

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 1 of 19

- '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 15, 2019 – June 20, 2019).	
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.	Council member Lillian DeJean was assisted by staff to present to teens and adults about becoming involved in systems change and self-advocacy, and provided information/resources on People First and LaCAN during the Rapides Parish Transition Fair on April 8, 2019, and the Orleans Parish Transition Fair on May 9, 2019. On target: ☒ Initiative
1.1.2 Provide financial support for a People First of Louisiana statewide conference. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost \$7,100	The People First of Louisiana 2019 Conference is scheduled for August 9, 2019 at Acadian Village in Lafayette, LA. Tracey Schmitt has been secured as the guest speaker to present "Unstoppable You," a presentation on self-determination, self-advocacy, and activism. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
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.	

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 2 of 19

1.2.1 Provide financial support and technical assistance for Partners in Policymaking and its alumni network.

Approx. FFY 2019 Cost:
\$90,000

The 2019 Partners in Policymaking class concluded on June 15, 2019 with 22 graduates.

Partners Active in Systems Change

Three participants testified at a Legislative Committee hearing.

One participant testified at a BESE Committee hearing.

Nine participants attended Legislative Committee hearings.

Two participants attended a BESE Committee hearing.

Twelve participants made 25 responses to LaCAN Action Alerts and 6 Education Alerts.

Partners' Graduates Active in Systems Change

The Partners in Policymaking Alumni Facebook page has 208 members.

Sixty-six appearances were made during 2019 Regular Legislative Session Committee hearings.

One-hundred fifty-seven responses were made for Home- and Community-Based Services Action Alerts.

Forty-one responses were made for Education Alerts.

Six testified during the Senate Finance Committee Hearing.

Two serve as FHF Executive Directors and five serve as LaCAN Leaders.

- Graduates serve on state and regional bodies such as
 - Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (11)
 - State Interagency Coordinating Council (4)
 - Statewide Independent Living Council (4)
 - Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs (2)
 - Regional Human Services Districts/Authorities Boards and Advisory Councils (Acadiana, Capital Area, Florida Parishes, Imperial Calcasieu, Jefferson, Metropolitan, & 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 (5)
 - Louisiana ABLE Account Advisory Board
 - LSU Human Development Center Consumer Advisory Council (2)
 - Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) Emergency Management Disability and Aging Coalition; State Advisory Council, and Systems Transformation Group

On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 3 of 19

1.2.2 Support up to two Council members' participation in Partners in Policymaking.	Two (2) council members graduated from the 2019 Partners in Policymaking class on June 15, 2019. On target: ☒ Initiative
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 2019 Cost: \$225,000	As of June 14, 2019, LaCAN has 4,957 members. • 2,127 Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) & Employment • 1,049 Education & Early Intervention • 1,781 HCBS & Employment and Education & Early Intervention <u>Advocacy Activities</u> LaCAN members confirmed 1,358 actions to seventeen action alerts and 360 members participated in fourteen yellow shirt days: • 1,358 actions taken on nine HCBS action alerts; • 230 participants at six HCBS yellow shirt days; • 552 actions taken on eight education action alerts; • 127 participants at eight education yellow shirt days; LaCAN Leaders coordinated meetings between members and legislators at the Capitol throughout the 2019 Legislative Session, which ended June 6, 2019. There were 96 LaCAN members supported at 84 formal legislative visits of which 43 were with key committee members. Additional key legislators received information through informal visits at the Capitol. LaCAN continues to host two LaCAN Leader conference calls per month, which include updates on current concerns/issues and development of strategies to better educate, maintain, support, and lead LaCAN members. <u>Update on Leader Position</u> There is still a vacancy for Region 1/10. The position is currently being advertised and those interested are encouraged to apply. More information can be found in the job posting. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 4 of 19

1.2.4 Facilitate and support advocacy events including but not limited to Legislative Roundtables and advocacy training sessions. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$40,000	LaCAN's Legislative Debriefing was held June 12, 2019. LaCAN Leaders, FHF Directors, Partners' Coordinator and Council staff discussed the results of advocacy efforts during the 2019 Legislative Session and ideas for improving advocacy activities and effectiveness. Since October 1, 2018, 421 LaCAN members participated in 43 regional LaCAN member meetings to discuss the Council's 2019 Advocacy Agenda, 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) LaCAN Fall Leader Training was hosted on November 8, 2018. Nine Legislative Roundtables were held across the state with 539 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. Previous Quarter(s) Provided support to family members of individuals with developmental disabilities serving on the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (2/1/19), the Special Education Advisory Panel (2/23/19), and the Minimum Foundation Program Task Force (2/28/19). On target: ☒ Initiative
1.3.2 Support Council members in participation in Council meetings and other functions.	Council members are supported in participation of Council meetings and other functions. On target: ☒ Initiative

