

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)  
**QUARTERLY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (DD) COUNCIL REPORT**  
 (Submitted for 2nd Quarter 2018)

June 27, 2018

**SERVICES**

**Developmental Disability Waiver Activities**

The following figures reflect **waiver activities thus far in state fiscal year 2017-2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 19, 2018)**:

WAIVER	Offers # **	Linkages #	Certifications
NOW	203	148	114
Children's Choice/CC-425	1003	598	354
Supports	799	280	117
ROW	607***	404***	128***

\*\* This is the number of unique individuals made an offer or final offer during this time period.

\*\*\* Includes offers made under the ROW Pilot Project and OAAS to ROW transitions.

The following figures reflect **total waiver numbers as of June 18, 2018**:

NUMBER OF SLOTS OFFERED, LINKED AND CERTIFIED						
	Most Appropriate Waiver		CC	SUPPORTS	NOW	ROW
# OF PARTICIPANTS LINKED	12,650	<==	1,613	2,107	8,681	249
# OF PARTICIPANTS CERTIFIED	11,983	<==	1,368	1,844	8,628	143

**Request for Services Registry (RFSR) as of June 14, 2018:**

- Developmental Disability (DD) RFSR = 13,317
  - Individuals with urgent/emergent unmet needs (SUN score 3/4) = 193
  - Individuals with current needs met (SUN score 0/1/2) = 6,913
  - Individuals with no identified unmet needs = 3,724
  - Individuals in process of scheduling / receiving screening = 2,487

**Residential Options Waiver (ROW)**

- **ROW 5-Year Renewal application**

The Residential Options Waiver (ROW) renewal application was submitted to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on April 16, 2018. CMS requested additional information concerning rate methodologies, and CMS granted an extension of the waiver through September 2018 to allow additional time for review of this information.

- **ROW/OAAS Transition**

The implementation phase of the CMS approved transition of Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS) Community Choices Waiver (CCW) and Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) participants who have an OCDD Statement of Approval (SOA) to the ROW continues. This transition affects approximately 260 people.

- Ninety-nine (99) people have completed the transition and are receiving ROW services. Fifty-seven (57) other participants are in various phases of the transition process at this time.

**Pinecrest Supports and Services Center (PSSC) - Transition Status**

The following figures reflect transition activities from January 1, 2018 thru June 18, 2018:

- The census of Pinecrest Supports and Services Center to date is 391.
- In 2017, PSSC admitted 18 individuals and discharged 43. So far this year, 15 people have been admitted and 43 people have been discharged.
- Twenty-four participants are planning for a transition from the center.
  - Two people are anticipated to transition within the next 30 days.
  - Eleven people are anticipated to transition within the next quarter.

**EarlySteps**

- As of June 1, 2018, the EarlySteps program was providing services to 5,464 children and their families, an increase of 263 children since March 2018.
- The EarlySteps advisory council, the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC), will have its next meeting on July 12, 2018. The State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) improvement area workgroups: Family Assessment, Services Supporting Family Priorities and Team-Based Practice Supports, will meet on the morning of the July SICC meeting. An orientation session for new/interested SICC members describing a family's "journey" through early intervention is planned prior to the SICC meeting.
- SSIP Workgroup Activities underway:
  - EarlySteps is scheduling additional training sessions on the Division of Early Childhood Recommended Practices (DEC-RPs) for newly enrolled early interventionists and those who were not able to participate in the 2017 sessions. The DEC-RPs are the evidence-based practices that are the focus for the SSIP. There will be at least one session in each region from July through September 2018. For more information, interested persons can contact the EarlySteps regional coordinator in the area of interest.
  - The three SSIP workgroups are drafting their fidelity measures designed to verify practice fidelity by all early interventionists according to the DEC-RPs in

- the three improvement areas listed above. After the drafts are reviewed at the July meetings, EarlySteps staff will be coordinating with local agencies to pilot their use.
- To further support the work of the SSIP, at its April meeting the DD Council approved a new project with EarlySteps: *Inclusive Child Care Capacity Building Project*. The focus for the project is to provide training and coaching for EarlySteps providers and child care center staff to support infants and toddlers with disabilities in early care and education settings. On May 23, 2018, a solicitation of proposals was posted to the DD Council website for a fiscal agent to assist with project management. Proposals were due on June 22, 2018. The project will run from October 2018 through September 2019 under the leadership of Toni Ledet, EarlySteps Assistant Program Manager. EarlySteps will provide regular reports regarding the project in each OCDD report.
  - Following the submission of the Annual Performance Report (APR) in February 2018, the SSIP update was submitted to the US Department of Education, Office for Special Education Programs (OSEP), on April 1, 2018. Louisiana will receive its APR performance “determination” at the end of June 2018 and feedback and the results designation on the SSIP around October 2018.
  - The state’s Application for 2018-19 Federal funds was submitted to OSEP in May 2018, for \$6,973,549, an increase of \$152,673 since 2017-18. The state will receive its award notification in July 2018.

