

## La DD Council - Status Report of FFY 2019 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 (December 14, 2018 – March 14, 2019).	
<b>Goal 1</b> 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.	
<b>Obj. 1.1</b> Louisiana's self-advocacy network will be supported in self-advocacy and in systems change advocacy.	
<b>1.1.1</b> Offer technical assistance and training opportunities designed to strengthen the self-advocacy network and the effectiveness of its systems change activities.	<p>Council member Lillian DeJean was scheduled to present at a teen self-advocacy event on March 7, 2019 in Lafayette, LA. Due to the Mardi Gras holidays, the event was minimally attended. The next teen advocacy event is scheduled for April 8, 2019 in Alexandria, LA.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<b>1.1.2</b> Provide financial support for a People First of Louisiana statewide conference. <b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost \$7,100</b>	<p>No activity this quarter. The date of the conference has not yet been set.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<b>Obj. 1.2</b> 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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<p><b>1.2.1</b> Provide financial support and technical assistance for Partners in Policymaking and its alumni network.</p> <p><b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$80,000</b></p>	<p>Partners in Policymaking began on January 18, 2019, with 26 attendees including 5 self-advocates and 2 fathers. The February session had 24 attendees, and March had 21 attendees. Participation in the class has decreased for personal reasons such as: lack of child care, scheduling conflicts, and traveling out-of-the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduates serve on state and regional bodies such as             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (11)</li> <li>○ State Interagency Coordinating Council (4)</li> <li>○ Statewide Independent Living Council (4)</li> <li>○ Governor’s Advisory Council on Disability Affairs (2)</li> <li>○ Regional Human Services Districts and Authorities Boards and Advisory Councils (Acadiana, Florida Parishes, Imperial Calcasieu, Jefferson, Metropolitan, and Northwest)</li> <li>○ Board of Directors for the Advocacy Center, FHF Centers, and People First of LA</li> <li>○ Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (3)</li> <li>○ Special Education Advisory Panel (5)</li> <li>○ Louisiana ABLE Account Advisory Board</li> <li>○ LSU Human Development Center Consumer Advisory Council (2)</li> <li>○ Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) Emergency Management Disability and Aging Coalition; State Advisory Council, and Systems Transformation Group</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b>            There were 39 applications received for the 2019 Partners in Policymaking class. The Selection Committee selected 29 individuals to participate.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p><b>1.2.2</b> Support up to two Council members’ participation in Partners in Policymaking.</p>	<p>Two (2) council members are participating in the 2019 Partners in Policymaking class.</p>

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<p><b>1.2.3</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$225,000</b></p>	<p>As of March 4, 2019, LaCAN has 4,857 members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,120 Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) &amp; Employment</li> <li>• 1,027 Education &amp; Early Intervention</li> <li>• 1,710 HCBS &amp; Employment and Education &amp; Early Intervention</li> </ul> <p><u>Advocacy Activities</u>          Since October 1, 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three education action alerts; 205 actions taken</li> <li>• Three education yellow shirt days; 22 participants</li> </ul> <p>LaCAN Leaders are actively scheduling visits between members and legislators through the start of the 2019 Legislative Session on April 8<sup>th</sup>. To date, members were supported at 46 formal legislative visits of which 25 were with key committee members. Additional legislators who attended their regional Legislative Roundtable received information pertaining to the Council and LaCAN's advocacy agenda.</p> <p>LaCAN hosts two LaCAN Leader conference calls per month, which include updates on current concerns/issues and development of strategies to better educate, maintain, support, and lead LaCAN members.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p><b>1.2.4</b> Facilitate and support advocacy events including but not limited to Legislative Roundtables and advocacy training sessions.</p> <p><b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$40,000</b></p>	<p>Nine Legislative Roundtables were held across the state with 539 participants in attendance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 84 self-advocates (4 Council Members)</li> <li>• 185 family members (8 Council Members)</li> <li>• 196 professionals (1 Council Member)</li> <li>• 46 policy makers (i.e. legislators, legislative aides, and/or BESE members)</li> </ul> <p>Since October 1, 2018, 184 LaCAN members participated in 7 regional LaCAN member meetings to discuss the Council's 2019 Advocacy Agenda, 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><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b>          LaCAN Fall Leader Training was hosted on November 8, 2018. Leaders engaged in activities to enhance their understanding of the Council's advocacy agenda and expectations of their roles as a leader during the upcoming 2019 legislative session.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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<p><b>Obj. 1.3</b> 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><b>1.3.1</b> 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>Provided support to family members of individuals with developmental disabilities serving on the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (2/1/19), the Special Education Advisory Panel (2/23/19), and the Minimum Foundation Program Task Force (2/28/19).</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>1.3.2</b> Support Council members in participation in Council meetings and other functions.</p>	<p>Council members are supported in participation of Council meetings and other functions.</p>
<p><b>1.3.3</b> Support Council members' participation in training and educational opportunities. <b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$3,000</b></p>	<p>No stipends were issued this quarter.</p>
<p><b>1.3.4</b> Support the Council leadership's participation in national training, networking events and advocacy opportunities. <b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$7,000</b></p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p>
<p><b>Obj. 1.4</b> Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain the information, training, and support they need.</p>	

