

TIMELINE OF LaCAN's ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1988

- ◀ First Community Integration Conference held and visions of a personalized system of supports were created
- ◀ Creation of LaCAN
- ◀ Development of vision statements outlining principles of individualized supports
- ◀ Regional forums held to present vision statements and obtain comments from people using services
- ◀ Legislation developed stating principles of individualized supports

1989

- ◀ Passage of Act 378
- ◀ Creation of Advisory Committee on the Community and Family Support System
- ◀ Working committees comprised primarily of parents and adults with disabilities meet throughout the year to design components of Plan

1990

- ◀ Development of written plan outlining statewide system of community and family supports
- ◀ Plan presented to Department of Health and Hospitals and Department of Social Services

1991

- ◀ Approval of Community and Family Support System Plan by Joint Health and Welfare Committee of Louisiana Legislature
- ◀ \$1.3 million allocated for FY 1991-92 to begin funding of Community and Family Support System
 - Cash subsidies for 600 families beginning January 1992
 - Funding of support services not reimbursable through Medicaid and for those not eligible for Medicaid
 - Funding to begin supported living programs

1992

- ◀ Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver expanded to include supported living services for adults
- ◀ Legislative resolution passed calling for the implementation of TEFRA Option
- ◀ Formation of regional family support advisory councils
- ◀ \$2.7 million allocated to continue funding initial implementation of Community and Family Support System for 1992-93
 - Continuation of cash subsidies for 600 families
 - Funds for services not reimbursable through Medicaid and non-Medicaid eligible families
 - Funds to continue supported living programs

1993

- ◀ Report issued outlining recommendations for adoption of TEFRA
- ◀ 1500 people receiving Home and Community Based Waiver Services
- ◀ \$2.8 million allocated to Community and Family Support
 - Same services continued

1994

- ◀ Legislative Fiscal Office issues DD Study at request of the Appropriations chairman

- ◀ 350 new slots for Home and Community Based Waiver
- ◀ \$6.1 million appropriated for Community and Family Support
 - Continuation of prior year services
 - 500 additional cash subsidies are funded
 - Initial funding for adoption of the TEFRA Medicaid Option

1995

- ◀ Continuation budget for Community and Family Support
- ◀ \$15 million for implementation of TEFRA (In October, 1995 this appropriation was cancelled by the Joint Budget Committee)
- ◀ DHH makes massive cuts in Medicaid Program, including the Home and Community Based Waiver (Most cuts in waiver services are restored several months later)
- ◀ Medicaid Psychiatric Rehabilitation is cut by 60%

1996

- ◀ Continuation budget for Community and Family Support
- ◀ Targeted Case Management is eliminated for people with developmental disabilities and mental illness
- ◀ Medicaid Psychiatric Rehabilitation is cut an additional 60%
- ◀ Over 2,000 people receiving Home and Community Based Waiver Services

1997

- ◀ Continuation of 1996-97 services
- ◀ An additional \$9.9 MILLION is appropriated for Community and Family Supports
 - 340 new MR/DD Waiver slots brings total to 2,751
 - Comprehensive state funded support services for 460 persons on Medicaid waiver waiting list
 - Cash subsidies for 315 additional families
 - Additional respite funds for families of children with severe emotional disturbance
 - New supported living program for 12 adults with chronic mental illness
- ◀ Implementation of hospital diversion plan shifts funds to Medicaid Psychiatric Rehabilitation

1998

- ◀ Continuation of 1997-98 services
- ◀ An additional \$11.5 million is appropriated for Community and Family Support
 - 700 new MR/DD Waiver Slots brings total to 3,451
 - Cash subsidies for 539 additional families brings total to 1979
 - Additional funds for family support services for children with emotional/behavioral disturbance.
 - Information and support for parents of children with emotional/behavioral disturbance
- ◀ Three pilot projects for single point of entry/information and referral through OCDD and Families Helping Families
- ◀ New supported living program for adults with severe physical disabilities
- ◀ Diagnosis and evaluation for 700 new waiver slots
- ◀ 15 new staff positions in OCDD and Medicaid to process new waiver slots
- ◀ Amendment passed calling for DHH to research the implementation of TEFRA in other states and submit a report to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget prior to January 1, 1999 for its review and approval on a proposed TEFRA option plan for implementation in FY '99-2000.
- ◀ \$350,000 appropriated by the Legislature for Families Helping Families to validate the waiver

waiting list was vetoed by the Governor.

