

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
As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).	
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.	
Obj. 1.1 Louisiana's self-advocacy network will be supported in self-advocacy and in systems change advocacy.	
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>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s): The incoming board of directors of People First of LA received 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>
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.	

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Activity	Progress
<p>1.2.1 Provide financial support and technical assistance for Partners in Policymaking and its alumni network. Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$80,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>Thirty-nine applications were received before the deadline of September 30th for the 2019 Partners in Policymaking class. The Partners’ Selection Committee will meet on October 9th.</p> <p>Graduates serve on state and regional bodies such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (12) ○ State Interagency Coordinating Council ○ Statewide Independent Living Council ○ Governor’s Advisory Council on Disability Affairs ○ Regional Human Services Districts and Authorities Boards and Advisory Councils (Acadiana, Florida Parishes, 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 ABLA Account Advisory Board ○ LSU Human Development Center Consumer Advisory Council ○ Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) State and Regional Advisory Councils, and Systems Transformation Core Stakeholders Group ○ Emergency Management Disability and Aging Coalition;
	<p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>1.2.2 Support up to two Council members’ participation in Partners in Policymaking.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>One Council member graduated from the 2018 Partners in Policymaking class on June 9, 2018.</p>

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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 2018 Cost: \$225,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>LaCAN has 5,026 members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,339 Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) & Employment • 1,133 Education & Early Intervention • 1,554 HCBS & Employment and Education & Early Intervention <p><u>Advocacy Activities</u> Since October 1, 2017 LaCAN members confirmed 2,801 actions to twelve action alerts and 317 members participated in nineteen yellow shirt days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,507 actions taken on eight HCBS action alerts; • 277 participants at eleven HCBS yellow shirt days; • 294 actions taken on four education action alerts; • 40 participants at eight education yellow shirt days; <p>105 LaCAN members were supported during 72 legislative visits. 56 percent of legislators on key committees had a formal visit where a constituent was present. Additional key legislators received information through informal visits at the Capitol.</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> Currently, all LaCAN Leader positions are filled.</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..</p> <p>Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$50,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>LaCAN Summer Leader Training was held on August 9, 2018. Leaders engaged in activities to help them better understand the legislative process, use social media effectively, and understand and recognize the different stages and emotions of advocacy. Leaders also were provided information related to the tasks they should be working on while not in legislative session.</p> <p>Legislative Kickoff was held on September 13, 2018 for LaCAN leaders and FHF Directors. Council staff shared information on the state of the state for both home and community based services, employment, and education. Leaders and Directors then discussed and prioritized recommendations for the Council to consider for its legislative advocacy agenda for FY19.</p> <p>Since October 1, 2017, 442 LaCAN members participated in 30 regional LaCAN member meetings to discuss various topics including the Council’s advocacy agenda and outcomes of the 2018 Legislative Session, learning 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>Nine legislative Roundtables were held across the state were attended by 473 participants.</p> <p>LaCAN Legislative Debriefing was held on June 26, 2018.</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>	

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Activity	Progress
As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).	
<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>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Past Quarter(s): 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>
<p>1.3.3 Support Council members' participation in training and educational opportunities. Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$3,000</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 2018 Cost: \$7,000</p>	<p>April Dunn participated in the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) Technical Assistance Institute on July 9 -10, 2018 and the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities Annual Conference from July 11-12, 2018 in Oxion Hill, Maryland.</p>
<p>Obj. 1.4 Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain the information, training, and support they need.</p>	