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<p><b>1.4.1</b> 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, 2018, Centers have assisted 9,689 individuals with disabilities and families with information, referral, or other supports. 15,711 units of information and referral were completed. There were 146 trainings hosted with 149 self-advocates and 636 family members in attendance. Centers have also conducted 96 outreach activities to hospitals, pediatricians and school districts.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p><b>1.4.2</b> 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>LaDDC News articles released during this reporting period were as follows:  <a href="#">Stakeholder Input Sought on Community Choices Waiver</a>  <a href="#">February SNAP Food Benefits to be Issued Early</a>  <a href="#">Behavioral Health Listening Tour</a>  <a href="#">Additional Meetings on Behavioral Health</a>  <a href="#">LDOE Releases Special Education Monitoring Report and Corrective Action Plans</a>  <a href="#">Recruiting Strong Advocates for DD Council Membership (3/9/19)</a>  <a href="#">Recruiting Strong Advocates for DD Council Membership (3/22/19)</a>  <a href="#">Input Needed on Crisis System of Care</a></p> <p>March 1, 2019, began National Developmental Disability Awareness Month (<a href="#">#DDAwareness19</a>). The Council initiated a social media campaign consisting of posts to <a href="#">Facebook</a> and <a href="#">Twitter</a> each day during the month of March.</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"> <li>• <a href="#">LaDDC News</a> has 2,464 current subscribers.</li> <li>• The DD Council's <a href="#">Facebook</a> page has:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Followers – 2,936</li> <li>○ Likes – 2,818</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">Twitter</a> has 241 current followers.</li> </ul> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Goal 2</b> 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><b>Obj. 2.1</b> Addressed during FFY 2017</p>	

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<b>Obj. 2.2 Accomplished during FFY 2018</b>	
<b>Obj. 2.3</b> 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 for people with developmental disabilities (ICFs/DD).	
<p><b>2.3.1</b> Advocate for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to provide financial incentives to serve individuals with challenging needs.</p>	<p>The complex needs service to be added to the New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) was submitted to CMS for approval. Based on feedback from CMS, LDH changed the service to an enhanced rate. The updated waiver amendment is currently out for public comment for 30 days. It will be sent to CMS for final approval at the conclusion of the public comment period.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Funding for the enhanced complex needs rate was included in the LDH FY19 budget. An Emergency Rule published in the October 20, 2018, edition of the <a href="#">Louisiana Register</a> listed the specific eligibility requirements for this service. This rate increase is a result of advocacy that was conducted by the Council in 2018.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>2.3.2</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$16,500</b></p>	<p>This activity is now completed. OCDD provided a final report on this initiative in January 2019. A total of 3 provider agencies completed all incentive benchmarks, with an additional provider (Leading Healthcare in Alexandria, LA) completing the initial benchmarks but electing not to complete the expanded partnership. Each agency reported significant outcomes and positive improvements, but specifics were varied across agencies.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> The Complex Needs Training and Technical Assistance Partnership with OCDD works with direct service providers from around the state to increase their capacity and improve outcomes for the people they support through in-class training and provider-specific ongoing technical support.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<b>Obj. 2.4.</b> Funding will be available to provide home and community-based waiver services to people with unmet needs.	

