

**Human Development Center**  
**Quarterly Agency Report to the DD Council**  
(January - March, 2018)

**UPDATE/PROGRESS ON AGENCY INITIATIVES**

HDC has initiatives across the areas of **Early Childhood, K-12 Education, Employment/Transition/Community.**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVES**

**Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and other Disabilities – LEND (HRSA grant)**

*Training program for students, self-advocates, families, and community providers to be leaders in advocating for quality interdisciplinary services and supports for people with developmental disabilities.*

- ✓ 11 trainees (including 2 self-advocates) successfully completed the 300-hour leadership training program
- ✓ 12 trainees (including 1 self-advocate) recruited for 2018-2019 program year

**Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (Admin. For Children & Families grant)**

*Program designed to improve quality of Early Care and Education for children and families in at-risk communities including children with disabilities.*

- ✓ Currently enrolling 210 infants/toddlers for 2018-2019 program year; up to 30 seats available for infants/toddlers with disabilities)

**HDC Early Learning Center (LSU SAHP & private funding)**

*Model demonstration inclusive high quality childcare program.*

- ✓ Twenty children are currently enrolled including 2 children with disabilities; 2 children with disabilities on the waitlist
- ✓ Two students in Child and Family Studies program at Delgado Community College completed practicum
- ✓ Construction started on expansion to add Prek3-4 class
- ✓ Twelve additional seats will be available in September (up to 5 children with disabilities)

**Health Care Institute (Collaborative agreement with UCLA/ Johnson & Johnson)**

*Five year research project designed to improve health and health literacy of families at-risk including families and children with disabilities. Topics include treating common childhood illness, oral health, nutrition, and behavioral health.*

- ✓ Provided parent education on positive discipline and stress management for professional development for 80 childcare providers on Positive Discipline and Stress Management
- ✓ Provided training for 47 families on Positive Discipline and Stress Management

### **ACE Educator Program (Bureau of Family Health, LDH)**

*Public health education program to increase the knowledge and understanding of childhood adversity and its impacts. HDC has 1 Master Trainer and 2 new trainers available to provide information and education about the impact of adverse childhood experiences on early development.*

- Provided training to 28 students and faculty at LSU School of Public Health
- Collaborated with BFH to train the 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort of ACE trainers; 20 professionals in Tangipahoa across sectors including justice, social work, DCFS, and education

### **Education - K-12 School-Age Initiatives**

#### **Teams Intervening Early to Reach all Students (TIERS Group)**

*Provides professional development and technical assistance to type 2 & 5 charter schools in achieving compliance with special education requirements and establishing and maintaining a system of multi-tiered supports (MTSS).*

- ✓ Conducted the Fourth Annual MTSS Conference for 305 attendees (Louisiana participants were joined by others from as far west as Northern Marianas Islands and as far east as Baltimore, MD.)
- ✓ Conducted seven professional development events
- ✓ Conducted 13 school visits
- ✓ Refined the TIERS Group website
- ✓ Continued content development on a contract with Michigan Department of Education on Quality Data Use.
- ✓ Conducted two of three sequenced workshops to train state personnel in quality data use

**Note: TIERS Group completed its contract with the Louisiana Department of Education for technical assistance to schools on 6/30/18. TIERS Group has closed.**

#### **Louisiana School Psychology Internship Consortium (LAS\*PIC)**

*Recruits school psychology interns to fill vacant positions in partner school districts. Provides an internship training curriculum and licensed supervision according to requirements of its APA accredited status.*

- ✓ Graduated ten 2017-18 interns.
- ✓ Preparations are ongoing for orientation on Jul2 -12 for six 2018-19 school psychology interns.

