

La DD Council - FFY 2018 Action Plan

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- 'On Target: Initiative' indicates progress has been made as expected.
- 'On Target: Expenditures' indicates invoiced amounts are as expected.

Activity	Progress
<p>Goal 1 Individuals with development disabilities and their family members will have information, training, support and leadership to effectively advocate and impact system change by educating policy makers.</p>	
<p>Obj. 1.1 Louisiana's self-advocacy network will be supported in self-advocacy and in systems change advocacy.</p>	
<p>1.1.1 Offer technical assistance and training opportunities designed to strengthen the self-advocacy network and the effectiveness of its systems change activities.</p>	<p>The incoming board of directors of People First of LA will receive training through a contract with the LA Association of Nonprofit Organizations (LANO). (Also in Activity 1.4.3)</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Obj. 1.2 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members will have access to opportunities and support to build skills to be effective leaders in systems change advocacy.</p>	
<p>1.2.1 Provide financial support and technical assistance for Partners in Policymaking and its alumni network. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$80,000</p>	<p>Fourteen participants have been through the first three weekend sessions of the 2018 Partners in Policymaking class. Twenty applicants were initially selected. The Partners in Policymaking Ad Hoc Committee developed recommendations in December 2017.</p> <p><u>Partners Active in Systems Change</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight participants attended the Regional Roundtables • Three participants attended the hearings during the 2018 Extraordinary Legislative Session. • Six participants responded to Action Alerts <p><u>Partners Graduates Active in Systems Change</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Partners in Policymaking Alumni Facebook page has 186 members. • Three attended Yellow Shirt Days at BESE with one testifying. • Twenty-eight attended 2018 Extraordinary Legislative Session Committee hearings. • Fifty-five responded to Home- and Community-Based Services Action Alerts. • Thirty-five attended Regional Roundtables. • Three serve as FHF Executive Directors and four serve as LaCAN Leaders.

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Activity	Progress
	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduates serve on state and regional bodies such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (12) ○ Louisiana Statewide Independent Living Council ○ Louisiana State Interagency Coordinating Council ○ State Interagency Coordinating Council ○ Statewide Independent Living Council ○ Governor’s Advisory Council on Disability Affairs ○ Regional Human Services Districts/Authorities Boards and Advisory Councils (Acadiana, Imperial Calcasieu, Jefferson, Metropolitan, and Northwest) ○ Board of Directors for the Advocacy Center, FHF Centers, and People First of La. ○ Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (3) ○ Special Education Advisory Panel ○ Louisiana ABLE Account Advisory Board ○ LSU Human Development Center Consumer Advisory Council ○ Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) Emergency Management Disability and Aging Coalition; State Advisory Council, and Systems Transformation Group <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
1.2.2 Support up to two Council members’ participation in Partners in Policymaking.	One Council member is participating in the 2018 Partners in Policymaking class.

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Activity	Progress
<p>1.2.3 Provide financial support and information, training, technical assistance, and leadership to a grassroots network of individuals with developmental disabilities and family members of individuals with developmental disabilities to effectively educate policy makers on the development/improvement of programs and services for people with developmental disabilities. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$225,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <p>LaCAN has 4,884 members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,738 Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) & Employment • 2,526 Education & Early Intervention (1,380 LaCAN members are duplicated on each of the two lists above) <p><u>Advocacy Activities (since October 1, 2017)</u> LaCAN members confirmed 960 actions to five action alerts and 135 members participated in thirteen yellow shirt days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 855 actions taken on three HCBS action alerts; • 103 participants at seven HCBS yellow shirt days; • 115 actions taken on two education action alerts; • 32 participants at six education yellow shirt days; <p>105 LaCAN members were supported during 71 legislative visits. 55 percent of legislators on key committees were visited.</p> <p>LaCAN hosts two LaCAN Leader conference calls per month which include updates on current concerns/issues and development of strategies to better develop, maintain, support, and lead LaCAN members.</p> <p><u>Update on Leader Positions</u> Two new LaCAN Leaders were hired: Nicole Williams for Regions 1/10 (NOLA/Jefferson) and Jamie Duplechine for Region 4 (Acadiana). LaCAN is currently seeking a leader for Region 7 (Northwest LA) due to current leader's upcoming retirement.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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Activity	Progress
<p>1.2.4 Facilitate and support advocacy events including but not limited to an Advocacy Leadership Conference, legislative Roundtables, and advocacy training sessions.. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$50,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <p>Nine legislative Roundtables across the state were attended by 473 participants, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 83 self-advocates (4 Council members) • 179 family members (7 Council members) • 133 professionals (1 Council member) • 35 policy makers (i.e., legislators, legislative aides, and/or BESE members) <p>Since October 1, 2018, 197 LaCAN members participated in 14 regional LaCAN member meetings to discuss the Council’s 2018 Legislative Agenda and learn how to become an active member, ways of taking action (action alerts, yellow shirt days, testimony), and how to connect with legislators.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) The “2017 LA DD Council Employment Conference: Raising Expectations” held in November 2017 had 182 participants.</p> <p>LaCAN Fall Leader Training was held in November 2017.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>Obj. 1.3 Individuals with developmental disabilities and family members of individuals with developmental disabilities will have support to be effective leaders in systems change through participation on a variety of boards and commissions.</p>	
<p>1.3.1 Provide information and support for participation of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions and advisory bodies.</p>	<p>People First of LA was informed of the openings on the DD Council and asked to share information on how to apply to the DD Council with self-advocates. Three parents of children with disabilities were supported in participating in the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>1.3.2 Support Council members in participation in Council meetings and other functions.</p>	<p>Council members are supported in participation in Council meetings and other functions.</p>

