by the floods.

Mr. Martin shared successes and processes with supporting people in acquiring and maintaining employment. Staff reductions were also discussed.

One member requested LRS to provide information on the levels of people served by LRS and their success rate.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (LDOE) – JAMIE WONG

Ms. Wong highlighted the LDOE newly released library of videos on Jump Start, with information on things like industry-based credentials and the jumpstart pathway.

The LDOE is seeking input on new proposed alternate standards for students with the most significant disabilities.

Ms. Wong also discussed data on students at the Louisiana Special Education Center.

Council members discussed comments from the Arch Bishop of New Orleans regarding private, catholic schools accepting all children, including students with developmental disabilities.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS (GODA) – BAMBI POLOTZOLA

Ms. Polotzola shared efforts related to flood relief such as coordinating with various agencies and getting resources. The Council discussed emergency management during catastrophic events.

GODA received many nominations for the GOLD awards 2016. Ms. Polotzola recognized Jim Sprinkle, executive director of Families Helping Families at the Crossroads, as the recipient of the Family of the Year!

Discussion points were raised around employment issues, healthcare, and advocacy.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS (GOEA) – SHARON BUCHERT

Ms. Buchert highlighted the numbers of people assisted by the Aging Disability Resources Centers and www.Louisianaanswers.com.

OFFICE OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES (OAAS) – Lou Ann Owen for Tara LeBlanc

Ms. Owen shared information on the numbers of participants in various OAAS waivers.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH (OPH) – SUE BERRY

Dr. Berry shared news of a successful block grant review that will provide the backbone of funding for OPH's programs for children with disabilities and the maternal and child health programs. Organizational changes at OPH were shared.

Dr. Berry highlighted the resource information workshops with high participation rates and topics including care coordination and youth health transition.

Finally, Dr. Berry discussed two grant awards. A \$400,000 grant will allow OPH to develop a rapid surveillance system for infants born to mothers infected with the Zika virus. A \$1.1 million grant will allow renovations to 125 homes of children found to have high lead levels.

BUREAU OF HEALTH SERVICES FINANCING (BHSF) – LOU ANN OWEN

Ms. Owen highlighted services now available through Medicaid expansion; a gene testing series for women and contralateral breast reconstruction surgery.

Ms. Owen shared issues with PALCO not paying workers. PALCO is the new fiscal agent contractor for self-direction in the waiver program,. OCDD and Medicaid staff have been working around the clock to get these problems corrected. Anyone with an issue can contact the Medicaid Waiver Section Chief, Jeanne Levelle at Jeanne.levelle@la.gov.

OFFICE FOR CITIZENS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (OCDD) – Julie Foster Hagan

Ms. Hagan highlighted two major initiatives in the OCDD report regarding the Residential Options Waiver. First, OCDD is preparing to transfer 244 people on the Community Choices and Adult Day HealthCare Waivers over to the Residential Options Waiver (ROW) in January. The second major initiative is a pilot involving residents in ICFs/DD on the waiver waiting list transitioning to the ROW. The pilot will work out differences in funding requirements of ICF/DD vs. waivers.

Ms. Hagan also shared information on training events, particularly related to the home and community-based settings rule changes impact on employment services.

GUEST PRESENTATION – Erin Bendily and Jill Zimmerman from LDOE

Ms. Bendily and Ms. Zimmerman presented on LDOE's plans to develop the state plan in response to provisions in the latest iteration of federal education law, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Council meeting is January 18th and 19th.

ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING

MOTION PASSED.

A motion to adjourn made by Craig Blackburn, seconded by April, passed without objection.