- '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 (October 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020).
Goal 1 Individuals with develo	pment 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-advo	cacy network will be supported in self-advocacy and in systems change advocacy.
1.1.1 Provide technical	No activity this quarter.
assistance and training	
opportunities designed to	On target: Initiative Expenditures
strengthen the self-advocacy	
network and the	
effectiveness of its systems	
change activities.	
Approx. FFY 2021 Cost:	
\$20,000	
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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1.2.1 Provide financial	
support and technical	
assistance for Partners in	
Policymaking and its alumni	
network.	

Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$90,000

The PIP Ad-Hoc Committee met October 29, and November 19, 2020, and proposed the following recommendations for the Executive Committee for consideration:

- 1) The PIP 2020 class move forward in a virtual format; those absent in the March session are accepted back; the January through February sessions are reviewed; and the March session is repeated for all;
- 2) A virtual format in 2021 for Partners in Policymaking sessions, open to anyone who would like to join in, recommending using PIP speakers based on their topics and gives participants an entire PIP class for a year in a PIP format, which will also work as recruiting tool for next year's applicant pool; and
- 3) To act as expeditiously as possible in signing a contract with Families Helping Families at the Crossroads for PIP.

The Executive Committee convened on December 2, 2020 and accepted all of these recommendations. A contract with FHF at the Crossroads was approved in December 2020.

On target: Initiative Expenditures

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 2021 Cost: \$215,000

As of December 10, 2020, LaCAN has over 6,100 members registered to receive information and action alerts related to home and community-based services, employment, education and early intervention.

Advocacy Activities

Since October 1, 2020, there have been no LaCAN action alerts or yellow shirt days.

LaCAN Leaders are in the process of planning formal legislative visits with key committee members. Legislative visit will be made through the start of the 2021 legislative session on April 12, 2021.

LaCAN continues to host 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.

Update on Leader Positions

There is currently a vacancy in Regions 1/10. The position is currently being advertised and those interested are encouraged to apply. More information can be found on the LaDDC <u>website</u>.

On target:

Initiative

Expenditures

LaCAN Leaders are in the process of planning regional legislative roundtables in collaboration with
their Families Helping Families Centers. These roundtables will occur throughout February and
March 2021. The roundtable schedule will be shared on the Council website in January 2021.
March 2021. The foundable scriedule will be shared on the Council website in January 2021.
The LeCAN Fell Leader Training was an dusted as Newsysher 40,0000. Leaders are reading
The LaCAN Fall Leader Training was conducted on November 12, 2020. Leaders engaged in
activities to enhance their understanding of the Council's 2021 advocacy agenda and discussed
creative ways to continue LaCAN activities virtually including legislative visits and yellow shirt days.
On target: 🖂 Initiative 🖂 Expenditures
lopmental disabilities and family members of individuals with developmental disabilities will have
s in systems change through participation on a variety of boards and commissions.
No activity this quarter.
On target: Initiative
Council members are supported in participation of Council meetings and other functions and have
been offered the provision of assistive technology to facilitate participation in virtual Council
meetings.
On target: 🛛 Initiative
LaDDC Orientation for new members has been scheduled for January 13, 2021. Invitations were
sent to self-advocate Council members to participate in a Discussion Series for Self-Advocates
hosted by National Association for Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD). Three (3)
Council members have participated in these meetings thus far.
1 1 2
On target: 🛛 Initiative 🗌 Expenditures

1.3.4 Support the Council leadership's participation in national training, networking events and advocacy opportunities. Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$7,000	The Executive Committee was invited to participate in peer-to-peer meetings with other DD Council Leadership members nationwide hosted by NACDD. These meetings are to be held quarterly with the first one being conducted December 10, 2020. On target: Initiative Expenditures
Obj. 1.4 Individuals with deve they need.	lopmental disabilities, their families, and professionals will obtain the information, training, and support
1.4.1 Provide financial support (from the entirety of state general funds) and technical assistance to nine Families Helping Families	Since October 1, 2020, Centers have assisted over 4,000 individuals with disabilities and families with information, referral, peer to peer and other supports. There have been 8287 units of information and referral completed with 63 trainings conducted with over 800 individuals in attendance. Data for the Centers' outreach activities will be provided in January 2021.
Regional Resource Centers across the state.	A <u>fact sheet</u> about the need for additional funding for the Families Helping Families Resource Centers was developed, posted on the Council's website, and distributed to Council members, LaCAN Leaders, and FHF Centers/Directors to be used in legislative visits and member meetings prior to the start of the 2021 legislative session.
	On target: 🖂 Initiative 🖂 Expenditures