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<p><b>2.4.1</b> Advocate for adequate funding for waiver slots.</p>	<p>Funding to restore waiver provider rates to 2008 levels was not included in the governor's executive budget proposal.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> A recommendation was made for LDH to restore waiver provider rates to the 2008 levels in the current fiscal year using money from the NOW Fund. LDH submitted a BA-7 to restore the rates, but the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget did not include this request on their agenda.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Initiative</b></p>
<p><b>Obj. 2.5</b> Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will have access to the same level and quality of services administered by the Local Governing Entities (LGE's) across the state.</p>	
<p><b>2.5.1</b> Oversee implementation of the Community and Family Support System Plan.</p>	<p>Provided information on the need for additional funding for the SPAS program and funding needed to implement the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option at nine legislative roundtables held statewide. LaCAN members are advocating for funding for these programs in individual meetings and communications with legislators.</p> <p>The updated Flexible Family Fund policy will be promulgated in the Louisiana Register's April issue. OCDD plans to train district/authority staff on the updated policy prior to implementation.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> A <a href="#">letter</a> was sent to LDH Deputy Secretary, Mark Thomas; OCDD Assistant Secretary, Julie Foster-Hagan; and OBH Assistant Secretary, Karen Stubbs; with recommendations from the Individual and Family Support and Consumer Care Resources Workgroup approved by the Council during the October 2018 meeting. Recommendations were discussed with OCDD, and agreed upon, in a meeting on 12/5/2018.</p> <p>Fact sheets related to additional funding for the <a href="#">SPAS program</a> and funding needed to implement <a href="#">TEFRA</a> were developed, posted on the Council's website, and distributed to Council members, LaCAN Leaders, and FHF Centers, to be used in legislative visits and <a href="#">roundtables</a> prior to the start of the 2019 legislative session. <a href="#">LaDDC News</a> was distributed detailing the Council's legislative agenda with links to the fact sheets.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Initiative</b></p>

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<p><b>2.5.2</b> Advocate for adequate funding, the expansion of services, and consistent implementation of policy across regions, including, if necessary, changes in law and/or contracts with local governing entities (LGE's).</p>	<p>Provided information on the need for additional funding for Northwest LA Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority at nine legislative roundtables held statewide. LaCAN members are advocating for funding for these districts/authorities in individual meetings and communications with legislators.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Fact sheets related to <a href="#">equitable funding for LGE's</a>, specifically Northwest LA Human Services District and Florida Parishes Human Services Authority, were developed, posted to the Council's website, and distributed to Council members, LaCAN Leaders, and FHF Centers, to be used in legislative visits and <a href="#">roundtables</a> prior to the start of the 2019 legislative session. <a href="#">LaDDC News</a> was distributed detailing the Council's legislative agenda with links to the fact sheets.</p> <p>DD Council partnered with OCDD and OBH to host statewide training of LGE staff on Act 378 and its guiding principles.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Obj. 2.6</b> Louisiana will reduce reliance on institutional services for people with developmental disabilities.</p>	
<p><b>2.6.1</b> Advocate for the expansion of the ROW 50 pilot and other opportunities to transition out of institutional settings.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Obj. 2.7</b> 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><b>2.7.1</b> Advocate for systems change based on emergent community support issues.</p>	<p>Advocated for Family Cost Participation (FCP) in EarlySteps to not be imposed on families with income less than 600% of the federal poverty level in a meeting with LA Department of Health (LDH) Secretary, Dr. Rebekah Gee, and representatives from the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC). Unfortunately, Dr. Gee did not agree to this change. She stated her first priority was funding for the provider rate restoration that was not included in the FY20 Executive Budget.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> A <a href="#">letter</a> was issued to OCDD Assistant Secretary, Julie Foster-Hagan, recommending family cost participation in EarlySteps be discontinued in FY20 without changing the eligibility criteria. In a subsequent meeting with LDH Secretary Dr. Rebekah Gee, she agreed to compromise by raising the income limit for when FCP would be imposed.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>