1999

- ◀ Continuation of 1998-99 services
- ◀ An additional \$23.5 million is appropriated for Community and Family Support
 - 800 new MR/DD Waiver Slots bring total to 4251
 - New funds for the implementation of the Medicaid option TEFRA*

*The implementation of TEFRA was halted three weeks prior to beginning on January 1, 2000 due to projected budget shortfalls in Medicaid.

2000

- ◀ Continuation of 1999-2000 services
 - *As an alternative to TEFRA, the administration recommended and the legislature appropriated \$7.6 million to initiate services in January 2001 under a new capped children's waiver called Children's Choice. LaCAN opposed this "trade off" for several reasons, one being the cap of \$7,000. The \$7.6 million was never spent, as the very first children to receive services under Children's Choice did not do so until June 2001.

2001

- ◀ Passage of Act 1147 which amends Act 378
- ◀ Disability Services and Supports System Planning Group and Consumer Task Force (DSSS/CTF) are formed to develop an Olmstead plan to reform Louisiana's long term care system
- ◀ Consumer Task Force submits Phase I plan recommendations to DHH
- ◀ Continuation of 2000-2001 services
- ◀ An additional \$2,474,000 is appropriated for Community and Family Support
- ◀ \$ 2,229,000 to increase reimbursement rates for MR/DD Waiver
- ◀ \$ 245,000 for funding to expand the OCDD and FHF Information and Referral Programs statewide.
- ◀ \$9,000,000 for 500 new Children's Choice Waiver slots
- ◀ \$124,000 for expansion of Community Living Ombudsman Program (CLOP)
- ◀ \$25,964,446 to increase waiver slots in the Elderly and Disabled Adult Waiver, Adult Day Health Care Waiver and Personal Care Attendant Waiver

2002

- ◀ DSSS/CTF planning process continues
- ◀ Bureau of Community Supports and Services submits amended MR/DD waiver to CMS
- ◀ Continuation of 2001 - 2002 services
- ◀ An additional \$20,150,000 for Community and Family Support
 - \$250,000 for FHF
 - \$13.8 million for MR/DD Waiver Re-Write Recommendations
 - \$6.1 million for 325 new MR/DD Waiver slots
- ◀ Additional funds for an interim rate increase for Supervised Independent Living Services (\$440,000 a month until the re-write recommendations are implemented)
- ◀ Additional funds to expand CLOP
- ◀ Passage of SCR 5 - Freedom of Choice for Private ICF/MR residents
- ◀ Children's Choice Cap is increased to \$15,000

2003

- ◀ An additional \$250,000 SGF for Families Helping Families Resource Centers bringing total

funding to \$500,000

- ◀ Increased funding was appropriated to expand the menu of services and provide for higher rates in the newly approved New Opportunities Waiver
- ◀ \$8,030,000 for 400 new Elderly and Disabled Adult waiver slots
- ◀ \$547,500 for 25 new Personal Care Attendant waiver slots
- ◀ \$28 million to implement the Personal Care Medicaid State Plan Option

2004

- ◀ A study resolution was passed requesting the House and Senate Committees on Health and Welfare to study and develop implementation strategies for Money Follows the Individual
- ◀ A study resolution was passed directing DHH to study and develop a five-year plan to eliminate the disparity in DSP wages for those working in community programs versus those in state operational institutions
- ◀ \$3,735,600 for 66 emergency NOW waiver slots - the budget for the NOW waiver for 04/05 was set at approximately \$221 million (federal and state funds)
- ◀ \$1,119,266 for 150 new Elderly and Disabled Adult waiver slots
- ◀ \$381,375 for 25 new Personal Care Attendant waiver slots

2005

- ◀ \$2,642,694 for 100 additional New Opportunities Waiver slots
- ◀ Passage of Act 128 - Reauthorization of the OCDD Law
- ◀ Passage of Act 451 – DSPs perform certain non-complex medical tasks

2006

- ◀ \$8,407,500 for 200 additional New Opportunities Waiver slots
- ◀ Funding for 1350 additional Elderly and Disabled Adult Waiver slots
- ◀ Funding for 150 waiver slots for people with ALS
- ◀ Funding for 125 Adult Day Care Health Waiver slots
- ◀ Passage of Act 555 – All proceeds from the sale of OCDD property will be used to expand or enhance Home and Community Based supports
- ◀ Metropolitan Developmental Center was closed