## INITIATIVES

### Employment

- OCDD provided hands on technical assistance to several providers and their board members around the state about transitioning their programs to comply with the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule.
- OCDD completed vocational provider meetings in all regions with open discussions and sharing of ideas to assist with transitioning into compliance. Planning is underway for the next round of technical assistance and guidance.
- OCDD continues to be an active participant in the Employment First Vision Quest team as well as the State As a Model Employer (SAME) Taskforce; both are being led by the Governor’s Office of Disability Affairs.

### Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule Activities

OCDD staff completed family meeting opportunities statewide during the months of April and May 2018 to share information with individuals/families regarding the HCBS settings rule.

Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has not yet received final approval on the Statewide Transition Plan (STP) that was submitted to CMS regarding the state's plan to come into compliance with the Settings Rule. Prior to submitting the STP for final approval, LDH will incorporate stakeholder responses into the plan and complete statewide systemic assessment and validation activities. Upon completion, the plan will be posted for public comment prior to being submitting to CMS.

OCDD is on target to complete the following activities in the Fall of 2018:

- Complete comprehensive site-specific assessments of all Home and Community-Based settings, implement necessary strategies for validating the assessment results, and include the outcomes of these activities within the STP;
- Draft remediation strategies and a corresponding timeline that will resolve issues that the site-specific settings assessment process and subsequent validation strategies identified by the end of the Home and Community-Based Settings rule transition period;
- Outline a detailed plan for identifying settings that are presumed to have institutional characteristics, including qualities that isolate HCBS beneficiaries, as well as the proposed process for evaluating these settings and preparing for submission to CMS for review under Heightened Scrutiny;
- Develop a process for communicating with participants that are currently receiving services in settings that the state has determined cannot or will not come into compliance with the Home and Community-Based Settings rule; and
- Establish ongoing monitoring and quality assurance processes that will ensure all settings providing HCBS continue to remain fully compliant with the rule in the future.

### **Request for Services Registry Screening**

- Total of 9,966 Screening of Urgency of Need (SUN) tools completed.
- OCDD continues to screen everyone on the RFSR who can be located and who is willing to participate in the screening, including people who newly move onto the Registry, people who have a change in status, and routine re-screenings for people with previous SUN scores of 2/1/0.

### **Tiered Waiver System**

OCDD's four developmental disability home and community-based waivers [New Opportunities Waiver (NOW), Residential Options Waiver (ROW), Supports Waiver, and Children's Choice Waiver] have been operationalized to a tiered waiver service delivery system, which will allow for individuals to be supported in the most appropriate wavier. Home and community-based waiver offers are now made based on individuals' prioritized need for support, and individuals participate in a person-centered planning process to determine the most appropriate waiver to meet their needs.

In March and April 2018, OCDD conducted an extensive outreach and education campaign focused on statewide community meetings. The purpose of these meetings

was to inform individuals who are on the Request for Services Registry (RFSR) about the move to a new-tiered waiver system and what those changes will mean for them. In collaboration with community partners, two sessions per LGE region were offered, a morning and an evening session. More than 689 individuals attended OCDD's statewide-tiered waiver discussions. In addition to the sessions offered in the community, OCDD provided education to other program offices within the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) as well as to the Managed Care Organizations.

All service providers, support coordination agencies, and LGE offices received in-depth training regarding changes made to OCDD's wavier programs. Training focused on the tiered waiver process, as well as expectations regarding their roles in the process. Twelve sessions were held for service providers and seven for the support coordination agencies and LGE offices. Finally, in an effort to support these groups in their roles, OCDD followed the training sessions for LGE offices and Support Coordination agencies with regional/agency specific technical assistance conference calls to focus on agency level issues/concerns. OCDD facilitated eighteen calls with SC agencies and LGE offices during the first two weeks of June 2018. The Office will continue to provide training and technical assistance to all entities as it continues to move forward with implementation of the tiered waiver system.

Since the implementation of the tiered waiver system, 1,216 offers have been sent out to individuals with Screening of Urgency of Need (SUN) scores of 3 and 4. A total of 793 individuals have accepted the offer and have been linked to Support Coordination. Currently all persons that had a SUN score of 4 on the RFSR have received offers. All individuals with a SUN score of 3 with a registry date prior to December 31, 2013 have been sent a waiver offer.

