

La DD Council - FFY 2018 Action Plan

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- 'On Target: Initiative' indicates progress has been made as expected.
- 'On Target: Expenditures' indicates invoiced amounts are as expected.

Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
Goal 1 Individuals with development disabilities and their family members will have information, training, support and leadership to effectively advocate and impact system change by educating policy makers.	
Obj. 1.1 Louisiana's self-advocacy network will be supported in self-advocacy and in systems change advocacy.	
1.1.1 Offer technical assistance and training opportunities designed to strengthen the self-advocacy network and the effectiveness of its systems change activities.	The incoming board of directors of People First of LA received training through a contract with the LA Association of Nonprofit Organizations (LANO). (Also in Activity 1.4.3) On target: ☒ Initiative
Obj. 1.2 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members will have access to opportunities and support to build skills to be effective leaders in systems change advocacy.	
1.2.1 Provide financial support and technical assistance for Partners in Policymaking and its alumni network. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$80,000	Twelve participants graduated the 2018 Partners in Policymaking class on June 9, 2018. <u>Partners Active in Systems Change</u> • Two participants testified at a Legislative Committee hearing. • Six participants attended Legislative Committee Hearings • Eleven participants responded to LaCAN Action Alerts <u>Partners' Graduates Active in Systems Change</u> • The Partners in Policymaking Alumni Facebook page has 185 members. • Twenty-nine attended 2018 Regular Legislative Session Committee hearings. • Sixty-seven responded to Home- and Community-Based Services Action Alerts. • Two testified during the Senate Finance Committee Hearing. • Three serve as FHF Executive Directors and four serve as LaCAN Leaders.

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
	• Graduates serve on state and regional bodies such as ○ Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (12) ○ State Interagency Coordinating Council ○ Statewide Independent Living Council ○ Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs ○ Regional Human Services Districts and Authorities Boards and Advisory Councils (Acadiana, Imperial Calcasieu, Jefferson, Metropolitan, and Northwest) ○ Board of Directors for the Advocacy Center, FHF Centers, and People First of La. ○ Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (3) ○ Special Education Advisory Panel ○ Louisiana ABLE Account Advisory Board ○ LSU Human Development Center Consumer Advisory Council ○ Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) Emergency Management Disability and Aging Coalition; State Advisory Council, and Systems Transformation Group On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
1.2.2 Support up to two Council members' participation in Partners in Policymaking.	One Council member graduated the 2018 Partners in Policymaking class on June 9, 2018.

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
1.2.3 Provide financial support and information, training, technical assistance, and leadership to a grassroots network of individuals with developmental disabilities and family members of individuals with developmental disabilities to effectively educate policy makers on the development/improvement of programs and services for people with developmental disabilities. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$225,000	LaCAN has 4,922 members. • 2,354 Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) & Employment • 1,127 Education & Early Intervention • 1,441 HCBS & Employment and Education & Early Intervention <u>Advocacy Activities</u> LaCAN members confirmed 2,700 actions to eleven action alerts and 308 members participated in eighteen yellow shirt days: • 2,507 actions taken on eight HCBS action alerts; • 276 participants at eleven HCBS yellow shirt days; • 193 actions taken on three education action alerts; • 32 participants at seven education yellow shirt days; 105 LaCAN members supported during 72 legislative visits. 56 percent of legislators on key committees had a formal visit where a constituent was present. Additional key legislators received information through informal visits at the Capitol. LaCAN hosts two LaCAN Leader conference calls per month, which include updates on current concerns/issues, and development of strategies to better develop, maintain, support and lead LaCAN members. <u>Update on Leader Positions</u> One new LaCAN Leader was hired: Mimi Webb for Region 7 (Northwest LA). On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
1.2.4 Facilitate and support advocacy events including but not limited to an Advocacy Leadership Conference, legislative Roundtables, and advocacy training sessions.. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$50,000	LaCAN's Legislative debriefing was held on June 26, 2018. LaCAN Leaders, FHF Directors and Council staff discussed the results of advocacy efforts during the 2018 Legislative Sessions and ideas for improving advocacy activities and effectiveness. Since October 1, 2018, 239 LaCAN members participated in 21 regional LaCAN member meetings to discuss the Council's ongoing advocacy agenda and learn how to become an active member, ways of taking action (action alerts, yellow shirt days, testimony), and how to connect with legislators. Previous Quarter(s) The "2017 LA DD Council Employment Conference: Raising Expectations" held in November 2017 had 182 participants. LaCAN Fall Leader Training was held in November 2017. Nine legislative Roundtables held across the state were attended by 473 participants. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
Obj. 1.3 Individuals with developmental disabilities and family members of individuals with developmental disabilities will have support to be effective leaders in systems change through participation on a variety of boards and commissions.	
1.3.1 Provide information and support for participation of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions and advisory bodies.	No activity this quarter. Past Quarter(s): People First of LA was informed of the openings on the DD Council and asked to share information on how to apply to the DD Council with self-advocates. Three parents of children with disabilities were supported in participating in the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline. On target: ☒ Initiative
1.3.2 Support Council members in participation in Council meetings and other functions.	Council members are supported in participation in Council meetings and other functions.

