



July 25, 2013

Partners in Policymaking: 2013 Graduates

Congratulations to the 2013 Partners in Policymaking class. On June 15th in Baton Rouge, twenty-one individuals completed the coursework and requirements to become the 23rd graduating class of the Louisiana Partners in Policymaking Program. This national leadership training program for people with developmental disabilities and parents of young children with developmental disabilities educates participants on current disability issues, best practices, policymaking and the legislative process. Participants develop the competencies necessary for effective advocacy to influence public policy at all levels of government. The Council will begin accepting applications for the 2014 Partners class soon. Watch for future announcements.



Pictured from left to right – **Front row:** Ashley Volion (Metairie); Rickii Ainey (New Orleans); Dania Orellana (Kenner); Elise White (Livingston); Robbie Gray, Program Monitor, LA DD Council (Baton Rouge); **2nd row:** Liz Gary, Coordinator Partners in Policymaking, 2008 Graduate (Mandeville); Katy Bajat (Carencro); Trish Martin (Raceland); Angelle Morley (Slidell); Kathy Lorio (Madisonville); Lisa Robinson (Hammond); Zachary Slay (Mandeville); **3rd row:** Candace Karam (Iowa); Dr. Michael Turgeau (Ponchatoula); Michelle Brown-Bass (Baskin); Joy McClellan (Metairie); Rana Ottallah (Metairie); Matthew “Drew” McKenzie (Mandeville); **4th row:** George Nicoll (Mandeville); Rose Viltz (New Iberia); James Watts (Lake Charles); Jamie Fletcher (Denham Springs); Dwayne Marlborough (Mandeville).