

## **Parents Speak Out Against Closure of Children's Special Health Services Clinics**

Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) held two meetings to discuss the impact of the planned closure of ten CSHS clinics with parents and other stakeholders on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in Lafayette and Baton Rouge. Officials with the Office of Public Health (OPH) and CSHS explained the expected closures are the result of a \$794,000 budget cut included in the Governor's budget. According to the OPH plan, children will be transitioned to physicians in the private sector.

Parents in attendance at the meetings did not welcome that news! Many voiced opposition to the closures and communicated that the services their children receive at CSHS are lifesaving and cannot be duplicated in the same comprehensive manner in the private sector. Watch one parent explain how beneficial CSHS has been in his child's life at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEusbrqhP\\_k](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEusbrqhP_k)

Parents and others are advocating for restoration of these funds by the legislature. To join this effort, contact your regional [LaCAN Leader](#).