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
1.3.3 Support Council members' participation in training and educational opportunities. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$3,000	No stipends were provided this quarter.
1.3.4 Support the Council leadership's participation in national training, networking events and advocacy opportunities. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$7,000	No activity this quarter.
Obj. 1.4 Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain the information, training, and support they need.	
1.4.1 Provide financial support (from the entirety of state general funds) and technical assistance to nine Families Helping Families Regional Resource Centers across the state.	Since October 1, 2017, Centers have assisted 16,012 individuals with disabilities and family members with information, referral, or other supports. 24,832 units of information and referral were completed. Centers conducted 174 outreach activities to hospitals, pediatricians, and school districts. Council staff provided information regarding needed corrective action to the Board of Bayou Land FHF. As a result, a new board of directors was elected, a corrective action plan was submitted, and a new executive director for the center was hired. The Council entered into a contract with the center effective July 1, 2018. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

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Activity	Progress
1.4.2 Provide information important to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families through a variety of electronic and social media (Council website, Facebook, LaDDC News).	As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018). During this quarter, the Council engaged in efforts of informing our advocates on the decisions being made in the areas of interest during the Extraordinary and Regular Legislative Sessions in efforts to solve the fiscal cliff the state of Louisiana was facing. Articles and posts focused on home and community living were shared through social media (Facebook and Twitter). A LaDDC News article was sent informing advocates of the devastation to the Medicaid programs should the budget cuts go into effect. LaDDC News articles included: Public Comment sought on the Council's FFY 2019 Action Plan, announcing the Customized Employment Trainings, and Leadership Changes at the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities and Louisiana Department of Health. Displays of LaCAN members in action as well as various issues and news of interest to people with developmental disabilities and their families are continuously shared on social media. • LaDDC News has 1,934 current subscribers • Facebook ○ Council – has 2,511 Likes, increase of 147 this quarter ○ LaCAN – has 1,566 Likes, increase of 76 this quarter • Twitter has 192 followers, increase of 28 this quarter On target: ☒ Initiative
1.4.3 Provide financial support for training to build the capacity of people with disabilities and family members of people with disabilities to serve on Families Helping Families Resource Center Boards and the Board of Louisiana People First. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$8,000	Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations (LANO) provided training to the Boards of Directors of People First of Louisiana and five Families Helping Families (FHF) Regional Resource Centers; Acadiana, Bayou Land, Northshore, Region 7, and Southwest. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
Goal 2 Individuals with developmental disabilities, including those with the most challenging needs, and their families will have access to individualized, appropriate, and quality supports and services as needed to be fully-participating members of their community.	
Obj. 2.1 Individuals with developmental disabilities will have more control over their supports and services, their goals and daily activities.	
2.1.1 Promote the increased use of self-direction by individuals and families. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$30,000	One self-advocate and four parents served as mentors by sharing their experience with self-direction and provided support to those interested in pursuing self-direction. The mentors completed 36 workshops reaching 204 individuals. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
Obj. 2.2. Individuals with developmental disabilities, including those with the most challenging medical and/or behavioral needs, will be supported in the community by providers resulting in fewer served in Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) for people with developmental disabilities.	
2.2.1 Advocate for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to provide financial incentives to serve individuals with challenging needs.	Advocated for an enhanced waiver rate to support individuals with complex medical and behavioral needs during legislative sessions and the importance of this issue was included in testimony before the House Appropriations Committee. Funding for the enhanced rate was included in FY19 budget. Previous Quarter(s) A fact sheet related to an enhanced waiver rate to support individuals with complex medical and behavioral health needs was developed and distributed. Advocated for the enhanced waiver rate at nine legislative roundtables across the state, in meetings between LaCAN members and legislators, and meetings with Dr. Gee. On target: ☒ Initiative