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Activity	Progress
<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 style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>Since October 1, 2017, Centers have assisted 22,022 individuals with disabilities and family members with information, referral, or other supports. 35,625 units of information and referral were completed. Centers conducted 260 outreach activities to hospitals, pediatricians, and school districts.</p> <p>Monitoring visits to review Center operations and achievement of deliverables for State Fiscal Year 2018 were completed on FHF of Greater Baton Rouge, FHF at the Crossroads, and FHF of Region 7. In lieu of annual monitoring visits, desk audits were completed on the remaining Centers.</p> <p>Much progress has been made at Bayou Land FHF since the new Board of Directors and Executive Director have taken over. Read a full report on the center's status.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) Council staff provided information regarding needed corrective action to the Board of Bayou Land FHF. As a result, a new board of directors was elected, a corrective action plan was submitted, and a new executive director for the center was hired. The Council entered into a contract with the center effective July 1, 2018.</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 (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>The Council engaged in efforts to inform advocates on areas of interest that affect the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities during this quarter. Articles and posts focused on home and community living and education were shared via social media (Facebook and Twitter). The Council’s Executive Director spoke during the live Press Conference announcing the new tiered-waiver system for individuals with DD in Louisiana.</p> <p>LaDDC News articles included: 2017 Annual Report Available, Partners in Policymaking – Announcing 2018 Graduates and Recruitment for 2019 Class, Customized Employment Trainings, Nominations Sought for GOLD Awards, and Employment Resources and Training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LaDDC News has 2,038 current subscribers • Facebook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council – has 2,603 Likes, increase of 92 this quarter ○ LaCAN – has 1,627 Likes, increase of 61 this quarter • Twitter has 210 followers, increase of 18 this quarter <p>On October 1, 2018, the LaCAN Facebook page will be deactivated and merged with the Council’s official Facebook page. All LaCAN information, including alerts, will be shared via the Council’s Facebook and Twitter accounts.</p> <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. Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$8,000</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations (LANO) provided training to the Boards of Directors of People First of Louisiana and five Families Helping Families (FHF) Regional Resource Centers; Acadiana, Bayou Land, Northshore, Region 7, and Southwest.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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Activity	Progress
<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 2018 Cost: \$30,000</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s): One self-advocate and four parents served as mentors by sharing their experience with self-direction and provided support to those interested in pursuing self-direction. The mentors completed 36 workshops reaching 204 individuals.</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>Shared information pertaining to this issue at the Legislative Kickoff. Funding for the enhanced rate was included in the FY19 budget. OCDD and stakeholders determined a per diem rather than an increase to the hourly rate would allow greater flexibility to meet the needs of individuals. Once CMS approval is received an Emergency Rule will be published to add the service to the New Opportunities Waiver. Submitted comments on the proposed rule to OCDD.</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. Advocated for the enhanced waiver rate at nine legislative roundtables across the state, in meetings between LaCAN members and legislators, meetings with Dr. Gee and before the House Appropriations Committee. Funding for this enhanced rate was included in the FY19 budget.</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 2018 Cost: \$75,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 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.</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>The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) reported that Puerto Rico was the territory that needed assistance. The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) must approve a cooperative agreement between state Councils for the transfer of funds. Unfortunately, the agreement AIDD developed for a state to provide funds to Puerto Rico included terms that were impossible for us to meet so we were unable to provide this hurricane assistance.</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>	

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Activity	Progress
	As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).
<p>2.3.1 Advocate for adequate funding for waiver slots and state-funded community and family supports (CFS).</p>	<p>Shared an update on the new waiver process and information on the State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) program, waiver provider rates, TEFRA, and EPSDT at Legislative Kickoff. The advocacy leaders included SPAS and TEFRA in their top recommendations for the Council’s 2019 legislative agenda, and also recommended restoring waiver provider rates to 2008 levels in the current fiscal year using money from the NOW Fund. Discussed the need for funding all of these programs in a September 27th meeting with Dr. Gee and her leadership team.</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. Advocated for funding of all of these issues at nine legislative roundtables across the state, in meetings with Dr. Gee, in meetings between LaCAN members and legislators and before House and Senate Committees. Funding for 650 waiver slots for those in the most urgent need was included in the budget for FY19.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<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>	

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Activity	Progress
<p>2.4.1 Oversee implementation of the Community and Family Support System Plan.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>The Individual and Family Support and Consumer Care Resources Workgroup met on September 17, 2018 to review the programs' policies and practices to ensure they are aligned with the guiding principles of Act 378 and meet the needs of individuals with disabilities and their families. Members consisted of parents and individuals with disabilities from across the state as well as representatives from the Advocacy Center, the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, the Office of Behavioral Health, the Arc of Louisiana, and South Central Louisiana and Jefferson Parish Human Services Authorities. The workgroup will have a second meeting on October 4, 2018 to continue its review of the programs and formalize recommendations that will be presented to the Act 378 Sub-committee and Full Council at their next meetings on October 17 - 18, 2018.</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 accepted by OCDD and the rule edited. OCDD staff are working on incorporating feedback from Council staff and the Districts/Authorities. Letters were also sent to address concerns noted in the Consumer Care Resources program.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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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).

Successfully advocated for using the money in the Community and Family Support System Fund to support people with DD served by NW LA Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority. These two Local Governing Entities (LGEs) are the lowest funded LGEs per capita in the state.

Sent a letter to LDH Deputy Secretary Mark Thomas recommending LDH include language in the contracts with the Local Governing Entities (LGEs) requiring they each budget more than the nine percent required minimum on Act 378 DD services to ensure the full nine percent is actually expended.

Shared concerns regarding inconsistent implementation of policy across LGEs with OCDD Leadership. OCDD agreed to jointly conduct training with the DD Council on the Act 378 programs for the LGE DD staff.