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<p><b>Obj. 2.8</b> 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><b>2.8.1</b> Publicize healthcare provider continuing education opportunities.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Initiative</b></p>
<p><b>Obj. 2.9</b> Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will have information and training on sexuality, sexual abuse and exploitation.</p>	
<p><b>2.9.1</b> Provide financial support for training on sexuality and relationships and to build awareness and skills with recognizing and handling sexual abuse and exploitation of people with developmental disabilities. <b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$27,900</b></p>	<p>As of March 18, 2019, five trainings were hosted across the state: Thibodaux, Lake Charles, Lafayette, and two in the Greater New Orleans area. Twenty-three self-advocates and seventy-four family members/caregivers participated in the trainings. There are five training events remaining with thirty-five self-advocates and seventy-five family members/caregivers registered. Registration for the remaining trainings can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> The Council has collaborated with Team Dynamics, LLC, to offer a series of ten statewide training events for adult self-advocates, and their family members, to increase awareness of the issues that lead to and ways to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation of individuals with disabilities. A training schedule, list of locations, and registration information can be found <a href="#">here</a>. The training schedule was shared with all FHF Centers, People First of LA, The Arc of LA, OCDD, and the Advocacy Center. Team Dynamics, LLC, and the DD Council (through websites and social media) are providing promotion of these events.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Initiative</b></p>
<p><b>Goal 3</b> Students with disabilities will have access to quality, individualized educational programs that address their unique skills, interests, and goals in inclusive environments.</p>	
<p><b>Obj. 3.1</b> 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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<p><b>3.1.1</b> Advocate for increased focus and capacity within LDOE to address Special Education, including specific areas/issues (i.e., disability/topical/etc.)</p>	<p>Advocated for LDOE's plan to support schools in serving students with significant disabilities be separated from the plan to address issues in the Special School District.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>3.1.2</b> 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><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b>            Advocated for the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline workgroup on positive and proactive practices to include a recommendation for the Louisiana Department of Education to invite parents of children with significant challenging behaviors to the <a href="#">2019 Behavior Intervention Summit</a>. LDOE staff indicated they did not believe providing training to parents was within their legal responsibility.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Obj. 3.2</b> Louisiana's accountability and support structures for school systems will better assure the development and implementation of individualized education programs in inclusive settings.</p>	
<p><b>3.2.1</b> 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>Submitted a <a href="#">letter to BESE expressing the Council's opposition to the changes in rules creating separate accountability measures for alternative education schools</a>.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b>            In October, the Council voted to be in opposition to the proposed rule changes related to school accountability and alternative schools. In addition, staff are working with Louisiana Education Equity Coalition to support school performance scores that consider all students, particularly students with the most significant disabilities.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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<p><b>3.2.2</b> Advocate for improved complaint and monitoring procedures.</p>	<p>Provided information on the need for public reporting of special education monitoring findings and corrective actions at six legislative Roundtables across the state. LaCAN members advocated for this in individual meetings with legislators. Released an <a href="#">LaDDC News article</a> sharing the release of special education monitoring reports and corrective actions by the Louisiana Department of Education.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> A fact sheet was developed to educate policymakers on the need for <a href="#">Public Reporting of Special Education Monitoring Findings and Corrective Actions</a>, an issue on the Council's 2019 Advocacy Agenda.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>3.2.3</b> Advocate for a support structure in school systems that assures adequate understanding and skill to develop and implement Individual Education Plans.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Obj. 3.3</b> Students with developmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in educational agencies and programs.</p>	
<p><b>3.3.1</b> Advocate for educational systems change based on emergent education issues.</p>	<p>Advocated for LDOE's plan to support schools in serving students with significant disabilities be separated from the plan to address issues in the Special School District.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> In November, <a href="#">a letter was sent to LDOE Superintendent White</a> requesting a proportionate, or more, amount of funding for initiatives to address shortages of special education teachers and related service personnel than the amount allocated to fund initiatives for STEM teacher shortages. Superintendent White indicated he looked forward to reading the letter.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Obj. 3.4</b> An increased number of students with disabilities are included in school culture.</p>	

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<p><b>3.4.1</b> Provide information and promote inclusion and acceptance of effective models of school culture.</p>	<p>Shared concerns with BESE members regarding the plan to use segregated schools in the Special School District as models of effective practice.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Information on current research of findings and best practices related to behavior and school culture have been shared in each of the meetings of the Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline. See agenda from <a href="#">October 12, 2018</a> and <a href="#">December 7, 2018</a>.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Goal 4</b> Students with disabilities are considered from the initial phases to the completion of planning and program development of educational policies and initiatives.</p>	
<p><b>Obj. 4.1 Accomplished during FFY 2017</b></p>	
<p><b>Obj. 4.2</b> All schools (charter/magnet) accepting public dollars will accept and serve all students with disabilities appropriately.</p>	
<p><b>4.2.1</b> 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><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Issued a <a href="#">LaCAN Action Alert to BESE (12/7/18)</a> regarding contract renewals for charter schools in violation of state law regarding the percentage of students with disabilities enrolled.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>4.2.2</b> Advocate for and monitor equitable funding based on Minimum Foundation Program (MFP).</p>	<p>A <a href="#">request for the Louisiana Attorney General to issue an opinion</a> on the distribution of local funds related to students with disabilities was sent (1/4/19).</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> A letter has been drafted requesting the Louisiana Attorney General issue an opinion on the distribution of local funds related to students with disabilities.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>