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Activity	Progress
<p>1.3.3 Support Council members' participation in training and educational opportunities. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$3,000</p>	<p>As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <p>No stipends were provided this quarter.</p>
<p>1.3.4 Support the Council leadership's participation in national training, networking events and advocacy opportunities. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$7,000</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p>
<p>Obj. 1.4 Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain the information, training, and support they need.</p>	
<p>1.4.1 Provide financial support (from the entirety of state general funds) and technical assistance to nine Families Helping Families Regional Resource Centers across the state.</p>	<p>Since October 1, 2017, Centers have assisted 9,370 individuals with disabilities and family members with information, referral, or other supports. 13,739 units of information and referral were completed. Centers conducted 80 outreach activities to hospitals, pediatricians, and school districts.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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Activity	Progress
<p>1.4.2 Provide information important to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families through a variety of electronic and social media (Council website, Facebook, LaDDC News).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <p>Throughout March, the Council celebrated and promoted Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month with a campaign themed “See Me for Me.” Articles and posts focusing on education, employment, and community living were shared through social media (Facebook and Twitter) and LaDDC News articles.</p> <p>Other LaDDC News articles included: Community Meetings on Waiver Waiting List Changes, Public Forums on Medicaid Managed Care, Family Forums on Changes to Employment Services, Recruiting Applicants for DD Council Membership, Office of State Parks Hiring People with Disabilities, and Louisiana as a Model Employer of People with Disabilities.</p> <p>Displays of LaCAN members in action as well as various issues and news of interest to people with developmental disabilities and their families are continuously shared on social media.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LaDDC News has 1,832 current subscribers • Facebook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council – has 2,364 Likes, increase of 83 this quarter ○ LaCAN – has 1,494 Likes, increase of 46 this quarter • Twitter has 166 followers • Employment videos posted to YouTube were shared via Facebook in conjunction with Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. Edward Billy Ruth Sharnell <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>1.4.3 Provide financial support for training to build the capacity of people with disabilities and family members of people with disabilities to serve on Families Helping Families Resource Center Boards and the Board of Louisiana People First.</p> <p>Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$8,000</p>	<p>Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations (LANO) will provide training to the Boards of People First of Louisiana and five Families Helping Families (FHF) Regional Resource Centers: Acadiana, Northshore, Southwest, Region 7, and Bayou Land. Training sessions are expected to be completed by May of 2018.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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Activity	Progress
As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).	
<p>Goal 2 Individuals with developmental disabilities, including those with the most challenging needs, and their families will have access to individualized, appropriate, and quality supports and services as needed to be fully-participating members of their community.</p>	
<p>Obj. 2.1 Individuals with developmental disabilities will have more control over their supports and services, their goals and daily activities.</p>	
<p>2.1.1 Promote the increased use of self-direction by individuals and families. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$30,000</p>	<p>One self-advocate and four parents serve as mentors by sharing their experience with self-direction and provide ongoing support to those interested in pursuing self-direction. The mentors have completed twenty-six of the thirty-six workshops planned for this plan year. The remaining ten workshops are expected to occur by April 30, 2018.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>Obj. 2.2. Individuals with developmental disabilities, including those with the most challenging medical and/or behavioral needs, will be supported in the community by providers resulting in fewer served in Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) for people with developmental disabilities.</p>	
<p>2.2.1 Advocate for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to provide financial incentives to serve individuals with challenging needs.</p>	<p>Advocated for additional funding for an enhanced waiver rate to support individuals with complex medical and behavioral needs at the nine legislative roundtables held across the state and LaCAN members are advocating for this in individual meetings and communication with legislators. Also advocated for the enhanced rate in meeting with Dr. Gee. This funding was not included in the Governor’s proposed FY19 budget.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) A fact sheet related to an enhanced waiver rate to support individuals with complex medical and behavioral health needs was developed and distributed.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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Activity	Progress
