

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)

**QUARTERLY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (DD) COUNCIL REPORT  
(Submitted for 3rd Quarter 2019)**

**September 25, 2019**

**SERVICES**

**Developmental Disability Waiver Activities**

The following figures reflect **waiver activities thus far in state fiscal year 2019-2020 (July 1, 2019 –September 22, 2019):**

<b>WAIVER</b>	<b>Offers # *</b>	<b>Linkages # ***</b>	<b>Certifications</b>
<b>NOW</b>	0	4	8
<b>Children’s Choice</b>	136	149	48
<b>Supports</b>	108	119	31
<b>ROW**</b>	0	7	49

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

\*\* Includes offers and linkages made under OAAS to ROW transitions.

\*\*\* An individual made a CC or Supports offer may request an exception and be linked to the ROW or NOW.

The following figures reflect **total waiver numbers as of September 24, 2019:**

<b>WAIVER PROGRAM</b>	<b>ALLOCATED</b>	<b>LINKED/FILLED</b>	<b>CERTIFIED</b>	<b>SLOTS W/O CERTIFIED RECIPIENT</b>	<b>VACANT SLOTS</b>
Most Appropriate Waiver (MAW)	14,094	13,418	12,703	1,391	676
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,094</b>	<b>13,418</b>	<b>12,703</b>		

As of 09/24/2019

Source: SRI Certifications Report - 09/24/2019

**Request for Services Registry (RFSR) as of August 31, 2019:**

- Developmental Disability (DD) RFSR = 13,394
  - Individuals with urgent/emergent unmet needs (SUN score 3/4) = 0 (offers made to all as screened and identified 3 or 4 – 305 in process)
  - Individuals with current needs met (SUN score 0/1/2) = 7,442
  - Individuals with no identified unmet needs = 4,689 [estimates based on previous information available and information available in Louisiana Service Reporting System (LaSRS)]
  - Individuals in process of scheduling / receiving screening = 958

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

- A total of 12,102 Screening of Urgency of Need (SUN) tools have been 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 and people who have a change in status. Additionally, routine re-screenings for people with previous SUN scores of 2/1/0 are being conducted.

### **Home and Community-Based Waivers for People with I/DD**

There was a rate restoration during the 2019 legislative session that restored the rates to 2008 rates for all services in Home and Community-Based Waivers. This was retroactive to January 1, 2019 and will continue into this fiscal year. Adjustments to budget caps in individual waivers were made commensurate with the rate restoration.

### **Residential Options Waiver (ROW)**

- **ROW / Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS) Transition** - The implementation phase of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved transition of OAAS Community Choices Waiver (CCW) and Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) participants who have an OCDD Statement of Approval (SOA) to the ROW is in its final stages. This transition, at its conclusion, will have affected approximately 250 people.
  - Two hundred-thirty-eight (238) people have completed the transition and are receiving ROW services.
  - Nine (9) participants are currently linked to the ROW and are in the planning/approval process at this time.
  - Five (5) cases have been closed for the following reasons: 1 - death; 2 - entered nursing facilities; 1 - entered an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID); and 1 - family refused OAAS and OCDD services.
- **ROW Amendment 2019** - The amendment is pending final edits to the fiscal sections to include the approved restored rates and corresponding rate methodologies. Rulemaking has been approved by Medicaid and forwarded to the Division of Administration.

The following are the proposed changes to provide greater access to services/supports for ROW participants:

- Adding Monitored In-Home Care (MIHC) as a new service;
- Changing Day Habilitation, Pre-Vocational, and group employment rate methodologies from a 2.5-hour unit rate to a 15-minute unit rate (to align with Supports and New Opportunity Waiver rates);
- Clarifying one-time transitional services (Transitional Expenses Planning and Approval - TEPA) which are designed to assist individuals in making the transition from an institution to their own home or apartment in the community of their choice;

- (Under Community Living Services): Removing exclusion of parents of adult children as paid staff (Note: A parent may be paid staff of a provider agency if he/she is not the legally responsible person or authorized representative for waiver.); and
- Adding language to allow ROW participants on a case-by-case basis to exceed their individually assessed ROW acuity/budget to prevent institutionalization as approved by the OCDD Assistant Secretary/designee.