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<p><b>4.2.3</b> Provide financial support for professional development opportunities for child care providers and EarlySteps interventionists to build capacity with including children with disabilities in Early Learning Center within Local Communities.</p> <p><b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$77,800</b></p>	<p>OCDD/EarlySteps indicated that recruitment was stalled due to stipulation language in the registration. However, that stipulation was removed and 60 participants have recently committed to participate. Registration is still on-going due to this delay. The on-line training module will be available the first week of May, followed by in-person trainings to be completed by the end of May. Mentoring sessions which partner child care providers with EarlySteps Interventionists are scheduled for June 4 – 5, 2019 in Baton Rouge; and June 12 - 13, 2019 in New Orleans. Because of their experience with inclusive childcare, LSU-HDC has been added as a collaborator in this endeavor to provide guidance and assistance with the training modules/sessions.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> An initiative is currently being coordinated through a partnership with EarlySteps, the Council, and Center for Development and Learning (CDL), to provide a professional development opportunity for teams of early interventionists and child care teachers to facilitate the inclusion of infants and toddlers with disabilities in Early Learning Centers of Regions 1 and 2 (Baton Rouge and New Orleans).</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p><b>Obj. 4.3</b> Stakeholders will have increased opportunities to provide authentic input that will impact decisions on policies effecting students with disabilities.</p>	
<p><b>4.3.1</b> 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><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Advocated during the workgroup of the ACSBD for LDOE to include input and perspectives from parents of students with disabilities when making decisions related to behavioral practices.</p>
<p><b>Goal 5</b> 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><b>Obj. 5.1</b> 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>	

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<p><b>5.1.1</b> Advocate for certification of employment support professionals (ESP).</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Staff continues to discuss the benefits of employment support professionals achieving competency-based certification during meetings conducted with LRS staff and the LA Rehabilitation Council (LRC). On November 30, 2018, a <a href="#">letter</a> was issued to LRS advocating for all employment support professionals to be certified through competency-based training.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>5.1.2</b> Advocate for the implementation of a system of accountability to include outcomes-based monitoring and a complaint process.</p>	<p>No activity this quarter.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>5.1.3</b> Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through a competency-based certification program. <b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$55,700</b></p>	<p>Another Discovery Gateway Training for Customized Employment was held in Lafayette, February 5 – 7, 2019. There were 15 professionals from 12 different provider agencies who completed the Gateway, along with 6 LRS staff.</p> <p>A Systematic Instruction Gateway Training was held in Baton Rouge, March 12 – 14, 2019. There were 16 professionals from 8 different provider agencies who completed the Gateway.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Since March 1, 2018, there have been 5 employment support professionals certified in Discovery through the Customized Employment Certification Program conducted by Marc Gold &amp; Associates. There are currently 3 more professionals completing the certification process for Discovery, and 7 participants in the Job Development certification process (which will end February 8, 2019). The Systematic Instruction certification process will commence in March 2019.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>

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<p><b>5.1.4</b> Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment through single day in-person training sessions across the state. <b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$11,000</b></p>	<p>This activity was accomplished during the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of the 2019 reporting year.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Four single-day training sessions on Customized Employment were conducted by Dr. Steven Hunt of Briggs &amp; Associates during this quarter. 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"> <li>• October 11, Lake Charles (17)</li> <li>• October 12, Lafayette (12)</li> <li>• November 15, Baton Rouge (30)</li> <li>• November 16, New Orleans (33)</li> </ul> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p><b>Activity 5.1.5</b> Provide funding for web-based training session in supported employment to build the capacity of up to 600 individuals at every level of the service delivery system, including but not limited to state and regional staff of State agencies, supported employment provider administrators, employment support professionals, and support coordinators. <b>Approx. FFY 2019 Cost: \$39,000</b></p>	<p>In February, the LDH team met with the Elsevier representative to establish access, schedule trainings for administrators of the system, determine access requirements of various individuals, and review list of anticipated trainers.</p> <p><b>Previous Quarter(s)</b> Final negotiations are being conducted with the Council, OCDD, and Elsevier, Inc., for the contractual provision of web-based trainings on supported employment being made available to various and appropriate professionals.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Expenditures</p>
<p><b>Obj. 5.2</b> 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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<p><b>5.2.1</b> 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 continue to provide input on the need for financial incentives to support unserved and underserved populations during meetings with LRS staff and the Louisiana Rehabilitation Council (LRC).</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Obj. 5.3</b> Individuals with DD, 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><b>5.3.1</b> 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><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>5.3.2</b> Share DD Council employment videos featuring individuals with developmental disabilities on their jobs.</p>	<p>During the 2019 Developmental Disability Awareness Month, social media posts to the Council's <a href="#">Facebook</a> and <a href="#">Twitter</a> pages included employment videos.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>5.3.3</b> 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><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>
<p><b>Obj. 5.4</b> Individuals with DD will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in employment agencies/programs.</p>	
<p><b>5.4.1</b> Advocate for systems change based on emergent employment issues.</p>	<p>During this reporting period, one in-person meeting and three teleconferences were held with LRS to advocate for Employment Support Professionals to be allowed to be trained by Certified employees in Customized Employment. LRS has not agreed to allow this measure of provider development/training.</p> <p><b>On target:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initiative</p>