<p>2.2.2 Collaborate with Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) and fund specialized training and technical assistance for community providers/Direct support professionals in supporting individuals with the most challenging needs. Approx. FFY 2017 Cost: \$75,000</p>	<p>As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <p>The Complex Needs Training and Technical Assistance Partnership with OCDD has three home- and community-based providers participating in provider-specific trainings and ongoing mentoring to increase capacity and improve outcomes for the people they support. In addition, region-wide training sessions open to providers in New Orleans and DSPs working for people enrolled in self-direction were held in November.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>2.2.4 Provide funding to states and/or U.S. territories to assist individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to remain in their own homes and communities in the aftermath of the 2017 hurricanes. Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$15,000</p>	<p>After speaking to Texas, Puerto Rico, and the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD), it was determined that Puerto Rico is the state/territory most in need of the Council's funds. Puerto Rico is awaiting approval of a cooperative agreement from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) before Council funds can be transferred.</p> <p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>Obj. 2.3 Funding will be available to provide home and community-based supports and services to people on the waiting list, for it to move at a reasonable pace.</p>	
<p>2.3.1 Advocate for adequate funding for waiver slots and state-funded community and family supports (CFS).</p>	<p>Advocated for funding needed to fill 800 home and community-based waiver slots and to implement the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option at the nine legislative roundtables held across the state. Advocated for equitable funding for the Human Services Districts/Authorities at the roundtables in Regions 7 and 9. LaCAN members are advocating for funding for all of these programs in individual meetings and communication with legislators. Also discussed the need for funding of all of these with Dr. Gee.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) Fact sheets related to funding needed to fill 800 waiver slots; to implement the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option; and equitable funding for Northwest LA Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority were developed and distributed.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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Activity	Progress
<p>Obj. 2.4 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will have access to the same level and quality of services across the state and will be accountable to state regulation.</p>	
<p>2.4.1 Oversee implementation of the Community and Family Support System Plan.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) At the October 2017 Council meeting, the Council approved the recommendations made by the Flexible Family Fund Workgroup to address concerns identified with program policy and practice. The recommendations were submitted to the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities. Letters were also sent to address concerns noted in the Consumer Care Resources program.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>2.4.2 Advocate for the expansion of services and consistent implementation of policy across regions, including, if necessary, changes in law and/or contract with local governing entities (LGEs).</p>	<p>Advocated for additional funding for Northwest Louisiana Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority at regional legislative roundtables in their service area and in meeting with Dr. Gee. LaCAN members in Regions 7 and 9 are advocating for this funding in individual meetings with legislators.</p> <p>Contacted every District/Authority to obtain a list of board members with the statutorily required position each person fills. This information will be shared so people with developmental disabilities and their families will know who was appointed to represent them and to inform people of available vacancies for which they can apply.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) Successful advocacy efforts resulted in a requirement for the Human Services Districts/Authorities to allocate a minimum amount equal to 9% of its state funds to Act 378 services for people with developmental disabilities and increased representation of people with developmental disabilities/parents/advocates on their boards. OCDD's Act 378 reporting form for the Council was modified to reflect the 9% requirement.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Obj. 2.5 Louisiana will reduce reliance on institutional services (public and private) for people with developmental disabilities.</p>	