Shared information on the disparity in state funding per capita among the Human Services Districts/Authorities at Legislative Kickoff.

Previous Quarter(s)

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 advocated for this funding in individual meetings with legislators. Funding was not included in the FY19 budget.

Developed a list of board members for each District/Authority 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.

Sent a letter to South Central Louisiana Human Services Authority regarding their non-compliance with Act 73 of 2017. Also sent a letter to LDH requesting a review of each District/Authority's board membership and roles according to Act 73 of 2017 be included in the annual accountability plan review process.

On target: Initiative

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Activity	Progress
As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).	
Obj. 2.5 Louisiana will reduce reliance on institutional services (public and private) for people with developmental disabilities.	
2.5.1 Advocate for expansion of the ROW 50 pilot and other opportunities to transition out of institutional settings.	<p>In the OCDD System Transformation Stakeholders Group discussions are ongoing regarding offering waiver slots to ICF/DD residents on the waiting list after all people on the waiting list in the emergent and urgent categories are served.</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>
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.	
2.6.1 Publicize healthcare provider continuing education opportunities.	<p>No activity this quarter</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s) Letter detailing information about the healthcare provider educational webinars was developed and shared with statewide nursing programs.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</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.	

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Activity	Progress
<p>2.7.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent community support issues.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>Discussed using monies in the NOW Fund to restore waiver rates to the 2008 levels in January 2019 with LDH Leadership, advocates and providers.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s): Activated LaCAN to advocate for restoration of cuts to LDH throughout the legislative sessions. Successful advocacy efforts resulted in restoration of funding for the following services for people with developmental disabilities and LDH being fully funded in FY19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Choice and Supports Waivers • Long Term Care Special Income Level Program • Long Term Personal Care Services • Pediatric Day Health Care Centers • Supported Independent Living and Support Coordination in the NOW • LINCCA <p>Successful advocacy also resulted in an increase in the IFS night rate in the NOW.</p> <p>Provided information necessary to expand the purpose of the NOW Fund Act 665 (SB347) and developed a plan for use of dollars deposited into the fund in collaboration with LDH and parent advocates.</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>	
<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>	

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Activity	Progress
	As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).
<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>On September 9th, 2018 the DD Council sent LDOE a letter requesting information related to issues pertaining to special education. LDOE responded on September 18th, 2018.</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 2018 cost \$4,000</p>	<p>The training modules to increase the capacity of family support organizations and local school systems in facilitating family and student involvement in IEP meetings are accessible on the LSU-HSC webpage: http://www.hdc.lsuhscc.edu/tiers/resources.aspx</p> <p>The direct link to access the Family Partnership Training Modules can be found here: http://www.hdc.lsuhscc.edu/tiers/Family_Partnership_Training_Modules/</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" 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 (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>Advocated for the Accountability Commission to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) not endorsing an increase in the number of students at alternative schools (i.e., the “n” value) from 10 to 30 as criteria for an alternative school to receive a school accountability score; 2) defining which schools will be eligible for the alternative school accountability measure and how these measures will influence administrative decisions for students; 3) endorsing the core credit index for all high schools rather than just alternative schools; and, 4) the evidence indicating students sent to alternative schools do not receive adequate instruction and access needed supports and services. <p>The Accountability Commission endorsed the full slate of recommendations for using a different accountability measure for alternative schools than is used in traditional schools offered by the Louisiana Department of Education.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p>3.2.2 Advocate for improved complaint and monitoring procedures.</p>	<p>Provided information on this issue at the 2019 Legislative Kickoff. Advocacy leaders recommended addressing this issue on the Council’s Legislative Advocacy Agenda.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s): 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>	

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Activity	Progress
<p>3.3.1 Advocate for educational systems change based on emergent education issues.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>The Council sent LDOE a request to consider providing additional training opportunities on implementation of Act 833 of 2014. On August 13th LDOE responded in writing. On August 14th, Council staff advocated to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to encourage LDOE to provide additional training and clarity. LDOE agreed to push out information related to promotion of students with disabilities. In the LDOE September 4th, 2018 weekly newsletter a link under Policy Updates and Reminders provided a paragraph related to promotion of students with disabilities according to Act 833 of 2014.</p> <p>The Act 833 Ad Hoc Committee met three times and will present its recommendations to the Education/Employment Committee at the October meeting.</p> <p>Previous Quarters: Provided information to the House and Senate Education Committees 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. These legislative instruments did not pass.</p> <p>Advocated for LDOE to provide a statewide plan for assisting schools in implementing behavior plans which are positive, proactive, evidence-based and data driven. LDOE provided a description of expectations for eight regional consortia of school systems, but not a statewide plan of action.</p> <p>Advocated for the 2017 Annual Report from the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (ACSBSD) be shared with BESE formally at its next Board meeting.</p> <p>ACSBSD 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>ACSBSD 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
<p>Goal 4 Students with disabilities are considered from the initial phases to the completion of planning and program development of educational policies and initiatives.</p>	
<p>Obj. 4.1 All schools (charter/magnet) accepting public dollars will accept and serve all students with disabilities appropriately.</p>	
<p>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>	<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>
<p>4.1.2 Advocate for and monitor equitable funding based on Minimum Foundation Program (MFP).</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarters: Shared information requested by legislators regarding difficulties with finding data on MFP calculations as required by law.</p> <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>