2007

- ◀ Passage of Act 481 that provides a recurring source of funding for New Opportunities Waiver services
- ◀ Funding for 1500 additional New Opportunities Waiver slots
- ◀ Funding for 200 additional Children's Choice slots
- ◀ Funding for 200 additional Supports Waiver slots
- ◀ Funding for 200 Residential Waiver slots
- ◀ Increased funding that allows OCDD to provide individual and family support services to all people with developmental disabilities with needs classified as priority 1 or 2.
- ◀ Funding to implement the Family Opportunity Act Program
- ◀ Continuation funding for the DSP wage "pass through" that was implemented in Spring 2007

2008

- ◀ Protection of the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Fund to support new NOW slots
- ◀ Funding for 2,025 additional New Opportunities Waiver Slots
- ◀ Mitigated the amount of rate cuts to providers of home and community-based services
- ◀ Act 376 of 2008 aligns state law with federal IDEA reauthorization of 2004.

2009

- ◀ Protection of the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Fund to support new NOW slots
- ◀ Passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 116 that requires OCDD to report on the status of filling waiver slots. OCDD continued to make offers for waiver slots
- ◀ Reduced the amount of rate cuts to providers of home and community-based services
- ◀ Prevented an individual cap on NOW services
- ◀ DHH recommends reforming the system by consolidating/closing developmental centers and recognizing better outcomes and cost efficiencies of using waiver services

2010

- ◀ 150 additional New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Slots
- ◀ The closure of Northeast Supports and Services (Developmental) Center
- ◀ The downsizing of the remaining developmental centers by 20%
- ◀ 425 Children's Choice Waiver Slots
- ◀ \$4.2 Million to be used to speed up the processing of waiver slots and for one-time expenses for individuals with DD and their families (These funds were deposited into the Community and Family Support Fund from the sale of Metropolitan Developmental Center)

2011

- ◀ Restoration of budget cuts that would have resulted in:
 - Elimination of the Cash Subsidy Program for children with severe disabilities in most regions of the state.
 - Loss of Individual and Family Support Services for over 400 families of individuals with developmental disabilities throughout the state.
 - Elimination of contract funding for:
 - Families Helping Families Regional Resource Centers
 - the Supported Living Program for individuals with Adult-onset disabilities
 - Children's Hospital Diabetes Clinic
 - Tulane University Hospital-Cystic Fibrosis Clinic
 - LSU Shreveport NICU Follow-up Clinic
 - LSU Earl K. Long Pediatric Clinic.
 - Services to nearly 5,000 children with special health care needs being drastically reduced as a result of cuts to Children's Special Health Care Services.
 - Elimination of vital community services for 200 people who have successfully transitioned out of psychiatric hospitals.
 - Loss of psychiatric medications for non-Medicaid eligible (indigent) persons diagnosed with serious mental illness and/or addictive disorders.
 - Reduction or elimination of the State Personal Care Assistance Program.
 - Cuts to Adult Protective Services for people with disabilities.
 - Cuts to Single Point of Entry delaying access to Long Term Personal Care Services and the Elderly Waivers.
 - Elimination of plan to expand self-direction in DD and elderly waivers statewide.
- ◀ Act 328 of 2011 establishes regulations related to the use of restraint and seclusion practices in response to behavior of students with disabilities.

2012

- ◀ Restoration of budget cuts that would have resulted in:
 - Elimination of EarlySteps
 - Medicaid provider rate cuts of up to 9 percent
 - Elimination of Early Childhood Supports and Services (ECSS)

- Closure of Central State Hospital
- Elimination of Adult Protective Services
- Elimination of personal care services for people with adult on-set disabilities
- Reduction of school based health clinics
- Elimination of Access to Recovery Program
- ◀ Passage of Act 508 that allows for private donations to the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Fund
- ◀ Passage of Act 186 that creates a check box on state income tax forms to dedicate all or a portion of an individual's tax refund to the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Fund.
- ◀ Loss of 168 New Opportunities Waiver slots through attrition

2013

- ◀ Funding for various services added during session, but vetoed by the Governor
- ◀ Act 291 of 2013 prevents students who are not taking certain courses from being administered the end-of-course tests associated with those courses.

