



Council's 2018 Legislative Advocacy Agenda

December 4, 2017

The Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council adopted its 2018 Legislative Advocacy Agenda with input from its grassroots advocacy network (LaCAN) and the Families Helping Families Centers. Four issues are included on the agenda in the areas of home and community-based services and education.

Home and Community-Based Services

As it has done for many years, the Council will continue to advocate for the increased availability of home and community-based supports and services so people with developmental disabilities can remain in their own homes and be fully participating members of their communities. The Council is calling for increased access to waiver services, an enhanced waiver rate to support people with complex behavioral and/or medical needs, and implementation of the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option. Details on each issue can be found on the fact sheets linked below.

- [Fund Waivers: Meet Urgent Needs Now](#)
- [Enhance Rate for People with Complex Needs](#)
- [Fund and Implement TEFRA](#)

The Council did not include increased funding for the Human Services Districts/Authorities in its statewide legislative advocacy agenda, but will assist advocates in the Northwest LA and Florida Parishes regions in advocating for additional funding with their regional legislative delegations. The districts/authorities in these two regions are the lowest state funded per capita in the state.

- [Equitably Fund Northwest LA Human Services District](#)
- [Equitably Fund Florida Parishes Human Services Authority](#)

Education

Behavior is and always has been a major concern of both parents and educators, particularly those of students with disabilities. As a result, the Council will advocate for the Louisiana Department of Education to develop a proactive, data-driven plan of action to ensure schools and parents have access to resources and evidence-based approaches to behavior. Read more about this issue on the fact sheet linked below.

- [LDOE Behavior Support Plan](#)

Get Involved

Individuals with disabilities, family members, and advocates are encouraged to participate in the Council's advocacy efforts, including legislative visits, legislative

roundtables, and yellow shirt days. Roundtables have been scheduled in January and February throughout the state and provide the opportunity for individuals to get more information about the issues on the advocacy agenda and connect with legislators.

- Click [here](#) for the 2018 Legislative Roundtable schedule.

Those interested in visiting legislators, attending roundtables or participating in other advocacy events should contact their regional [LaCAN Leader](#).

Contact Us

LaDDC News is the electronic newsletter for the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information above, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

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