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Activity	Progress
As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).	
<p>2.5.1 Advocate for expansion of the ROW 50 pilot and other opportunities to transition out of institutional settings.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) Spoke to the Director of the Community Living Ombudsman Program to ensure his staff was doing everything possible to ensure ICF/DD residents on the waiver waiting list fully understand the waiver offer and the package of services available through the ROW.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Obj. 2.6 Individuals receiving waiver services through the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) will have access to a full range of quality health care services that result in improved overall health outcomes.</p>	
<p>2.6.1 Publicize healthcare provider continuing education opportunities.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Obj. 2.7 Individuals with developmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in state and local agencies and programs.</p>	
<p>2.7.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent community support issues.</p>	<p>Activated LaCAN to advocate for restoration of cuts to LDH after Governor's budget was released on January 22nd and throughout the special session.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) Provided information and advocacy support to our grassroots advocacy network to communicate with Congress on the federal tax legislation that is expected to result in cuts that will be extremely harmful to people with disabilities and their families.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Goal 3 Students with disabilities will have access to quality, individualized educational programs that address their unique skills, interests, and goals in inclusive environments.</p>	

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Activity	Progress
<p>Obj. 3.1 Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team members will have increased levels of information and support to demonstrate effective individualized programming consistent with best practice and to enable each member to participate fully as members of the IEP team.</p>	
<p>3.1.1 Advocate for increased focus and capacity within LDOE to address Special Education, including specific areas/issues (i.e., disability/topical/etc.).</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarters: Requested LDOE provide information related to training and technical assistance, monitoring and supporting schools in crisis prevention, functional behavioral assessments and individualized behavioral intervention plans and school-wide behavioral supports. No written response from LDOE has been provided to date. At a December 5th meeting between LDOE staff, parents and DD Council staff the verbal response was that LDOE no longer has an organizational structure to sustain personnel with skill sets to provide this level of support and technical assistance to schools and parents.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>3.1.2 Advocate for increased infrastructure of on-site training and technical assistance provided to parents and schools simultaneously.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>3.1.3 Provide financial support for the development and initial training of modules to increase the capacity of family support organizations and local school systems in facilitating family and student involvement in Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings. Approx. FFY 2017 cost \$4,000</p>	<p>No activity this quarter. Contract to conduct this work is in process.</p> <p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>Obj. 3.2 Louisiana's accountability and support structures for school systems will better assure the development and implementation of individualized education programs in inclusive settings.</p>	

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Activity	Progress
<p>3.2.1 Advocate for an accountability system to value students with disabilities and measure programs and outcomes based on individualized student goals and needs (including service delivery).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>3.2.2 Advocate for improved complaint and monitoring procedures.</p>	<p>Council staff requested LDOE provide information related to monitoring data, reports, citations, and corrective actions related to findings summarized in the Alternative Education Workgroup Report of October 2017 and information of how parents of students with disabilities sent to alternative sites have access to information necessary for them to effectively advocate on behalf of their children’s rights. To date LDOE has not provided any information related to this request.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Obj. 3.3 Students with developmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in educational agencies and programs.</p>	
<p>3.3.1 Advocate for educational systems change based on emergent education issues.</p>	<p>Provided information to the Senate Education Committee related to proposals for including language in state law related to bullying and teacher bill of rights specifying teachers could use physical force, restraint and directly remove students from school campuses.</p> <p>Advocated for the 2017 Annual Report from the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (ACSBD) be shared with BESE formally at its next Board meeting.</p> <p>Previous Quarters: ACSBD passed motions for LDOE to provide the names of members of workgroups on behavior and submit any recommendations or reports to the ACSBD prior to submitting to BESE.</p> <p>ACSBD passed a motion for LDOE to make data files regarding discipline with sub-groups of students (i.e., disability, race, etc.) and statewide statistics publicly accessible on the LDOE webpage.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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Activity	Progress
As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).	
Goal 4 Students with disabilities are considered from the initial phases to the completion of planning and program development of educational policies and initiatives.	
Obj. 4.1 All schools (charter/magnet) accepting public dollars will accept and serve all students with disabilities appropriately.	
4.1.1 Advocate for Type 2 and Type 5 charter schools to be required to meet 85% rule of enrolling students with disabilities at rates similar to those found in traditional public schools.	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarters: Advocated for BESE to consider not extending or renewing charter school contracts for any charter school in violation of legal requirement regarding minimum enrollment rates of students with disabilities. BESE disregarded legal violations of charter schools in issuing charter school extensions and renewals.</p> <p>Data in the 2014-2015 Special Education Data Profile and the 2015-2016 Report on School Performance According to Requirements under R.S. 17:3991 related to charter school enrollment of students with disabilities indicate that less than half of all charter schools, 47%, meet the legal requirement for having an adequate number of students with disabilities enrolled.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
4.1.2 Advocate for and monitor equitable funding based on Minimum Foundation Program (MFP).	<p>Parents testified at the MFP Task Force meeting on December 12th requesting LDOE apply the weighted formula for distributing the local share of funds to charter schools. The MFP Task Force recommended including funding inequity related to the local share of the MFP on the next MFP Task Force agenda; however, the February 2018 MFP Task Force agenda did not include this item.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
Obj. 4.2 Stakeholders will have increased opportunities to provide authentic input that will impact decisions on policies effecting students with disabilities.	