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Activity	Progress
<p>Obj. 4.2 Stakeholders will have increased opportunities to provide authentic input that will impact decisions on policies effecting students with disabilities.</p>	
<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>No activity this quarter.</p> <p>Previous Quarters: 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>This issue was discussed during a recent meeting with consultants from the Workforce Innovation Technical Assistance Center (WINTAC), LRS, OCDD, the Arc of LA, and the Council. The certification exam for ESPs is not competency-based and there was consensus in the room that this is a missing necessary component.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s): Staff continues to discuss the benefits of employment support professionals achieving certification (knowledge-based and competence-based) during La. Rehabilitation Council (LRC) meetings and elsewhere as the opportunity arises.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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Activity	Progress
<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 style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>A meeting was held with WINTAC consultants, LRS, OCDD, the Arc of LA, and the Council to begin discussions on development of a sustainability plan for training and certification in customized employment. The Council-funded training and certification project will yield data that will help LRS and stakeholders determine whether any changes in rates or policy are needed and how best to proceed with a sustainable system of professional development.</p> <p>Previous Quarter(s): 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>
<p>5.1.3 Advocate for the implementation of a system of accountability to include outcomes-based monitoring and a complaint process.</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. FFY 2018 Cost: \$38,000</p>	<p>The Customized Employment Certification Program is mentoring six candidates for competence-based certification scheduled for April through August 2018. One participant has withdrawn from the certification program: a replacement has been selected and will begin work immediately.</p> <p>Previous Quarters In March, an overview meeting was held with leaders of participating providers, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services Regional Managers and state staff, and Local Governing Entities’ DD Directors. Discovery Gateway Training was provided by Associates from Marc Gold & Associates (MG&A) in Baton Rouge and Metairie.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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Activity	Progress
<p>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</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p><u>Future training dates/locations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 11, Lake Charles • October 12, Lafayette • November 15, Baton Rouge • November 16, New Orleans <p>Previous Quarter(s): Two single-day training sessions on Customized Employment were conducted by Dr. Steven Hunt. Topics covered included Discovery, Profile Development, the Customized Employment Plan, and Job Development.</p> <p><u>Training dates/locations and attendance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 17, West Monroe (16) • May 18, Bossier City (9). <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>Five employment support professionals passed the CESP exam in August 2018 with their exam registration costs covered with Council funds.</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>	

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Activity	Progress
<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.</p> <p>Approx. FFY 2018 Cost: \$75,000</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).</p> <p>The Supported Employment Provider capacity building project has worked with two providers in Alexandria and Slidell to successfully meet their identified outcomes. Five job coaches from the two providers gained knowledge-based certification with the Certified Employment Support Professional (CEPS) Exam through the national Association of People Supporting Employment-First (APSE). Both providers are in the process of expanding their employment services but from different ends. One provider currently provides Louisiana Medicaid waiver recipients with Day Habilitation and Vocational Training services and is developing a community based supported employment program to abide with the new CMS Ruling. The other provider is a Louisiana Rehabilitation Service (LRS) employment vendor providing only community-based employment services and is expanding its funding stream to include Medicaid waiver recipients for Supported Employment services</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" 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>Advocated for the provision of financial incentives to serve people with the most significant support needs with the new LRS Director on September 27, 2018. She was willing to pursue this and agreed to research how it could best be implemented. A higher rate for Customized Employment was recommended by the Employment Ad Hoc Committee but the WINTAC consultants said Louisiana’s rates are in line with other states. They recommended waiting until the Council-funded training and certification project produced data on the actual cost of providing the service here in LA before recommending any changes to the rates.</p> <p>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<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>

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Activity	Progress
As applicable, data is presented year-to-date and quarterly (June 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018).	
<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 Councils 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>The Council’s Employment Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee developed recommendations on September 11, 2018.</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>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>On target: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>