



## Action Alert #6

### Contact Your Legislators to Save DD Services

January 23, 2017

The state is facing a budget deficit of over \$300 million. Governor Edwards has proposed using the Rainy Day Fund and calling legislators into a Special Session to address this deficit. In contrast, Rep. Lance Harris, Chairman of the Republican Legislative Delegation, is proposing a plan to cut the budget by \$304 million for the remaining months of the fiscal year. In Rep. Harris' plan, the LA Department of Health would be cut by \$147 million in state dollars, for a total of \$423.5 million (including federal funds).

In this scenario, the following critical services for people with developmental disabilities would be impacted:

- Children's Choice Waiver - eliminated - impacting 1,200 children with DD and their families
- Supports Waiver - eliminated - impacting 1,739 individuals with DD and their families
- Human Services Districts/Authorities - reduced by \$7.4 million - impacting Individual and Family Support, Flexible Family Fund, and other services
- EarlySteps - Eligibility restrictions and higher co-pays
- Applied Behavioral Analysis - rate reduced to 75% of the commercial rate
- Pediatric Day Health Care Centers - eliminated - impacting 670 families
- Long Term Personal Care Services Program - eliminated - impacting 15,564 individuals with disabilities

**If these services are important to you, now is the time to let Rep. Harris and your legislators know!**

### How to Take Action

Call or email your state representative and your senator to let them know how you feel about Rep. Harris' proposal and how these cuts would impact you, your family, or others with developmental disabilities. Don't know who your legislators are? Click [here](#) and enter your home address. Your state representative will be listed first; your state senator will be listed second. Click on their name for their contact information.

### AND

Call or email [Representative Lance Harris](#) to let him know how you feel about his proposal and the impact of these cuts.

## WHAT TO SAY?

Tell your legislators how important these services are to you:

- Ask them to support the funding of all services for people with disabilities and identify the additional revenue needed to prevent the proposed cuts to LDH's budget.
- Explain the negative impacts the elimination of or reduction to these programs and services would have on you, your child, family, or someone you know?

## Save the Date (Tentatively February 13th)

### Join us and Rally at the Capitol!

If the Governor calls a special session it is likely to begin on **February 13th**. Please mark your calendar and plan to rally at the Capitol that day in your LaCAN yellow shirt to support DD services. More details to follow.

## Confirm Your Action

Don't forget to let us know that you took action! Reply to this email or notify your [LaCAN Leader](#) to confirm your action.

Why confirm your action? This helps the Council to know how effective we are in reaching you with this important information and engaging members across our state in advocacy for systems change.

## Contact Us

LaCAN is an initiative of the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information in this email, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

phone: 1-800-450-8108

email: [info@laddc.org](mailto:info@laddc.org)

website: [www.lacanadvocates.org](http://www.lacanadvocates.org)

facebook: [www.facebook.com/lacanadvocates](http://www.facebook.com/lacanadvocates)



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