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Activity	Progress
<p>4.2.1 Advocate for increased meaningful opportunities for stakeholder input; improved practices to facilitate stakeholder input and consideration of stakeholder recommendations.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <p>An Action Alert went out previously regarding concerns over the Special Education Advisory Panel not meeting the special rule in federal law (i.e., requiring a majority of members be individuals with disabilities or parents of students with disabilities). LDOE's published SEAP membership list with roles of members, including those recently added to SEAP, reveals SEAP is now in compliance with the special rule in federal law related to membership.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Goal 5 Individuals with developmental disabilities including those with the most substantial employment support needs will have access to quality individualized services and funding that support competitive integrated individualized employment, and career and financial goals.</p>	
<p>Obj. 5.1 An increased number of individuals with developmental disabilities will have access to qualified providers who offer a stable workforce of supported employment professionals with recognized skills sets demonstrated to be effective in supporting people with disabilities getting and maintaining employment</p>	
<p>5.1.1 Advocate for certification of employment support professionals (ESPs).</p>	<p>Staff continues to discuss the benefits of employment support professionals achieving certification (knowledge-based and competence-based) during La Rehabilitation Council (LRC) meetings and other events.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>5.1.2 Collaborate with Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS) and the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) to identify and address training and technical assistance needs of supported employment providers in supporting people with the most substantial needs to get and keep competitive integrated individualized employment.</p>	<p>Collaboration is occurring through the Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs (GACDA) Employment First Workgroup to improve employment services to people with disabilities.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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Activity	Progress
<p>5.1.3 Advocate for the implementation of a system of accountability to include outcomes-based monitoring and a complaint process.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly December 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018).</p> <p>Council staff has provided input on a system of accountability several times in meetings of the Louisiana Rehabilitation Council and will continue to advocate.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>5.1.4 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers through training and a demonstration project in customized employment for individuals with significant disabilities. Approx. FFY2018 Cost: \$38,000</p>	<p>The Customized Employment Certification Program began in March with an overview meeting with leaders of participating providers, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services Regional Managers and state staff, and Local Governing Entities' DD Directors. Training is provided by mentors from Marc Gold & Associates (MG&A) and occurred in Baton Rouge, March 14-16, and Metairie, March 21-23. Mentoring for six candidates for competence-based certification is scheduled for April through August 2018.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>Obj. 5.2 An increased number of individuals with developmental disabilities will have information and access to an integrated workforce development system that is fully-funded.</p>	
<p>5.2.1 Targeted disparity: Provide funding to support training and technical assistance to build the capacity of supported employment providers in underserved areas serving individuals with the most substantial employment support needs. Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$75,000</p>	<p>The Supported Employment Provider capacity building project selected two providers to participate and is developing specific outcomes for each provider. One outcome for each will be knowledge-based certification with the Certified Employment Support Professional (CEPS) Exam through the national Association of People Supporting Employment-First (APSE).</p> <p>On target: <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>5.2.2 Advocate for supported employment providers to have access to financial incentives to support unserved and underserved populations including people with the most substantial employment support needs in competitive integrated individualized employment.</p>	<p>Council staff will continue providing input on providing financial incentives to support unserved and underserved populations in meetings of the Louisiana Rehabilitation Council.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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Activity	Progress
<p>Obj. 5.3 Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals in the various service systems will have increased expectations that people with developmental disabilities can have successful competitive, integrated, individualized employment.</p>	
<p>5.3.1 Share the benefits planning services to a variety of agencies and stakeholders.</p>	<p>Information on benefits planning is shared on a quarterly basis on the Council's Facebook page.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>5.3.2 Share DD Council employment videos featuring individuals with developmental disabilities on their jobs.</p>	<p>DD Council videos on employment are posted on the Council's YouTube page and shared quarterly on the Council's Facebook page.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>5.3.3 Disseminate pertinent research pertaining to employment of people with developmental disabilities in competitive integrated individualized jobs.</p>	<p>Pertinent research is shared on the Council's Facebook page periodically.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>Obj. 5.4 Individuals with developmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in employment agencies/programs.</p>	
<p>5.4.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent employment issues.</p>	<p>Governor Edwards issued an Executive Order (18-08) directing state agencies to implement strategies to “attract, engage, and advance people with disabilities” and created the State as a Model Employer Task Force within the Governor’s Office of Disability Affairs. This was a recommendation by the Employment First Workgroup of which the Council is a member.</p> <p>Previous Quarters An Employment First Workgroup was established by the Governor to align policies across agencies and programs to promote inclusive, individualized, competitive employment. After five workgroup meetings, a subcommittee was formed to finalize the report and plan on how to make improvements to the system of employment services.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>