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
2.2.2 Collaborate with Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) and fund specialized training and technical assistance for community providers/Direct support professionals in supporting individuals with the most challenging needs. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$75,000	The Complex Needs Training and Technical Assistance Partnership with OCDD has three home- and community-based providers participating in provider-specific trainings and ongoing mentoring to increase capacity and improve outcomes for the people they support. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
2.2.4 Provide funding to states and/or U.S. territories to assist individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to remain in their own homes and communities in the aftermath of the 2017 hurricanes. Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$15,000	The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) reported that Puerto Rico was the territory that needed assistance. The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) must approve a cooperative agreement between state Councils for the transfer of funds. Unfortunately, the agreement AIDD developed for a state to provide funds to Puerto Rico included terms that were impossible for us to meet so we were unable to provide this hurricane assistance. On target: ☐ Initiative ☐ Expenditures
Obj. 2.3 Funding will be available to provide home and community-based supports and services to people on the waiting list, for it to move at a reasonable pace.	
2.3.1 Advocate for adequate funding for waiver slots and state-funded community and family supports (CFS).	Advocated for funding needed to fill 650 home and community-based waiver slots for individuals in the most urgent need and to implement the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option during the legislative sessions. Testimony was provided before House and Senate Committees. Funding for 650 waiver slots for those in the most urgent need was included in the budget for FY19. Previous Quarter(s) Fact sheets related to funding needed to fill 800 waiver slots; to implement the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option; and equitable funding for Northwest LA Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority were developed and distributed. Advocated for funding of all of these issues at nine legislative roundtables across the state and in meetings with Dr. Gee. LaCAN members also advocated for funding these programs in individual meetings with legislators. On target: ☒ Initiative

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
Obj. 2.4 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will have access to the same level and quality of services across the state and will be accountable to state regulation.	
2.4.1 Oversee implementation of the Community and Family Support System Plan.	The Flexible Family Fund Workgroup's recommendations were accepted by OCDD, and the process of editing the program's rule has begun. LDH's legal department has reviewed and approved the rule edits. OCDD staff are working on incorporating feedback from Council staff and the Districts/Authorities. Previous Quarter(s) At the October 2017 Council meeting, the Council approved the recommendations made by the Flexible Family Fund Workgroup to address concerns identified with program policy and practice. Letters were also sent to address concerns noted in the Consumer Care Resources program. On target: ☒ Initiative
2.4.2 Advocate for the expansion of services and consistent implementation of policy across regions, including, if necessary, changes in law and/or contract with local governing entities (LGEs).	Additional funding for Northwest Louisiana Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority was not included in the budget for FY19. Sent a letter to South Central Louisiana Human Services Authority regarding their non-compliance with Act 73 of 2017. Also sent a letter to LDH requesting a review of each District/Authority's board membership and roles according to Act 73 of 2017 be included in the annual accountability plan review process. Previous Quarter(s) Advocated for additional funding for Northwest Louisiana Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority at regional legislative roundtables in their service area and in meeting with Dr. Gee. LaCAN members in Regions 7 and 9 advocated for this funding in individual meetings with legislators. Developed a list of board members for each District/Authority with the statutorily required position each person fills. This information will be shared so people with developmental disabilities and their families will know who was appointed to represent them and to inform people of available vacancies for which they can apply. On target: ☒ Initiative

