

COUNCIL DECISIONS

RECAP OF COUNCIL PLANNING PROCESS

- January – Council members are asked to submit ideas for plan activities
 - *On standing committee agendas*
- February – Planning Committee considers ideas; develops draft plan
- April (May) – Council considers/modifies/approves draft plan

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE FIRST

- DD Act requires Councils to include a goal to establish or strengthen a statewide self-advocacy organization
 - *Does not require ongoing FUNDING to People First*
- Council did provide \$794,102 to People First over 8 years (FFY2007 – FFY 2014)
- In FFY2013 the Council voted to phase-out core funding of the organization and instead provide support in other ways, such as offering training and technical assistance.

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE FIRST

- Funding in Council plans:
 - FY17 – stipends for self-advocates for REACH Conference
 - FY18 – People First board training provided by LANO
 - FY19 – support for People First Conference
- Prior to FY20 Planning Committee meeting, Council's Ex. Dir. emailed People First & Arc of LA :
 - *"If the Council has additional funds, is there any technical assistance or training People First would want the Council to pay for? We could possibly bring in a consultant or trainer to work with the board/organization or whatever y'all feel the needs of the organization are."*
- People First Ex. Dir. called, replied "yes, training and/or technical assistance would be appreciated"

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE FIRST

- Staff provided Planning Committee a proposed funded activity for this training/technical assistance
- Committee voted to not include this funded activity in the draft plan after a self-advocate on the committee spoke in opposition to it.
- People First does have a voice on the Council; a Council member serves on the People First board.

COUNCIL'S ADVOCACY EFFORTS

- Council's plan includes advocacy activities that don't involve legislature
 - *Target is administration or BESE*
- Legislative Advocacy
 - *Proactive Agenda decided upon in October*
 - *Reactive Agenda*
 - Budget related, i.e., restoration of cuts
 - Issues addressed in proposed legislation initiated by others

DEVELOPMENT OF COUNCIL'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- LaCAN Leaders and FHF Centers solicit ideas from their regions from July – September of each year.
- Council staff meet with the FHF Directors, LaCAN Leaders, & the Partners' Coordinator to share information on and facilitate discussion of the ideas/issues
- Several issues are selected to recommend to the Executive Committee for the Council's Legislative Agenda.
 - *Everyone voting on which ideas/issues to propose are people with disabilities or parents/immediate family members of people with disabilities*

DEVELOPMENT OF COUNCIL'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- Council members can share their ideas with their LaCAN Leaders and FHF Directors, but are also invited to submit their ideas to be considered by the Executive Committee.
- Email to Council members re: Council meeting packet dated 10-2-18. The following sentence was highlighted in the email:
 - *Please note on the agenda that you will be voting on the Executive Committee's recommendations for the Council's 2019 Legislative Advocacy Agenda. If you have ideas you would like the committee to consider during their meeting, please send these to me by close of business Monday, October 8th*

DEVELOPMENT OF COUNCIL'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- Executive Committee considers recommendations from advocacy leaders at its October meeting. List of all ideas/issues receiving votes from advocacy leaders is posted on agenda on website.
- Executive Committee either accepts or modifies proposed legislative agenda to recommend to full Council.

DEVELOPMENT OF COUNCIL'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

- Council members have the opportunity during the October Council meeting to make a motion to add/change the recommendation from the Executive Committee regarding the legislative agenda.
- October 2017 Council meeting – Council made two changes to Executive Committee's recommended legislative agenda
- October 2016 Council meeting – Council made one addition to the recommended legislative agenda

ORCHESTRATED SYSTEMS CHANGE ADVOCACY

- Council's goal is to achieve an outcome that will benefit thousands of people with disabilities and their families.
- It's an orchestrated effort with a proven track record of success.
- Council staff and LaCAN Leaders work with people selected to testify as part of the Council/LaCAN's group to edit their testimony to identify the most compelling messages in their personal stories that can be delivered in a short time.
 - *TEFRA testimony was limited to 3 minutes by committee chair*
 - *Camera testimony was limited to 2 minutes by committee chair*

ORCHESTRATED SYSTEMS CHANGE ADVOCACY

- LaCAN members who don't testify before the committee are encouraged to share their personal story with legislators:
 - *On legislative visits, visiting informally at the Capitol, and in written and other communications*
- These communications are equally, if not more important than the few people who go to the table at committee meetings.
 - *One-on-one interactions with legislators build personal relationships which result in positive outcomes.*

ORCHESTRATED SYSTEMS CHANGE ADVOCACY

- The Council has been conducting these orchestrated legislative advocacy campaigns for three decades. Every year we debrief with our advocacy leaders to improve upon our efforts, but the overall systematic approach is maintained because it is successful.
- Thirty years of positive outcomes for people with developmental disabilities prove it.
- No one is denied the right to testify on their own, apart from the LaCAN group.