**Note: While there are more than 58 vacancies for school psychologists in the state's public schools, no funding is being provided to recruit school psychology interns as a source to supply school psychologists to deploy much-needed mental health services. Without funding support for 2019-20, LAS\*PIC may cease to function after the 2018-19 fiscal year.**

## **Louisiana Autism Spectrum & Related Disorders (LASARD) Project**

*Provides training and technical assistance to schools to support children with autism spectrum and related disorders and their families and teachers through a comprehensive TA model (universal, targeted, & intensive TA). Ten districts receive intensive technical assistance and team building for sustainability.*

- ✓ LASARD hosted the end of the year workshop for partner team members on May 10<sup>th</sup> in New Orleans. During the workshop, we held a ceremony for our graduating partners: Tangipahoa Parish, Collegiate Academies, and Algiers Charters. Breakout session at the workshop were presented by partner teams highlighting practices put into place over the school year. Topics included: implementing visual supports, planning for sustainability, using online tools to share resources, increasing social skills, and setting up a district-wide process for FBA/BIPs. The workshop also included a panel of self-advocates with ASD to discuss their school experiences.
- ✓ LASARD also hosted the first annual Alumni Workshop on May 9<sup>th</sup> in New Orleans. Teams shared how they have sustained practices after LASARD partnership and planned for the future.
- ✓ Conference Presentations:
  - Understanding and Implementing Function-Based Behavior Intervention Plans – Teacher Leader Summit, May 31, 2018.
  - The Co-Teaching Tango – LATI Summer Summit – June 7, 2018.

## **Louisiana Deafblind Project for Children and Youth:**

### Individual Technical Assistance:

- ✓ 04/11/2018: Individual genetic assessments clinic, sponsored jointly by the LA DBP, the LSU Health New Orleans, School of Medicine, Genetics Department and the Calcasieu Parish Schools
- ✓ 05/17/2018: Functional Vision Assessment for individual enrollee.
- ✓ 05/22/2018: Attended IEP conference and provided advocacy for individual enrollee

### Targeted Technical Assistance:

- ✓ 05/09/2018: Consultation with Kenner Discovery School regarding supports for student with Deafblindness
- ✓ 05/10/2018: Late Effects Clinic, Children's Hospital New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
- ✓ 05/24/2018: Late Effects Clinic, Children's Hospital New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
- ✓ 06/4 & 5/2018: Consultation and Training for St. Martin Parish Schools, Special Education Department regarding Communication Plans and IEP Development.

### Intensive Technical Assistance:

- ✓ 05/02/2018: Planning meeting for CONNECTIONS 2018 Conference, 09/14 & 15, 2018 New Orleans, LA
- ✓ 05/25/2018 : LA Commission of the Deaf meeting, Baton Rouge, LA
- ✓ 05/03/2018: Transition CORE Meeting, Lafayette LRS
- ✓ 05/22/2018: Planning meeting for CONNECTIONS 2018 Conference, 09/15 & 15/2018, New Orleans, LA

### Universal Technical Assistance:

- ✓ 04/06/2018-04/08/2018: Attended, exhibited, & presented to the Deafblind Division at the National Federation for the Blind Louisiana state convention, Baton Rouge, LA
- ✓ 04/10/2018: Guest lecture to Occupation Therapy students, LSU Health New Orleans, School of Allied Health Professions on adaptive equipment for deafness, blindness and deafblindness.
- ✓ 04/17/2018: Presentation to the Network of Americas Conference, Cape Cod, MA
- ✓ 04/23/2018: Consultation with Louisiana Center for the Blind regarding modification of LSU Health New Orleans, Human Development Center, training kitchen for use with individual with blindness and low vision.
- ✓ 04/26/2018: Exhibited at the Orleans Parish School Board Transition Fair, Delgado College, New Orleans.
- ✓ 04/27/2018: Guest Lecture to LSU Health New Orleans, School of Medicine, Ophthalmology residents regarding the LA DBP and vision rehabilitation.

## **Transition, Employment & Community (TEC) IA Update**

### **Employment/Transition**

**Postsecondary Apprenticeship for Youth (Pay Check Pilot)** – Currently there are 11 students Jefferson Parish Schools System students in the pilot who will be exiting in 2018 and some in early 2019. HDC will also be enrolling Inspire NOLA and Collegiate Academy students next semester and Jefferson Foundation Charter Academy next semester.