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
Obj. 2.5 Louisiana will reduce reliance on institutional services (public and private) for people with developmental disabilities.	
2.5.1 Advocate for expansion of the ROW 50 pilot and other opportunities to transition out of institutional settings.	In the OCDD System Transformation Stakeholders Group, agreed to OCDD's suggestion to offer waiver slots to ICF/DD residents on the waiting list after all people on the waiting list in the emergent and urgent categories are served. Previous Quarter(s) Spoke to the Director of the Community Living Ombudsman Program to ensure his staff was doing everything possible to ensure ICF/DD residents on the waiver waiting list fully understand the waiver offer and the package of services available through the ROW. On target: ☒ Initiative
Obj. 2.6 Individuals receiving waiver services through the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) will have access to a full range of quality health care services that result in improved overall health outcomes.	
2.6.1 Publicize healthcare provider continuing education opportunities.	Letter detailing information about the healthcare provider educational webinars was developed and will be sent to nursing programs statewide. On target: ☒ Initiative
Obj. 2.7 Individuals with developmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in state and local agencies and programs.	
2.7.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent community support issues.	Activated LaCAN to advocate for restoration of cuts to LDH throughout the legislative sessions. Successful advocacy efforts resulted in restoration of funding for the following services for people with developmental disabilities and LDH being fully funded in FY19: • Children's Choice and Supports Waivers • Long Term Care Special Income Level Program • Long Term Personal Care Services • Pediatric Day Health Care Centers • Supported Independent Living and Support Coordination in the NOW • LINCCA Successful advocacy also resulted in an increase in the IFS night rate in the NOW.

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
	Provided information necessary to expand the purpose of the NOW Fund Act 665 (SB347) and developed a plan for use of dollars deposited into the fund in collaboration with LDH and parent advocates. Previous Quarter(s) Provided information and advocacy support to our grassroots advocacy network to communicate with Congress on the federal tax legislation that is expected to result in cuts that will be extremely harmful to people with disabilities and their families. On target: ☒ Initiative
Goal 3 Students with disabilities will have access to quality, individualized educational programs that address their unique skills, interests, and goals in inclusive environments.	
Obj. 3.1 Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team members will have increased levels of information and support to demonstrate effective individualized programming consistent with best practice and to enable each member to participate fully as members of the IEP team.	
3.1.1 Advocate for increased focus and capacity within LDOE to address Special Education, including specific areas/issues (i.e., disability/topical/etc.).	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarters: Requested LDOE provide information related to training and technical assistance, monitoring and supporting schools in crisis prevention, functional behavioral assessments and individualized behavioral intervention plans and school-wide behavioral supports. No written response from LDOE has been provided to date. At a December 5th meeting between LDOE staff, parents and DD Council staff the verbal response was that LDOE no longer has an organizational structure to sustain personnel with skill sets to provide this level of support and technical assistance to schools and parents. On target: ☒ Initiative

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Activity	Progress As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018).
3.1.2 Advocate for increased infrastructure of on-site training and technical assistance provided to parents and schools simultaneously.	No activity this quarter. On target: ☐ Initiative
3.1.3 Provide financial support for the development and initial training of modules to increase the capacity of family support organizations and local school systems in facilitating family and student involvement in Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings. Approx. FFY 2017 cost \$4,000	The training modules to increase the capacity of family support organizations and local school systems in facilitating family and student involvement in IEP meetings are accessible on the LSU-HSC webpage: http://www.hdc.lsuhschool.edu/tiers/resources.aspx The direct link to access the Family Partnership Training Modules can be found here: http://www.hdc.lsuhschool.edu/tiers/Family_Partnerhip_Training_Modules/ On target: ☐ Initiative ☐ Expenditures
Obj. 3.2 Louisiana's accountability and support structures for school systems will better assure the development and implementation of individualized education programs in inclusive settings.	
3.2.1 Advocate for an accountability system to value students with disabilities and measure programs and outcomes based on individualized student goals and needs (including service delivery).	No activity this quarter. On target: ☐ Initiative
3.2.2 Advocate for improved complaint and monitoring procedures.	Council staff requested LDOE provide information related to monitoring data, reports, citations, and corrective actions related to findings summarized in the Alternative Education Workgroup Report of October 2017 and information of how parents of students with disabilities sent to alternative sites have access to information necessary for them to effectively advocate on behalf of their children's rights. To date LDOE has not provided any information related to this request. On target: ☒ Initiative

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Obj. 3.3 Students with developmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in educational agencies and programs.

