

La DD Council - FFY 2018 Action Plan

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Goal 1 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members will have information, training, support and leadership to effectively advocate and impact systems change by educating policy makers.

Objective 1.1 Louisiana's self-advocacy network will be supported in self-advocacy and in systems change advocacy.

Activity 1.1.1 Offer technical assistance and training opportunities designed to strengthen the self-advocacy network and the effectiveness of its systems change activities.

Objective 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.

Activity 1.2.1 Provide financial support and technical assistance for Partners in Policymaking and its alumni network. **Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$80,000**

Activity 1.2.2 Support up to two Council members' participation in Partners in Policymaking.

Activity 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 2018 Cost: \$225,000**

Activity 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 2018 Cost: \$50,000**

Objective 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

Activity 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.

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Activity 1.3.2 Support Council members in participation in Council meetings and other functions.

Activity 1.3.3 Support Council members' participation in training and educational opportunities. **Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$3,000**

Activity 1.3.4 Support the Council leadership's participation in national training, networking events and advocacy opportunities. **Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$7,000**

Objective 1.4 Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain the information, training, and support they need.

Activity 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.

Activity 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, etc).

Activity 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. **Approx. FFY2018 Cost: \$8,000**

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.

Objective 2.1 Individuals with developmental disabilities will have more control over their supports and services, their goals and daily activities.

Activity 2.1.1 Promote the increased use of self-direction by individuals and families. **Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$30,000**

Objective 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.

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Activity 2.2.1 Advocate for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to provide financial incentives to serve individuals with challenging needs.

Activity 2.2.2 Collaborate with Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) and fund specialized training and technical assistance in supporting individuals with the most challenging needs for community providers/Direct Support Professionals and DSPs working with individuals participating in self-direction. **Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$75,000**

Activity 2.2.3 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**

Objective 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.

Activity 2.3.1 Advocate for adequate funding for waiver slots and state-funded community and family supports (CFS).

Objective 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.

Activity 2.4.1 Oversee implementation of the Community and Family Support System Plan.

Activity 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).

Objective 2.5 Louisiana will reduce reliance on institutional services for people with developmental disabilities.

Activity 2.5.1 Advocate for expansion of the ROW 50 pilot and other opportunities to transition out of institutional settings.

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Objective 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.

Activity 2.6.1 Publicize healthcare provider continuing education opportunities.

Objective 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.

Activity 2.7.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent community support issues.

Goal 3 Students with disabilities will have access to quality, individualized educational programs that address their unique skills, interests, and goals in inclusive environments.

Objective 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.

Activity 3.1.1 Advocate for increased focus and capacity within LDOE to address Special Education, including specific areas/issues (i.e., disability/topical/etc.).

Activity 3.1.2 Advocate for increased infrastructure of on-site training and T.A. provided to parents and schools simultaneously.

Activity 3.1.3 Provide financial support for training 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 to be available in an online web-based format. **Approx. FFY2018 Cost: \$4,000.**

Objective 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.

Activity 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).

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Activity 3.2.2 Advocate for improved complaint and monitoring procedures.

Objective 3.3 Students with developmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in educational agencies and programs.

Activity 3.3.1 Advocate for educational systems change based on emergent education issues.

Goal 4 Students with disabilities are considered from the initial phases to the completion of planning and program development of educational policies and initiatives.

Objective 4.1 All schools (charter/magnet) accepting public dollars will accept and serve all students with disabilities appropriately.

Activity 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.

Activity 4.1.2 Advocate for and monitor equitable funding based on Minimum Foundation Program (MFP).

Objective 4.2 Stakeholders will have increased opportunities to provide authentic input that will impact decisions on policies effecting students with disabilities.

Activity 4.2.1 Advocate for increased meaningful opportunities for stakeholder input; improved practices to facilitate stakeholder input and consideration of stakeholder recommendations.

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.

Objective 5.1 An increased number of individuals with DD 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.

Activity 5.1.1 Advocate for certification of employment support professionals (ESPs).

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Activity 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.

Activity 5.1.3 Advocate for the implementation of a system of accountability to include outcomes-based monitoring and a complaint process.

Activity 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**

Activity 5.1.5 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through single day in-person training sessions across the state. **Approximate FFY 2018 Cost: \$5,500**

Activity 5.1.6 Provide funding for up to 10 employment support professionals sitting for the Certified Employment Support Professional (CESP) exam through La APSE. **Approximate FFY 2018 Cost: \$2,200**

Objective 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.

Activity 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**

Activity 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.

Objective 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.

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Activity 5.3.1 Share the benefits planning services to a variety of agencies and stakeholders.

Activity 5.3.2 Share DD Council employment videos featuring individuals with developmental disabilities on their jobs.

Activity 5.3.3 Disseminate pertinent research pertaining to employment of people with developmental disabilities in competitive integrated individualized jobs.

Objective 5.4 Individuals with DD will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in employment agencies/programs.

Activity 5.4.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent employment issues.