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1.4.2 Produce and provide
information important to
individuals with
developmental disabilities
and their families through a
variety of electronic and
social media (Council
website, Facebook, and
LaDDC News).
,

1.4.3 Produce and

disseminate videos and other visual materials

important to individuals with

developmental disabilities

and their families regarding

featuring information

but not limited to the

following topics: self-

advocacy, obtaining

employment, grade promotion/graduation

The following 8 LaDDC Newsletters were released via listserv and advertised via Facebook and Twitter:

- 1. OCDD Stakeholder Session to Discuss Ending of COVID-19 Exceptions, October 1, 2020
- 2. RESCHEDULED: OCDD Stakeholder Session RE: COVID-19 Exceptions, October 7, 2020
- 3. Public Comment Sought on Council's FFY 2022-2026 Five-Year Plan, October 26, 2020
- 4. Council Seeking Applicants for Executive Director, November 12, 2020
- 5. Share Your Input with the DD Services Visuals Workgroup, November 20, 2020
- 6. Healthy & Unhealthy Relationships: Preventing Abuse/Exploitation Training, December 21, 2020
- 7. Supported Decision-Making: Right to Make Choices Trainings and Webinars, December 23, 2020
- 8. COVID-19 Appendix K Exceptions Extended, December 23, 2020

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.

- The Council's listserv has 5,445 active subscribers.
- Facebook has 5,476 followers and 5,166 likes.
- Twitter has 389 followers.

On target: X Initiative

Contractual activities with O'Neill Communications have been initiated. O'Neill Communications has created the theme *Fully Included: Empowering Louisiana's Disability Community* with the following subtopics as episodes:

- 1) Get to Know Us!
- 2) Advocacy
- 3) Education
- 4) Employment Resources
- 5) Direct Support Professionals
- 6) Waivers

O'Neill Communications is developing the look and feel, storyboard, and interviewing schedule for the videos and visual materials. O'Neill Communications has also created a presentation of this project to present during the January 2021 Self-Determination/Community Inclusion Committee meeting.

Annroy	FFY 2021	Cact
	FF 1 2021	C051.
\$51,000		

pathways, and accessing

home and community-based

services, including waivers.

On target: 🛛 Initiative 🔲 Expenditures

1.4.4 Provide financial support to develop an emergency response resource in partnership with other organizations to have a clearing house of educational materials, videos, etc. for people with developmental disabilities and their family members.	Contract initiated with Trach Mommas of LA to develop and manage an accessible website with emergency resources that can be accessed during times of natural disasters and states of emergencies. Contractor is in the process of researching and compiling a list of all available resources with an anticipated website launch date in the summer of 2021. On target: Initiative Expenditures	
Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$7,500		
1.4.5 Provide financial support to provide information on rights, accessible options and information related to voting. Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$7,000	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative Expenditures	
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.		
Obj. 2.4. Funding will be available	able to provide home and community-based waiver services to people with developmental disabilities.	
2.4.1 Advocate for adequate funding for waiver services.	During a meeting with the leadership of the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, staff advocated for the need to increase Direct Support Professional pay and discussed the amount funding needed to secure the increase.	
	On target: 🖂 Initiative	
Obj. 2.5 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.		

2.5.1 Oversee implementation of the Community and Family Support System Plan and advocate for adequate funding, the expansion of	A fact sheet about the need for additional funding for the <u>Families Helping Families Resource</u> <u>Centers</u> and a <u>two dollar increase in the base pay rate of Direct Support Professionals</u> was developed and posted on the Council's website. Fact sheets were also distributed to LaCAN Leaders and FHF Centers/Directors to be used in legislative visits and member meetings prior to the start of the 2021 legislative session.	
services, and consistent implementation of policy across regions, including, if necessary, changes in law and/or contracts with local governing entities (LGE's).	The Act 421 Children's Medicaid Option program stakeholder group continues to meet monthly to discuss the systems programming, policy development, and other program details. Recent stakeholder meetings have focused on development of Hospital and Nursing Facility Level of Care assessments. LDH is still awaiting approval from Centers on Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as the original requested implementation date of January 1, 2021 is unlikely. CMS has sent two sets of queries about the program, which the department submitted responses to timely. LDH has developed a website for stakeholders to view more information about this program. On target: Initiative	
Obj. 2.6 Louisiana will reduce reliance on institutional services for people with developmental disabilities.		
2.6.1 Advocate for utilization of the ROW 50 pilot and other opportunities to transition out of institutional settings.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative	
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.		
2.7.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent community support issues.	Council staff continues to participate in meetings with Emergency Management Disability and Aged Coalition in efforts to respond to COVID-19 and multiple natural disasters. On target: Initiative	