### **Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration (My Place Louisiana) as of June 6, 2018**

- MFP activities provided:
  - Pre- and post-transition assistance requests total 503 with 242 My Place participants receiving assistance (Note: Many participants have made multiple requests.)
  - Direct Service Worker (DSW) Specialization Training for 292 provider staff and family members
- Housing Relocation Assistance Program (HRAP) activities included:
  - 100 referrals for HRAP
  - 29 families or individuals have moved into housing located by the contractors
  - Another 64 people received lists of appropriate housing options for their review
- Total of 435 people have transitioned to the community with My Place supports:
  - New Opportunities Waiver (NOW): 351 individuals
  - Children's Choice (CC) Waiver: 65 children
  - Residential Options Waiver (ROW – My Place): 9 children
  - Residential Options Waiver Pilot (ROW Pilot): 10 individuals

### **Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) Programmatic Unit**

- Core training areas of Team Process and Meaningful Activities are in final stages of development.
- Pre-self-assessments were received from selected pilot providers.
- Work with assigned OCDD staff on initiating the new critical incident system for ICF/IID providers continued throughout the quarter.
- The ICF/IID Programmatic Unit pilot was initiated and staff completed training with the pilot providers in all core modules. Over 370+ people from the chosen ICF/IID provider agencies participated in these trainings.

### **Clinical Services: Building Capacity to Support Persons with Complex Needs**

The following information outlines Resource Center activities inclusive of crisis referral and trends associated with placement requests to OCDD Central Office for the 2018 calendar year (covering the period of January 1, 2018 - June 15, 2018), as well as provides a current update on the Resource Center (RC) and Local Governing Entity (LGE) collaboration on the Non-Consensual Sexual Behavior (NSB) process as of June 15, 2018.

- For the period noted above there were 34 crisis referrals. Diversion efforts for 31% of these persons are underway, so these cases remain open at the current time and will not be included in the RC consultation or resolution data report. Out of the remaining 26 cases that have reached resolution, 23% of these individuals have required admission to Pinecrest Supports and Services Center (PSSC).
- Nineteen of twenty-six cases (73%) received a crisis consultation from the Resource Center, with the ability to divert 54% of these individuals from long-term institutionalization. As previously noted, since some cases are still open and diversion efforts are underway, these cases are not included in this analysis. However, the Resource Center remains engaged in the cases to assure that no diversion efforts are missed.
- The last three year's trend relative to persons being referred from other more intensive and institutional-type settings has continued for the period noted above, with 69% of referrals coming from institutional/acute care settings. Further breakdown within these settings reveals that 35% of these referrals were from psychiatric hospital settings, 8% were for persons who were incarcerated, 19% were supported in ICF/DD settings, 4% were in an acute care setting, and 3% of persons were in a psychiatric residential treatment facility at the point of referral.
- Efforts toward assuring that persons with a history and/or current challenges related to non-consensual sexual behavior (NSB) have access to the needed supports remain ongoing. This period's data revealed that 216 persons are receiving follow up by the local oversight team. During this quarter's reporting, two individuals had a subsequent incident of NSB. One incident involved direct contact, and this individual remains incarcerated pending DNA evidence. The other incident did not involve direct contact, and this individual was able to maintain the existing living option.

OCDD continues to collaborate with the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) and Medicaid relative to triaging and coordinating services for persons with complex support needs. As noted in prior updates, OCDD in partnership with OBH was awarded a Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI) grant to provide cross-system training and education for clinicians, administrators, and direct-support professionals to develop expertise to support persons with co-occurring intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD) and mental health needs. Current focus is on intensive technical assistance and consultation within the Mental Health Rehabilitation (MHR) level of care for youth whose needs overlap the IDD and behavioral health systems. Selection of a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) provider was completed, and the didactic training series is scheduled to begin in July 2018 with intensive technical assistance and consultation to follow.

Additionally, the initiative between OCDD and the DD Council to develop training and consultation to build provider capacity to support persons with complex needs continues to progress. The pilot provider and the Monroe provider completed all phases of the initial year and year two extension with significant maintenance of initial outcomes and quality of life outcomes (full final reports to be provided to DD Council for July meeting). The Lafayette provider began in January 2017 and has completed Phase 1 (training) and Phase 2 (initial TA and implementation of recommendations) and earned these two incentives. This provider has completed Phase 3 (outcomes), and OCDD is in the process of finalizing data and outcomes review to determine incentive. The Alexandria provider engaged in the project beginning in March 2018. This provider has completed Phase 1 (training) and earned the initial incentive; the provider is in the process of completing Phase 2 (initial TA and implementation of recommendations). OCDD and the DD Council attempted to implement a pilot with use of core modular program to support base knowledge for Direct Support Professionals, to evaluate for possible inclusion in routine 16-hour annual training, and to extend participation in the project to those in self-direction. Logistical considerations and attendance issues did not support extending this component.