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 5 of 19

1.3.3 Support Council members' participation in training and educational opportunities. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$3,000	Four Council members (not including Chairperson) are registered to participate in the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities Conference at an expected approximate cost of \$3,168. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
1.3.4 Support the Council leadership's participation in national training, networking events and advocacy opportunities. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$7,000	The Council Chair is registered to participate in the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities Conference at an expected approximate cost of \$1,300. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
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, 2018, Centers have assisted 14,601 individuals with disabilities and families with information, referral, or other supports. 24,544 units of information and referral were completed. There were 242 trainings hosted with 371 self-advocates and 1,447 family members in attendance. Centers have also conducted 161 outreach activities to hospitals, pediatricians and school districts. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 6 of 19

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).

The following DDC Newsletters were released via listserv, and most advertised on Facebook and Twitter as well:

- [LDH Announces EVV Performance Thresholds](#)
- [DD Waiver Rates Restored Temporarily](#)
- [Changes to the Flexible Family Fund](#)
- [HUD Releases Guidance Excluding ABLE Accounts In Determining Eligibility](#)
- [How-To Guide on Medicaid Renewals](#)
- [Public Comment Sought on Council's FFY 2020 Action Plan](#)
- [Council Issues Solicitation of Proposals for Post-secondary Inclusive Education Alliance](#)
- [Recruiting Strong Advocates for DD Council](#)
- [2019 Legislative Session: DD Advocates Achieve Many, But Not All Goals](#)

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 2,559 current subscribers.
- The DD Council's [Facebook](#) page has:
 - Followers – 3,534
 - Likes – 3,414
- [Twitter](#) has 257 current followers.

On target: ☒ Initiative

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 Addressed during FFY 2017

Obj. 2.2 Accomplished during FFY 2018

Obj. 2.3 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 for people with developmental disabilities (ICFs/DD).

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 7 of 19

2.3.1 Advocate for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to provide financial incentives to serve individuals with challenging needs.	LDH is still waiting for CMS to approve the waiver amendment adding the enhanced rate to serve people with complex needs to the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW). Previous Quarter(s) Funding for the enhanced complex needs rate was included in the LDH FY19 budget. An Emergency Rule published in the October 20, 2018, edition of the Louisiana Register listed the specific eligibility requirements for this service. Based on feedback from CMS, LDH changed the service to an enhanced rate. This rate increase is a result of advocacy that was conducted by the Council in 2018. On target: ☒ Initiative
2.3.2 Collaborate with Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) and fund specialized training and technical assistance in supporting individuals with the most challenging needs for community providers/Direct Support Professionals. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$16,500	This activity was completed during the 2nd quarter of the reporting year. The Complex Needs Training and Technical Assistance Partnership with OCDD worked with direct service providers from around the state to increase their capacity and improve outcomes for the people they support through in-class training and provider-specific ongoing technical support. OCDD provided a final report on this initiative in January 2019. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
Obj. 2.4. Funding will be available to provide home and community-based waiver services to people with unmet needs.	

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 8 of 19

2.4.1 Advocate for adequate funding for waiver slots.

Restoring provider rates to 2008 levels was added to the Council's legislative advocacy agenda, and a fact sheet was created to be used during legislative visits. This issue was included in testimony before House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees. LaCAN members joined providers to successfully advocate for the rate restoration to be retroactive to January 2019 and the appropriation of an additional \$38.8 million in state funds for the rate restoration in FY20. This restoration also includes rates for the Office of Aging and Adult Services Waivers, Medicaid Long-Term Personal Care Services, and EPSDT Personal Care Services.

Sent a [letter to LDH Deputy Secretary Mark Thomas](#) and a subsequent [letter to the Commissioner of Administration Jay Dardenne](#) expressing concern that the Council was not consulted to develop a plan for appropriations out of the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) Fund in accordance with Act 665 of 2018. The Council's request that \$1 Million remain in the fund was also communicated. [Commissioner Dardenne replied to our letter](#) on July 1st stating that the Division and LDH will make a more concerted effort to collaborate and coordinate with the Council on utilization of the NOW Fund and that there will be a \$1 Million balance in the Fund.