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2.7.2 Provide financial support for promotion, awareness, training and support in implementation of Supported Decision Making. Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$50,000

The Council has contracted with The Arc of Louisiana to offer statewide regional training events for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their family members to increase their understanding of Supported Decision Making (SDM), also known as the Dustin Gary Act of the 2020 Louisiana legislative session, and other legal options available in Louisiana.

A training schedule and registration information can be found here. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the training events will be held via online webinars rather than in-person at this time. The training schedule will be shared with all FHF Centers. People First of LA and Disability Rights LA. The Arc of LA and the DD Council (through websites and social media) are providing promotion of these events. As of December 23, 2020, three (3) trainings have been scheduled. The site will be updated as more trainings are scheduled.

On target: \boxtimes Initiative \boxtimes Expenditures

2.7.3 Provide financial support to establish pilot programs in multiple regions across the state on firstresponder tactics, approaches and resources in fostering relationships with and dealing with individuals with developmental disabilities and training for people with developmental disabilities on how to interact with first responders.

Interaction Advisory Group (IAG) developed a training plan to begin with the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office and to guickly spread training throughout the state each month. This plan will be enacted after the first training date of January 12, 2021. IAG is currently working on putting the finishing touches on a new presentation for training during this project – these changes began in mid-November. Throughout November and December, IAG contacted "Families Helping Families" as well as multiple autism affiliates across the state of LA and have been in discussion with them about assisting IAG with self-advocate participation within first responder trainings and community trainings.

Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$50,000

On target: \square Initiative \square Expenditures

2.7.4 Provide financial support to establish a training program on emergency preparedness and response relative to people with developmental disabilities Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$20,000	Niagara University has been identifying key stakeholders and establishing connections with disability organizations and emergency planning/preparedness/response entities statewide. The contractor reports that responses to these outreach attempts have been minimal. Their initial review of processes implemented in LA revealed a lack of representation from the disability community in planning, preparedness, response, and recovery. On target: Initiative Expenditures
2.7.5 Provide financial support to coordinate rapid response during a natural disaster or state of emergency for individuals with the most severe disabilities and medical conditions. Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$10,000	Contract initiated with Trach Mommas of LA to provide individuals with developmental disabilities and their family equipment and supplies not otherwise covered by their Medicaid or private insurance during natural disasters and states of emergency. On target: Initiative Expenditures
2.7.6 Provide financial support to respond to COVID-19 or other natural disasters. Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$2,500	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative Expenditures
	waiver services through the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) will have ty health care services that result in improved overall health outcomes.
2.8.1 Publicize healthcare provider continuing education opportunities.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative

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2.8.2 Advocate for waivers to provide access to services listed in the Freedom of Choice Provider Listing, continue exemptions and flexibilities initiated with COVID-19; and consider individualized emergency preparedness considerations for people with severe disabilities and medical issues.

The Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) held a stakeholders' meeting on October 14, 2020 to discuss the ending of the home and community-based waiver exceptions (Appendix K) implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These exceptions were set to expire in January 2021, but the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved extensions until at least July 2021. More information can be found in the <u>LaDDC News</u> sent on December 23, 2020.

On target: X Initiative

Obj. 2.9 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will have information and training on sexuality, sexual abuse and exploitation.

2.9.1 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 and publicize available webinars on these topics.

Approximate FFY 2021

Cost: \$55,000

Contract initiated with Team Dynamics, LLC. to offer training events statewide to increase adult self-advocates and their family members' understanding of healthy and unhealthy relationships and issues that lead to and ways to prevent sexual abuse and exploitation of individuals with disabilities. <u>LaDDC News</u> sent on December 21, 2020 to advertise upcoming initiative and scheduled trainings. Training schedule, location, registration and links to other informational webinars can be found <u>here</u>.

On target: 🛛 Initiative 🖂 Expenditures

Goal 3 Students with disabilities will have access to quality, individualized educational programs that address their unique skills, interests, and goals in inclusive environments.

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.