Note: Rulemaking cleanup will restore language to original birth to end of life as well.

- **Increase in ROW Companion Support Service Rate** - OCDD has increased the daily per diem rate to \$ 92.02 with a minimum flow through of approximately \$65 to be paid to the person providing the direct Companion Support. Companions may be family members as long as they are not the legally responsible person or authorized representative for the waiver.

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

The following figures reflect transition activities from January 1, 2019 thru September 13, 2019:

- The census of Pinecrest Supports and Services Center to date is 407.
- In calendar year 2018, PSSC admitted 32 individuals and discharged 39. So far in calendar year 2019, 32 people have been admitted and 24 people have been discharged.
- Seventeen participants are currently planning for a transition from the center.
  - One person is anticipated to transition within the next 30 days.
  - Three people are anticipated to transition within the next quarter.

### **EarlySteps**

- As of September 1, 2019, the EarlySteps program was providing services to 5,615 children and their families, an increase of 13 children compared to July 1, 2019.
- The EarlySteps advisory council, the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC), will have its next meeting on October 10, 2019. There is currently an opening on the SICC for the DCFS representative and a representative from Head Start. Applicants for these positions will be recommended by their respective agencies.
- The DD Council-funded *Inclusive Child Care Capacity Building* Project team concluded three professional development activities in the first year of the project. Participants were professionals from across the early childhood field including childcare teachers and directors, early interventionists, Child Care Resource and Referral Trainers, EarlySteps Regional Coordinators, Local Education Agency (LEA) Early Childhood representatives, as well as the Department of Education representatives.

- The US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) issued its **Differentiated Monitoring and Support (DMS)** designation to EarlySteps in August. The DMS is OSEP’s risk assessment of Louisiana’s results accountability.

**Background:** This process assesses the state’s level of “risk” in meeting OSEP’s requirements in the areas of results, compliance, and support. The areas identified for the risk assessment this year are child outcome results, compliance, fiscal and the SSIP. Based on the state’s results in these areas, OSEP then designates each state’s level of engagement or risk in these areas. The levels a state may reach from highest to lowest are Universal, Targeted, and Intensive. Louisiana’s results are:

Area	Level of Engagement 2019-20	Level of Engagement 2018-19	Level of Engagement 2017-18
<b>Child Outcomes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percent of children with exit scores</li> <li>• Child outcome data comparing Louisiana to national data</li> </ul>	Universal	Intensive	Targeted
<b>Fiscal</b>	Universal	Universal	Targeted
<b>Compliance</b> --based on compliance indicators from the APR	Universal	Universal	Universal
<b>SSIP</b>	Universal	Universal	Universal

This chart shows the state’s designations across the three years of this process and shows how EarlySteps has improved. OSEP reported that it is planning to resume “cyclical monitoring” with states, so the prediction is that Louisiana may have a visit next year.

## INITIATIVES

### Employment

- Through a collaboration with the Governor’s Office of Disability Affairs (GODA), Louisiana was able to receive the Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program (EFSLMP) Core grant from the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP). Through this grant, two OCDD vocational providers in two regions (3 and 4) each received technical assistance in the area of Provider Transformation. Each of those regions also received Technical Assistance in the area of Capacity Building. This grant ended in August 2019, and we are currently wrapping up activities. We will receive recommendations from the experts on how our state can move forward in our Employment First Initiative.
- OCDD State Office, Local Governing Entity (LGE) Offices, Support Coordination Agencies, and vocational provider agencies are in the middle of an online

Supported Employment training through Elsevier Training Program. This training will allow everyone to have a true understanding of employment and what it means for the individuals that OCDD serves. The training began in July 2019 and will end in December 2019.

- In July 2019, OCDD obtained membership with the State Employment Leadership Network (SELN) to provide our agency and our state with technical guidance in moving to become an employment first agency and improve our employment and day services. The SELN was onsite September 11-12, 2019 to have meetings with various stakeholder groups and gain insight into the current system. A report will follow with recommendations, and SELN will work with OCDD to establish a plan of action of how we will move forward.
- OCDD participated in the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) conference in September 2019. OCDD hosted a panel discussion session with vocational providers who have made steps to meet compliance for the CMS settings rule.