Pay Check students will begin job shadowing and matching for the paid apprenticeship portion of their program beginning at the end of April and continuing through August. New students will be enrolled each semester as the pilot begins expanding participants/students.

Pay Check Partners include: LRS/LWC, Delgado CC, UMC-New Orleans, Jefferson Parish Public School System, Inspire NOLA, Collegiate and Jefferson Chamber Foundation Academy

### **Transition and Employment**

Submitted continued funding contract for JPPSS/Paycheck for additional students for 2019.

The Transition Capacity Building Initiative (TCBI) grant with JPPSS is being amended to accommodate their request to have two of the remaining full days to be scheduled August and September of the 2018/2019 school calendar.

Completing Mentoring grant from LA DCC and is currently working with two IDD Medicaid employment providers (one in Alexandria-Rapides ARC) and one on the Northshore (Teem Academy). Agencies received individualized mentoring through a mutually developed capacity enhancement plan, access to CORE and one day trainings and will now receive outcome incentive payments (from Northshore FHF) since identified outcomes have been met.

### **Benefits Planning Services**

HDC provides Louisiana Benefits Planning Services (LA-BPS) through a SSA-WIPA RFA to all Louisiana SSA recipients. David Legendre contract completed on June 30, 2018 and Rose Angelocci will begin June 1, 2018.

### **Supported Employment Training and Technical Assistance**

- ✓ HDC attended several EFSLM Vision Quest/Employment work group calls and meetings
- ✓ HDC staff attended LRC meeting January 25, 2018
- ✓ Provided three CORE (3 day) Employment Training to CRPs, and ten one day employment trainings

#### **Other Employment Initiatives**

HDC working with collaborative team to begin planning for Department of Labor Youth Build **funding announcement** (due mid-September 2018) to provide employment pathways to low-income unemployed youth (16-24) who are no longer in school. YouthBuild programs participants learn construction skills through building affordable housing for homeless and low-income people in their neighborhoods and other community assets such as schools, playgrounds, and community centers.

Meetings with school personnel students and families to provide education/outreach and to discuss apprenticeship pilot.

- HDC staff continues to advocate for and promote Employment First by providing Community Trainings and participating meetings and trainings offered by/through FHF, GODA Employment Coalition, Work Pays, LRC and stakeholder meetings as scheduled.
- HDC continues to work on the development of a collaborative funding model for an Apprenticeship to Careers and Employment model.
- Worked collaboratively with GODA, DD Council, and Advocacy Center to discuss implementation of Employment First Executive Order
- .HDC continues to work collaboratively with ALL PAYCHECK apprenticeship pilot entities (LRS, UMC, Orleans and Jefferson parish schools and two LEA charters).
- HDC employment staff sits on the national APSE Public Policy Work Group and attend monthly meetings via Go to Meeting. Recent focus has been on comments and advocacy for WIOA and sub-minimum wage rules.
- HDC Employment Staff attends LRC meetings as LRC member and Exec. member
- HDC employment staff attends Louisiana APSE governing board meeting in May.
- HDC employment staff, as Louisiana APSE members and WorkPays members attended quarterly meetings.
- HDC co-chair of the recently awarded Employment First State Leadership Mentoring-Vision Quest award – LA State Vision Quest meetings are held monthly with state agency collaborators. State team worked to prepare a State as Model Employer (SAME) Executive Order which was signed on Monday, March 19, 2018! Sue Killam named in the Governor’s EO to be on the SAME Task Force. The State as a Model Employer Task Force has the following identified duties:
  - a. Develop policies, strategies and services designed to achieve the seven percent employment target.
  - b. Establish a five-year plan with annual goals that will enable the state workforce to reach parity with the percentage of working age people with disabilities in Louisiana.
  - c. Provide guidance and other support to agencies and institutions of higher education of higher education on recruitment, retention, accommodation and accessibility for persons with disabilities.