3.3.1 Advocate for educational systems change based on emergent education issues.

Provided information to the House and Senate Education Committees related to proposals for including language in state law related to bullying and teacher bill of rights specifying teachers could use physical force, restraint and directly remove students from school campuses. These legislative instruments did not pass.

Advocated for LDOE to provide a statewide plan for assisting schools in implementing behavior plans which are positive, proactive, evidence-based and data driven. LDOE provided a description of expectations for eight regional consortia of school systems, but not a statewide plan of action.

Previous Quarters:

Advocated for the 2017 Annual Report from the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (ACSBD) be shared with BESE formally at its next Board meeting.

ACSBD passed motions for LDOE to provide the names of members of workgroups on behavior and submit any recommendations or reports to the ACSBD prior to submitting to BESE.

ACSBD passed a motion for LDOE to make data files regarding discipline with sub-groups of students (i.e., disability, race, etc.) and statewide statistics publicly accessible on the LDOE webpage.

On target: ☒ Initiative

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Goal 4 Students with disabilities are considered from the initial phases to the completion of planning and program development of educational policies and initiatives.	
Obj. 4.1 All schools (charter/magnet) accepting public dollars will accept and serve all students with disabilities appropriately.	
4.1.1 Advocate for Type 2 and Type 5 charter schools to be required to meet 85% rule of enrolling students with disabilities at rates similar to those found in traditional public schools.	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarters: Advocated for BESE to consider not extending or renewing charter school contracts for any charter school in violation of legal requirement regarding minimum enrollment rates of students with disabilities. BESE disregarded legal violations of charter schools in issuing charter school extensions and renewals. Data in the <u>2014-2015 Special Education Data Profile</u> and the <u>2015-2016 Report on School Performance According to Requirements under R.S. 17:3991</u> related to charter school enrollment of students with disabilities indicate that less than half of all charter schools, 47%, meet the legal requirement for having an adequate number of students with disabilities enrolled. On target: ☒ Initiative
4.1.2 Advocate for and monitor equitable funding based on Minimum Foundation Program (MFP).	Shared information requested by legislators regarding difficulties with finding data on MFP calculations as required by law. Previous Quarters: Parents testified at the MFP Task Force meeting on December 12th requesting LDOE apply the weighted formula for distributing the local share of funds to charter schools. The MFP Task Force recommended including funding inequity related to the local share of the MFP on the next MFP Task Force agenda; however, the February 2018 MFP Task Force agenda did not include this item. On target: ☒ Initiative

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Obj. 4.2 Stakeholders will have increased opportunities to provide authentic input that will impact decisions on policies effecting students with disabilities.

4.2.1 Advocate for increased meaningful opportunities for stakeholder input; improved practices to facilitate stakeholder input and consideration of stakeholder recommendations.

Previous Quarters: An Action Alert went out previously regarding concerns over the Special Education Advisory Panel not meeting the special rule in federal law (i.e., requiring a majority of members be individuals with disabilities or parents of students with disabilities). [LDOE's published SEAP membership list](#) with roles of members, including those recently added to SEAP, reveals SEAP is now in compliance with the special rule in federal law related to membership.

On target: ☒ Initiative

Goal 5 Individuals with developmental disabilities including those with the most substantial employment support needs will have access to quality individualized services and funding that support competitive integrated individualized employment, and career and financial goals.

Obj. 5.1 An increased number of individuals with developmental disabilities will have access to qualified providers who offer a stable workforce of supported employment professionals with recognized skills sets demonstrated to be effective in supporting people with disabilities getting and maintaining employment

5.1.1 Advocate for certification of employment support professionals (ESPs).

Staff continues to discuss the benefits of employment support professionals achieving certification (knowledge-based and competence-based) during La. Rehabilitation Council (LRC) meetings and elsewhere as the opportunity arises.