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

Recently the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) posted the LA Statewide Transition Plan (STP) Addendum, which was prepared in response to a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) inquiry dated April 4, 2018, for public comment from August 9-September 8, 2019. The addendum contained the responses from each of the program offices within the LDH, including the Office of Behavioral Health, Office of Aging and Adult Services and Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities. OCDD did not receive any public comments. LDH submitted the addendum to the STP to CMS on September 24, 2019. LDH is now awaiting final CMS approval of the STP.

### **Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration (My Place Louisiana) as of September 18, 2019 -- Cumulative Data**

Previously, My Place transitions were stopped as of December 31, 2018 in accordance with Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Money Follows the Person Demonstration Program rules. However, the program received an extension at the federal level which allowed states (such as Louisiana) with remaining grant funds to continue all operations including transitioning new participants. The remaining funds for My Place Louisiana will run out at the end of calendar year 2019. My Place is working to secure additional funds from a \$254.5M pool available to CMS for all states still participating in the demonstration.

- MFP activities provided:
  - Pre- and post-transition assistance requests total 583 with 286 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 include:
  - 110 referrals were made for HRAP.

- 32 families or individuals have moved into housing located by the contractors.
- Another 70 people received lists of appropriate housing options for their review.
- Total of 501 people have transitioned to the community with My Place supports:
  - New Opportunities Waiver (NOW): 388 individuals
  - Children’s Choice (CC) Waiver: 89 children
  - Residential Options Waiver (ROW - My Place): 9 children
  - Residential Options Waiver Pilot (ROW Pilot): 15 individuals

### **Access to Behavioral and Medical Intervention in the Community**

The following information outlines Resource Center (RC) activities inclusive of crisis referral and trends associated with placement requests to OCDD Central Office for the 2019 calendar year (covering the period of January 1, 2019 - September 13, 2019). Additionally, it provides a current update on the Resource Center and Local Governing Entity collaboration on the Non-Consensual Sexual Behavior (NSB) process as of September 13, 2019.

- For the period noted above there were 79 crisis referrals. Diversion efforts for 9% 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 72 cases that have reached resolution, 42% of these individuals have required admission to Pinecrest Supports and Services Center (PSSC).
- Forty-one out of seventy-two cases (57%) received a crisis consultation from the Resource Center, with the ability to divert 47% of these individuals from long-term institutionalization. As noted prior, 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 58% of referrals coming from institutional/acute care settings. Further breakdown within these settings reveals that 52% of these referrals were from psychiatric hospital settings, 24% were for persons who were incarcerated, 13% were supported in Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) settings, 9% were in an acute care setting, and 2% of persons were in a nursing 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 211 persons are receiving follow-up by the local oversight team. During this quarter’s reporting, one individual had a subsequent incident of NSB. This incident did not involve direct contact, and the 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. Technical assistance and consultation sessions were completed for all behavioral health clinic sites for the participating Local Governing Entity (LGE), and this provider received the second incentive and Basic Training and Education Designation and also received the third incentive for increasing capacity in accepting and serving youth with IDD and mental health needs. This Local Governing Entity (LGE) is in the beginning phases of launching an in-house study option for their new clinicians to establish a learning base of new staff. This option is in conjunction with the Local Governing Entity's (LGE's) Developmental Disability office and Resource Center staff. The didactic training series for the selected Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) provider was also completed, and collaboration remains active. However, due to limited numbers related to new admissions who meet grant requirements, OBH and OCDD are working on ways to continue the partnership with the Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) post grant sunset. An additional LGE completed the didactic training phase, and the intensive technical assistance and consultation phase is still in progress. A third Local Governing Entity (LGE) is arranging resources so that the didactic training phase can begin. There is anticipation that this project will begin in the next quarter. The didactic training series was also completed in three areas of the state for private clinicians interested in pursuing an Individual Clinician Basic Training Designation, and all participating clinician received the designation with competency checks completed.