

Office of the Commissioner
State of Louisiana
Division of Administration

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



JAY DARDENNE
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

June 16, 2020

Mr. Randall Brown, Chairperson
Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
PO Box 3455
Baton Rouge, LA 70831-3455


Dear Mr. Brown:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Developmental Disabilities Council for its ongoing collaboration with the Division of Administration and the Department of Health on the appropriate use of the New Opportunities Waiver Fund per statute.

In our July 2019 letter to the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (LDDC), the Division of Administration (DOA) and Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) advised that there would be at least \$1 million remaining in the New Opportunities Wavier (NOW) Fund. In addition to this, DOA and LDH committed that they would make a joint effort to coordinate and collaborate with the LDDC on how the NOW Fund is utilized.

This letter serves to memorialize the conversation held on Friday, June 5, 2020 between you, Shawn Fleming, Interim Executive Director of the Council, LDH Deputy Secretary Mark Thomas and OCDD Assistant Secretary Julie Foster Hagan in regards to the NOW Fund. During this conversation, you were advised that due to the state's current budget situation and future forecast, the Division will utilize the NOW Fund to annualize the previously approved initiatives for another full year in Fiscal Year 2021. This letter serves as the Division's continued commitment to have at least \$1 million remain in the NOW Fund, unless utilization of these funds is requested by LDDC and approved by the legislature for expenditures related to additional waiver slots. In addition, DOA and LDH remain committed to the continued collaboration with the LDDC.

Very Truly Yours,


Jay Dardenne
Commissioner of Administration