

## Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget

Facing a \$1.3 billion shortfall, Governor Bobby Jindal released the Fiscal Year 2014 Executive Budget to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on February 22nd. The following are a few budget highlights related to services for people with developmental disabilities.

- The Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) will implement Family Cost Participation in the EarlySteps Program to save \$1.7 Million. According to OCDD, families with income at or above 250% of the federal poverty level will be required to contribute to the cost of some services based on a sliding fee scale. Not all services will be subject to a co-pay and there will be a cap on out-of-pocket expenses. (See sliding fee scale below.)
- Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) will lose \$794,000 in state funds designated for care coordination and clinical care. It has not yet been determined which clinics will close; it will be based on whether there are physicians in the community who agree to accept CSHS patients.
- No additional New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) slots were funded.
- The DD Council's state funds were cut by \$54,403 resulting in a \$6,045 loss per Families Helping Families Center beginning July 1st. The centers have lost 34.3% of their funding from the Council since FY09 due to state budget cuts.
- The OCDD will transition the Flexible Family Fund and Individual and Family Support Programs to private administration utilizing the Upper Payment Limit (UPL) funding mechanism in Regions 5, 6, 7 and 8. This will protect the existing state funds for the program and not impact services. UPL is already being used in some of the districts/authorities.
- Medicaid provider rates were left intact.
- The Regional Human Services Districts/Authorities will lose state funds in varying amounts. The budget reduction in a particular area can be found in the supporting documents at the link below.

The full Executive Budget, the Supporting Documents, and the Commissioner of Administration's presentation to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget can be found [here](#).

The 2013 Legislative session convenes April 8th. The House Appropriations Committee will begin budget hearings on March 12th. Individuals with disabilities and their families are encouraged to join the grassroots advocacy network [LaCAN](#). Members receive updates on important issues being decided during the legislative session and are provided assistance with advocating for home and community-based services.

Support for individualized home and community-based services will also be the focus of the Disability Rights Rally on the Steps of the State Capitol on May 1st. The rally is being planned by the Council, LaCAN, Families Helping Families (FHF), the Arc of LA, People First of LA and the Advocacy Center. For transportation contact the FHF Center in your region before April 1st.

## EarlySteps Family Cost Participation Table

### 2013 Federal Poverty Level-Annual Income Schedule

Family Size	Annual Income 100%	150%	200%	250%	300%	350%	400%	450%	500%
2	15,516	23,274	29,424	36,780	44,136	54,306	62,064	69,822	77,580
3	19,540	29,304	37,068	46,332	55,596	68,376	78,144	87,912	97,680
4	22,556	35,554	44,700	55,884	67,056	82,446	94,224	106,002	117,780
5	27,576	41,364	52,344	65,436	78,516	96,516	110,304	124,092	137,880
6	31,596	47,394	59,988	74,976	89,976	110,586	126,384	142,182	157,980
7	35,616	53,424	67,620	84,528	101,436	124,656	142,464	160,272	178,080
8	39,636	59,454	75,264	94,080	112,896	138,726	158,544	178,362	198,180
9	43,656	65,484	82,908	103,632	124,356	152,796	174,624	196,452	218,280
10	47,676	71,514	90,552	113,184	135,816	166,866	190,704	214,542	238,380
For each additional person add	\$4,020	\$6,030	\$8,040	\$10,050	\$12,060	\$14,070	\$16,080	\$18,090	\$20,100
All Services	Per Hour of Service			\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30	\$40	\$60
Assistive Technology	Per Device			25%	30%	40%	50%	60%	95%
Maximum Monthly Contribution	Per Family			\$125	\$150	\$175	\$300	\$350	\$400

Notes: For eligible children covered by Medicaid, the family will not contribute to the cost of services. Medicaid-covered services are Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Language Pathology, Audiology and Psychology. Special Instruction services provided by a Local Education Agency (LEA) will be at no cost to all families. Federal Regulations require the following services be provided at no cost to all families: Child Find and Referral, Evaluation and Assessment, IFSP Development, Service Coordination, and Procedural Safeguards (Parents' Rights).