Previous Quarter(s)

In October 2018, the Council recommended LDH restore waiver provider rates to the 2008 levels in the current fiscal year using money from the NOW Fund. LDH submitted a BA-7 to restore the rates, but the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget did not include this request on their agenda.

Funding to restore waiver provider rates to 2008 levels was not included in the governor's executive budget proposal.

On target: ☒ Initiative

Obj. 2.5 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will have access to the same level and quality of services administered by the Local Governing Entities (LGE's) across the state.

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 9 of 19

2.5.1 Oversee implementation of the Community and Family Support System Plan.	The need for the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option was included in testimony before the House Appropriations and Senate Finance committees as well as the House and Senate Health and Welfare committees. HB199 was passed which requires LDH, pending CMS approval, to begin a program to provide health care services via the state's Medicaid program to children in the TEFRA population no later than June 1, 2020. This language was also included in the state's FY20 budget bill. Additional funding for the State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) program was also included in testimony before House Appropriations and Senate Finance but was not included in the FY20 budget. Rule changes to the Flexible Family Fund program were published in the April 2019 volume of the LA Register. OCDD trained district/authority staff on the updated policies which were implemented on May 1st. The Council's recommendations for changes to the Individual and Family Support (IFS) and Consumer Care Resources (CCR) programs have been submitted to the LDH Legal for review. The Council printed 1,000 Flexible Family Fund posters to promote the program and new eligibility categories. These have been distributed to the FHF Centers for dissemination in their regions. Previous Quarter(s) A letter was sent to LDH Deputy Secretary, Mark Thomas; OCDD Assistant Secretary, Julie Foster-Hagan; and OBH Assistant Secretary, Karen Stubbs with recommendations from the Individual and Family Support and Consumer Care Resources Workgroup approved by the Council during the October 2018 meeting. Recommendations were discussed with OCDD, and agreed upon, in a meeting on 12/5/2018. Fact sheets related to additional funding for the SPAS program and funding needed to implement TEFRA were developed and used in legislative visits and roundtables. LaDDC News was distributed detailing the Council's legislative agenda with links to the fact sheets. On target: ☒ Initiative
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La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 10 of 19

2.5.2 Advocate for adequate funding, the expansion of services, and consistent implementation of policy across regions, including, if necessary, changes in law and/or contracts with local governing entities (LGE's).	The need for equitable funding for LGEs, specifically Northwest LA and Florida Parishes, was included in testimony before House Appropriations and Senate Finance. The FY20 budget included an additional \$1 million in state fund appropriations to each of these two LGEs (i.e., Northwest LA Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority). Previous Quarter(s) Fact sheets related to equitable funding for LGE's, specifically Northwest LA Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority, were developed to be used in legislative visits and Legislative Roundtables prior to the start of the 2019 legislative session. Information on this issue was presented at the roundtables. LaDDC News was distributed detailing the Council's legislative agenda with links to the fact sheets. DD Council partnered with OCDD and OBH to host statewide training of LGE staff on Act 378 and its guiding principles. On target: ☒ Initiative
Obj. 2.6 Louisiana will reduce reliance on institutional services for people with developmental disabilities.	
2.6.1 Advocate for the expansion of the ROW 50 pilot and other opportunities to transition out of institutional settings.	No activity this quarter. 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.	Advocated with OCDD to allow people who live in the home of waiver recipients to serve as Direct Support Professionals for the waiver recipient. Also advocated for OCDD to establish criteria for the 0-3 age group of children to be screened for waiver services. Previous Quarter(s) In October 2018, the Council issued a letter to OCDD recommending family cost participation in EarlySteps be discontinued in FY20 without changing the eligibility criteria. In a subsequent meeting with LDH Secretary Dr. Rebekah Gee, she agreed to compromise by raising the income limit for when FCP would be imposed. On target: ☒ Initiative

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 11 of 19

Obj. 2.8 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.	
2.8.1 Publicize healthcare provider continuing education opportunities.	On June 10th, a letter detailing information about the healthcare provider educational webinars was sent to all the nursing programs in Louisiana. On target: ☒ Initiative
Obj. 2.9 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will have information and training on sexuality, sexual abuse and exploitation.	
2.9.1 Provide financial support for training on sexuality and relationships and to build awareness and skills with recognizing and handling sexual abuse and exploitation of people with developmental disabilities. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$27,900	As of June 18th, 2019 seven training events have occurred across the state in Thibodaux, Lake Charles, Lafayette, Covington, Pineville and two in the Greater New Orleans area. Twenty-eight self-advocates and one hundred fourteen family members/caregivers participated in the trainings. There are three training events remaining with thirty-six self-advocates and fifty-seven family members/caregivers registered. Registration for the remaining trainings can be found here. Previous Quarter(s) The Council has contracted with Team Dynamics, LLC, to offer a series of ten statewide training events for adult self-advocates, and their family members, to increase awareness of the issues that lead to and ways to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation of individuals with disabilities. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
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.	