3.1.1 Advocate for increased focus and capacity within LDOE to address Special	No activity this quarter.
Education, including specific areas/issues (i.e., disability/topical/etc.)	On target: Initiative
3.1.2 Advocate for support structure in school systems that assures adequate understanding and skill to develop and implement IEP's and increased infrastructure of training and technical assistance provided to parents and schools simultaneously.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative
Obj. 3.3 Students with developin educational agencies and p	pmental disabilities will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice rograms.
3.3.1 Advocate for educational systems change based on emergent education issues.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative
Obj. 3.4 An increased number of students with disabilities are included in school culture.	
3.4.1 Provide information and promote inclusion and acceptance of effective models of school culture.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative

support to establish a Post-Secondary Inclusive Education Alliance to provide mentoring and technical assistance, host training events and develop resources designed to build the capacity of Louisiana postsecondary institutions in providing inclusive postsecondary education opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout Louisiana. Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$40,000	The LA-PIE Alliance is continuing their efforts with increasing inclusive Post-Secondary Education programs. Louisiana State University at Alexandria has conducted activities with the local public to garner financial support and interest in their newly established program which is scheduled to begin the Fall 2021 semester. More information on this activity will be reported after January 11, 2021. On target: Initiative Expenditures	
Goal 4 Students with disabilities are considered from the initial phases to the completion of planning and program development of educational policies and initiatives.		
Obj. 4.2 All schools (charter/m	nagnet) accepting public dollars will accept and serve all students with disabilities appropriately.	
4.2.1 Advocate for Type 2 and Type 5 charter schools	No activity this quarter.	
to be required to meet 85% rule of enrolling students with disabilities at rates similar to those found in traditional public schools and advocate for and monitor equitable funding based on Minimum Foundation Program (MFP).	On target: Initiative	

Obj. 4.3 Stakeholders will have increased opportunities to provide authentic input that will impact decisions on policies effecting students with disabilities.		
4.3.1 Advocate for increased meaningful opportunities for stakeholder input, improved practices to facilitate stakeholder input, and consideration of stakeholder recommendations.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative	
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.		
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.		
5.1.1 Advocate for employment support professionals to complete high-quality professional development for the improvement of service provisions and employment outcomes.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative	

5.1.3 Provide funding to build the capacity of employment providers in customized employment in a manner which will lead to certification through a competency-based certification program. Approx. FFY 2020 Cost: \$50,000	Due to COVID-19, Marc Gold & Associates will not be able to offer certification for the Systematic Instruction component of Customized Employment. LSU-HDC has also encountered delays in their efforts to become training and certification providers in Customized Employment due to the pandemic. However, the contract with Arc of LA was renewed for this activity so that more Employment Support Professionals (ESPs) may participate in Discovery and Job Development Gateways and Certification mentoring. This will allow multiple ESPs to be ready to pursue certification in Systematic Instruction either once MG&A can provide certification again, or by LSU-HDC once they have completed their requirements to offer training and certification. On target: Initiative Expenditures	
Ohi 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.		
5.2.1 Advocate for	No activity this quarter.	
employment providers to	The search of th	
have access to financial		
	On toward, M Initiative	
incentives to support	On target: 🔀 Initiative	
unserved and underserved		
populations including people		
with the most substantial		
employment support needs		
in competitive integrated		
individualized employment.		
individualized employment.		
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.		
5.3.1 Share the benefits	No activity this quarter.	
planning services to a variety		
of agencies and	On target: Initiative	
stakeholders.		

5.3.2 Share DD Council employment videos featuring individuals with developmental disabilities on their jobs.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative	
5.3.3 Provide financial support to conduct seminars with Chambers of Commerce throughout the state on the benefits of hiring people with developmental disabilities. Approx. FFY 2021 Cost: \$32,000	 O'Neill Communications has conducted research and created the following documents: Curriculum content for the employment seminars; Initial outreach email/memo to potential partners at LDH, LRS, Governor's Office for Disability Affairs, Department of Labor/Workforce Commission, Disability Rights Louisiana and Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network; and Proposed Brand strategy with logo options, campaign description and background materials for distribution to partners and Council Members O'Neill Communications intends to host two (2) seminars each month from March through July 2021 with all 10 regions of the state being covered. On target: ☐ Initiative ☐ Expenditures	
Obj. 5.4 Individuals with DD will benefit from changes, consistent with Council positions, in policy and practice in employment agencies/programs.		
5.4.1 Advocate for systems change based on emergent employment issues.	No activity this quarter. On target: Initiative	