2014

- ◀ Funding to fill all vacant waiver slots for people with DD (approximately 1,000 slots)
- ◀ 200 additional New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Slots
- ◀ \$170,000 SGF restored to nine Families Helping Families Resource Centers
- ◀ \$1.1 Million restored for the Individual and Family Support (IFS) program in the three lowest-funded human services districts/authorities:
 - \$555,000 to Capital Area Human Services District
 - \$490,000 to Florida Parish Human Services Authority
 - \$40,000 to Acadiana Area Human Services District
- ◀ \$765,000 restored to La. Rehabilitation Services
- ◀ Efforts to protect critical services for vulnerable populations through a constitutional amendment were unsuccessful.
- ◀ Act 833 of 2014 provides for a student's IEP team to determine criteria for grade promotion and diploma requirements if the student repeatedly fails to meet local or state criteria related to promotion and graduation requirements.

2015

- ◀ \$3.5 Million in SGF (\$9.25 Million total funding) to fill frozen waiver slots for individuals with developmental disabilities
- ◀ \$170,000 SGF restored to nine Families Helping Families Resource Centers
- ◀ \$500,000 added to EarlySteps (not enough to reach the goal of returning the program to 2012 wider eligibility criteria) - Advocated to transfer this funding to Human Services Districts/Authorities in need of additional Individual and Family Support Program funding.
- ◀ Act 467 of 2015 provides equitable funding formula for charter schools as is used for traditional public schools and requires charter schools to serve the same percentage of students with disabilities as are enrolled in the school prior to takeover.

2016

- ◀ Restoration/allocation of funding for:
 - All current DD waiver recipients to retain services
 - State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS)
 - Long-Term Personal Care Services (LT-PCS)
 - Families Helping Families
- ◀ Funding partially restored for:

- Human Services Districts and Authorities (IFS & FFF)
- ◀ Act 303 of 2016 provides for the petition of a high school diploma by students previously in school who had a disability and earned the necessary Carnegie credits but did not pass standardized exit exams. Prohibits schools from requiring disclosure of student's medical information or special education needs prior to enrolling the student in school.
- ◀ Act 485 of 2016 requires LDOE to collect and report certain student data related to students with disabilities.
- ◀ Act 522 of 2016 establishes Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline and requires LDOE to report certain data regarding incidents of seclusion and restraint.

2017

- ◀ Allocation of funding for:
 - 627 vacant, mixed waiver slots
 - Families Helping Families
- ◀ Restoration of funding for:
 - Programs/services funded through LINCCA
 - State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS)
- ◀ Funding partially restored for:
 - Human Services Districts/Authorities
 - Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS)
- ◀ Passage of Act 73 (Senate Bill 58) requiring Human Services Districts/Authorities to:
 - Allocate a minimum amount equal to 9% of its state funds to the Individual and Family Support and Flexible Family Fund programs for people with DD;
 - Ensure more equal representation of the three service delivery areas of DD, behavioral health and addictive disorders and increased representation of consumers/parents/advocates on their boards.
- ◀ ESSA Plan of 2017 increases recognition of students with disabilities in metrics used to gauge school performance. Specifically, diplomas of students with disabilities assess on alternate standards will earn a school points; Performance on standardized tests is not exclusively based on absolute performance. While the increase to be at "Mastery Level" of performance will further reduce the number of students with disabilities who earn points through the absolute performance, two other ways of earning points will consider performance on standardized tests relative to achieving mastery by 8th grade or relative to 'similar' peers. While the performance on standardized tests continues to pose issues with bias, the movements toward metrics that are less biased than before reflects some progress.

2018

- ◀ Implementation of a tiered waiver system with one Request for Services Registry prioritized by urgency of need.
- ◀ Allocation of funding from the NOW Fund for:
 - 650 waiver slots for people in the most urgent need
 - Complex needs service/enhanced rate for people with complex medical and/or behavioral needs
 - Increase in the Individual and Family Support night rate in the New Opportunities Waiver
- ◀ Restoration of funding for:
 - Children's Choice and Supports Waivers
 - Long Term Care Special Income Level Program
 - Long Term Care Personal Care Services
 - Pediatric Day Health Care Centers
 - Supported Independent Living and Support Coordination in the NOW

- Programs/services funded through LINCCA
- ◀ Passage of Act 665 (SB347) expanded the purpose of the NOW Fund by allowing the fund to be used for all home and community-based waiver services for people with developmental disabilities.
- ◀ Efforts to fund TEFRA were unsuccessful.
- ◀ Act 660 of 2018 defines the penalties LDOE will endure for not collecting and reporting data according to Act 485 of 2016.