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 12 of 19

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 Quarter(s) Advocated for LDOE's plan to provide outreach and support schools statewide in serving students with significant disabilities be separated from the plan to address issues in the Special School District. On target: ☐ Initiative
3.1.2 Advocate for increased infrastructure of on-site training and technical assistance provided to parents and schools simultaneously.	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarter(s) Advocated for the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline workgroup on positive and proactive practices to include a recommendation for the Louisiana Department of Education to invite parents of children with significant challenging behaviors to the 2019 Behavior Intervention Summit. LDOE staff indicated they did not believe providing training to parents was within their legal responsibility. On target: ☒ Initiative
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. Previous Quarter(s) In October, the Council voted to be in opposition to the proposed rule changes related to school accountability and alternative schools. In addition, staff are working with Louisiana Education Equity Coalition to support school performance scores that consider all students, particularly students with the most significant disabilities. Submitted a letter to BESE expressing the Council's opposition to the changes in rules creating separate accountability measures for alternative education schools. On target: ☒ Initiative

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 13 of 19

3.2.2 Advocate for improved complaint and monitoring procedures.	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarter(s) A fact sheet was developed to educate policymakers on the need for Public Reporting of Special Education Monitoring Findings and Corrective Actions, an issue on the Council's 2019 Advocacy Agenda. Provided information on the need for public reporting of special education monitoring findings and corrective actions at six legislative Roundtables across the state. LaCAN members advocated for this in individual meetings with legislators. Released an LaDDC News article sharing the release of special education monitoring reports and corrective actions by the Louisiana Department of Education. On target: ☒ Initiative
3.2.3 Advocate for a support structure in school systems that assures adequate understanding and skill to develop and implement Individual Education Plans.	No activity this quarter. On target: ☐ Initiative
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.	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarter(s) In November, a letter was sent to LDOE Superintendent White requesting a proportionate, or more, amount of funding for initiatives to address shortages of special education teachers and related service personnel than the amount allocated to fund initiatives for STEM teacher shortages. Superintendent White indicated he looked forward to reading the letter. Advocated for LDOE's plan to support schools in serving students with significant disabilities be separated from the plan to address issues in the Special School District. On target: ☒ Initiative

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 14 of 19

Obj. 3.4 An increased number of students with disabilities are included in school culture.	
3.4.1 Provide information and promote inclusion and acceptance of effective models of school culture.	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarter(s) Information on current research of findings and best practices related to behavior and school culture have been shared in each of the meetings of the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline. See agenda from October 12, 2018 and December 7, 2018. Shared concerns with BESE members regarding the plan to use segregated schools in the Special School District as models of effective practice. On target: ☒ Initiative
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 Accomplished during FFY 2017	
Obj. 4.2 All schools (charter/magnet) accepting public dollars will accept and serve all students with disabilities appropriately.	
4.2.1 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 Quarter(s) Issued a LaCAN Action Alert to BESE (12/7/18) regarding contract renewals for charter schools in violation of state law regarding the percentage of students with disabilities enrolled. On target: ☒ Initiative
4.2.2 Advocate for and monitor equitable funding based on Minimum Foundation Program (MFP).	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarter(s) A request for the Louisiana Attorney General to issue an opinion on the distribution of local funds related to students with disabilities was sent (1/4/19). On target: ☒ Initiative