On target: ☒ Initiative

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5.1.2 Collaborate with Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS) and the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) to identify and address training and technical assistance needs of supported employment providers in supporting people with the most substantial needs to get and keep competitive integrated individualized employment.	Collaboration is occurring through the Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs (GACDA) Employment First Workgroup to improve employment services to people with disabilities. On target: ☒ Initiative
5.1.3 Advocate for the implementation of a system of accountability to include outcomes-based monitoring and a complaint process.	Council staff has provided input on a system of accountability several times in meetings of the Louisiana Rehabilitation Council and will continue to advocate. On target: ☒ Initiative
5.1.4 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers through training and a demonstration project in customized employment for individuals with significant disabilities. Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$38,000	The Customized Employment Certification Program is mentoring six candidates for competence-based certification scheduled for April through August 2018. One participant has withdrawn from the certification program: a replacement has been selected and will begin work immediately. Previous Quarters In March, an overview meeting was held with leaders of participating providers, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services Regional Managers and state staff, and Local Governing Entities' DD Directors. Discovery Gateway Training was provided by Associates from Marc Gold & Associates (MG&A) in Baton Rouge and Metairie. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

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Activity 5.1.5 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through single day in-person training sessions across the state. Approximate FFY 2018 Cost: \$5,500	Two single-day training sessions on Customized Employment were conducted by Dr. Steven Hunt. Topics covered included Discovery, Profile Development, the Customized Employment Plan, and Job Development. <u>Training dates/locations and attendance)</u> • May 17, West Monroe (16) • May 18, Bossier City (9). On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
Activity 5.1.6 Provide funding for up to 10 employment support professionals sitting for the Certified Employment Support Professional (CESP) exam through La APSE. Approximate FFY 2018 Cost: \$2,200	The CESP exam is targeted to occur in August 2018. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
Obj. 5.2 An increased number of individuals with developmental disabilities will have information and access to an integrated workforce development system that is fully-funded.	
5.2.1 Targeted disparity: Provide funding to support training and technical assistance to build the capacity of supported employment providers in underserved areas serving individuals with the most substantial employment support needs. Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$75,000	The Supported Employment Provider capacity building project has worked with two providers to successfully meet their identified outcomes. Each provider will also have job coaches seeking knowledge-based certification with the Certified Employment Support Professional (CEPS) Exam through the national Association of People Supporting Employment-First (APSE). On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

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5.2.2 Advocate for supported employment providers to have access to financial incentives to support unserved and underserved populations including people with the most substantial employment support needs in competitive integrated individualized employment.	Council staff will continue providing input on providing financial incentives to support unserved and underserved populations in meetings of the Louisiana Rehabilitation Council. On target: ☒ Initiative
Obj. 5.3 Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals in the various service systems will have increased expectations that people with developmental disabilities can have successful competitive, integrated, individualized employment.	
5.3.1 Share the benefits planning services to a variety of agencies and stakeholders.	Information on benefits planning is shared on a quarterly basis on the Council's Facebook page. On target: ☒ Initiative
5.3.2 Share DD Council employment videos featuring individuals with developmental disabilities on their jobs.	DD Council videos on employment are posted on the Councils YouTube page and shared quarterly on the Council's Facebook page. On target: ☒ Initiative
5.3.3 Disseminate pertinent research pertaining to employment of people with developmental disabilities in competitive integrated individualized jobs.	Pertinent research is shared on the Council's Facebook page periodically. On target: ☒ Initiative

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Obj. 5.4 Individuals with developmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in employment agencies/programs.	
5.4.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent employment issues.	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarters An Employment First Workgroup was established by the Governor to align policies across agencies and programs to promote inclusive, individualized, competitive employment. After five workgroup meetings, a subcommittee was formed to finalize the report and plan on how to make improvements to the system of employment services. Governor Edwards issued an Executive Order (18-08) directing state agencies to implement strategies to “attract, engage, and advance people with disabilities” and created the State as a Model Employer Task Force within the Governor’s Office of Disability Affairs. This was a recommendation by the Employment First Workgroup of which the Council is a member. On target: ☒ Initiative