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 15 of 19

4.2.3 Provide financial support for professional development opportunities for child care providers and EarlySteps interventionists to build capacity with including children with disabilities in Early Learning Center within Local Communities. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$77,800	The EarlySteps/Child Care Inclusion project is progressing as follows: - Participants received an on-line training module from the Division for Early Childhood titled: "Supporting Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities in Child Care Settings: How Collaboration Supports Inclusion", along with a pre-training assignment prior to the in-person training sessions. - Two training sessions were completed in June with a total of 90 participants. <table><tr><th>Location</th><th>EarlySteps Interventionists</th><th>Child Care workers</th><th>Child Care Managers/Directors</th></tr><tr><td>Baton Rouge</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>New Orleans</td><td>11</td><td>43</td><td>6</td></tr></table> - To remain on target with the contract, only 4 or 5 coaching sessions will be conducted with the 52 Child Care workers continuing in this project. These providers serve 6 Early Learning Centers throughout the Baton Rouge and New Orleans regions. Previous Quarter(s) An initiative is currently being coordinated through a partnership with EarlySteps, the Council, and Center for Development and Learning (CDL), to provide a professional development opportunity for teams of early interventionists and child care teachers to facilitate the inclusion of infants and toddlers with disabilities in Early Learning Centers of Regions 1 and 2 (Baton Rouge and New Orleans). On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures	Location	EarlySteps Interventionists	Child Care workers	Child Care Managers/Directors	Baton Rouge	9	9	12	New Orleans	11	43	6
Location	EarlySteps Interventionists	Child Care workers	Child Care Managers/Directors										
Baton Rouge	9	9	12										
New Orleans	11	43	6										
Obj. 4.3 Stakeholders will have increased opportunities to provide authentic input that will impact decisions on policies effecting students with disabilities.													
4.3.1 Advocate for increased meaningful opportunities for stakeholder input, improved practices to facilitate stakeholder input, and consideration of stakeholder recommendations.	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarter(s) Advocated during the workgroup of the ACSBD for LDOE to include input and perspectives from parents of students with disabilities when making decisions related to behavioral practices. On target: ☒ Initiative												

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 16 of 19

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 (ESP).	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarter(s) Staff continues to discuss the benefits of employment support professionals achieving competency-based certification during meetings conducted with LRS staff and the LA Rehabilitation Council (LRC). On November 30, 2018, a letter was issued to LRS advocating for all employment support professionals to be certified through competency-based training. On target: ☒ Initiative
5.1.2 Advocate for the implementation of a system of accountability to include outcomes-based monitoring and a complaint process.	No activity this quarter. On target: ☐ Initiative
5.1.3 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through a competency-based certification program. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$55,700	Seven employment support professionals (ESPs) achieved Discovery certification, with five more in process. Six ESPs achieved Job Development certification. Three ESPs are pursuing certification in Systematic Instruction. Previous Quarter(s) Since March 1, 2018, three 3-day Discovery Gateway training events across the state had a total of 61 participants; there were 21 ESPs participating in the 3-day Job Development Gateway training and 16 ESPs participating in the 3-day Systematic Instruction Gateway training. All Gateway training events and mentoring are provided by Marc Gold & Associates. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 17 of 19

5.1.4 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through single day in-person training sessions across the state. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$11,000	This activity was accomplished during the 1st Quarter of the 2019 reporting year. Previous Quarter(s) Four single-day training sessions on Customized Employment were conducted by Dr. Steven Hunt of Briggs & Associates. Topics covered included Discovery, Profile Development, the Customized Employment Plan, and Job Development. <u>Training dates/locations and attendance)</u> • October 11, Lake Charles (17) • October 12, Lafayette (12) • November 15, Baton Rouge (30) • November 16, New Orleans (33) On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures
Activity 5.1.5 Provide funding for web-based training session in supported employment to build the capacity of up to 600 individuals at every level of the service delivery system, including but not limited to state and regional staff of State agencies, supported employment provider administrators, employment support professionals, and support coordinators. Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$39,000	OCDD and Elsevier have been coordinating to complete scheduled trainings for administrators of the system. Elsevier has trained the LGE administrators and added them to the system. Elsevier is in the process of adding all of the learners from the vocational provider agencies in each region. The learners should be on track to begin their training in July. On target: ☒ Initiative ☒ Expenditures

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 18 of 19

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 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 continue to provide input on the need for financial incentives to support unserved and underserved populations during meetings with LRS staff and the Louisiana Rehabilitation Council (LRC). On target: ☒ Initiative
Obj. 5.3 Individuals with DD, 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.	No activity this quarter. Previous Quarter(s) During the 2019 Developmental Disability Awareness Month, social media posts to the Council's Facebook and Twitter pages included employment videos. 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

La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 Action Plan

Page 19 of 19

Obj. 5.4 Individuals with DD 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 at this time.

Previous Quarter(s)

During this reporting period, one in-person meeting and three teleconferences were held with LRS to advocate for Employment Support Professionals to be allowed to be trained by Certified employees in Customized Employment. LRS has not agreed to allow this measure of provider development/training.

On target: ☒ **Initiative**