

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council  
Act 378 Subcommittee

July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Hi everyone. Welcome to the act 378 subcommittee meeting. If you are a member of the committee if you would turn on your cameras so we can establish a quorum. Can I just confirm that you guys can hear me? Do we have a quorum?

BRENTON ANDRUS: I believe so. Let me go ahead and do a roll call just to make sure I have everybody. If you are on the committee if you can turn on your cameras, please. Ms. Nicole Banks. Ms. Kim Basile.

KIM BASILE: Present.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Mr. Randall Brown.

RANDALL BROWN: Present.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Ms. Carmen Cetnar.

CAREMEN CETNAR: Here.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Ms. Jill Egle. Ms. Julie Hagan.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I'm here.

BRENTON ANDRUS: All right. And Ms. Bambi Polotzola.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: I'm here. But I see Nicole Banks is in the attendees.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Okay. We can move her over. And once she joins us you should have a quorum.

NICOLE BANKS: I'm here. Sorry guys. It put me somewhere else. I don't even know where I was.

BRENTON ANDRUS: I do see it looks like Jill is in as a panelist. Jill, are you there with us?

JILL EGLE: Yes. I'm here.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Okay. And you do have a quorum.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Okay. Welcome everyone. And I guess that was the introductions.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Those are the introductions. If you would like, I can go through the virtual meeting protocols?

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: That's fine. Please.

BRENTON ANDRUS: All right. So, a few of the rules

for our council or committee members that are participating via Zoom. I have them pulled on the screen here. You'll be considered present when you display a live feed video of your face with first and last name. Keep your microphones muted unless called upon by the chairperson. Make sure you raise your hand electronically to request the chair to recognize you to speak when you have questions. Once recognized, you can then unmute your microphone. For our public comment, during these meetings you can raise your hand if you have a comment that we're on at that time. And once you're recognized from the speaker, give staff a minute because they can unmute your mike and allow you to speak. You can also post comments in the chat box. And those will be read out as well. And no comments of a person's character will be heard during committee meetings.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Okay. Thank you, Brenton. So, the first item on our agenda is to approve our April minutes summary which is shown on our screen. We'll just need a motion, and a second, and then a vote to approve.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Actually, Bambi, if no one has any objections it can just be approved by unanimous consent.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Okay. Are there any objections or is there any changes that need to be made?

NICOLE BANKS: Okay, Bambi. These meeting's minutes are a part of that expenditure report that we received that we were supposed to review. Just asking.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Can you restate that question.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. Up on I think if you scroll down on your screen a little on these minutes that we're talking about right here we were supposed to review expenditures by each services last meeting. So, is this where we approve or object? Just asking. I'm not sure.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: So, yeah. I see what you're talking about. If you could scroll down, Brenton, if you can scroll down to the second page towards the

bottom. I think that's what she's talking about. That hyperlink. So, we discussed it. So this is just the notes talking about basically reflecting what was discussed. So, we're just voting to say this meeting summary accurately reflects what was discussed.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. I was just making sure. That's all.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Okay.

NICOLE BANKS: No objections here.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Okay. If there's no objections then the motion, I mean the minutes are approved by unanimous consent. And now we'll move onto the next item on the agenda which is the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities. And I don't see Tanya, but I see Julie. So, you'll be giving the report, Julie?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Tanya's on. I just moved Tanya over from attendee from panelist.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Okay.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Give her a second. She'll be able to chime in, I think.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Hi, Tanya.

TANYA MURPHY: Here I am. Okay. Well, I got all the information from all 10 of the LGEs. They send their information to me individually and then I put it together on this spread sheet. I can give you a play by play of each individual LGE. That would take a little extra time. But I think I'll just bring to your attention that Imperial Calcasieu is at 77 percent. But with all the issues they're having there in the Lake Charles area, they've been having some trouble. You know, the people have evacuated. They haven't had anyone to spend their money on. They're having some issues with all of that. With all of the devastation in that area I can understand why they would be a little low in percentage. But again, I just want to remind everybody that this is not an end of the year report. This is the fourth quarter report for the DD Council for the act 378 subcommittee. So, they really have not received all of their invoices yet. So, their

final amounts is going to be a little higher than this. But they've all done a pretty good job even thus far. There's quite a few 99 percent's and 98 percent's where they've spent year to date. So, if you want to combine all 10 LGEs we have an 89 percent expended year to date. So the whole state together has served in the individual and family support program. ,478 people for a total of having spent 7,223,277-dollars. Let's see. There is, one of them is low. Northeast Delta. And Northeast Delta put a little note from the LGE that said billing is accepted through the July 10th. Therefore, the expended amount will increase for the final yearend report. Does anybody have any questions for me about the individual and family support?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Tanya, this is Brenton. Just a quick question. So pretty much for those that are less than let's say 90 percent. So, if we're looking at Acadiana, Imperial Calcasieu, Northeast Delta and Jefferson Parish. Are there any concerns there that they're not going to get close to that 95 percent or above? It seems like for a few invoices to come in at the end of the month seems like they have a lot of gains they need to make.

BRENTON ANDRUS: I hear you, Brenton. And it seems like every year on this fourth quarter report I'm like ugh, you know. And then when we get the final year report it's like everybody has done it. They've done it. So, I think it does seem pretty wild, but they do get a ton of invoices at the end of the fiscal year. And they spend a whole bunch of stuff like on one-time purchases at the end. And so, they're not only waiting for invoices to come in, but they're also going to just, you know, outright spend additional money that they might not have incorporated into these figures yet. So, I don't have any concerns. Other than Imperial Calcasieu, but that's not a concern. It's just a fact that I'd be surprised if they made it. But the other ones, I'm not concerned. I think they're going to make it.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Okay. So, no one's reached out

like they were concerned about the expenditures either. They think they're going to be on track once everything's said and done.

TANYA MURPHY: Right.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Okay. Thank you.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Jill Egle has her hand raised.

JILL EGLE: Yes. Ms. Tanya, I don't know if this pertains to you. But I'm on the DD Council and I love being active in the State of Louisiana for people with developmental disability. I'm always active on DD Council and everything, but do you know if your department if they pass for IDD and the services within the Medicaid. This is not a right time to ask, I'm sorry. I'm just curious cause I'm always trying to find a way for people with intellectual disabilities, so they're not pushed aside.

TANYA MURPHY: Oh, I want to answer your question. But I just didn't catch what you were actually asking me. What was your question again? I'm sorry.

JILL EGLE: I got an email alert saying....

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Jill, I think your video, or your connection is messed up cause we can't hear you. You're frozen.

JILL EGLE: Bambi, do I have to unmute myself?

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: No. It's just that you were frozen so we couldn't hear what you were saying.

JILL EGLE: Okay. Let me try this again. Hang on. Okay. So, let's see if I can get my video back up. Yeah. My question is I'm just curious if y'all can hear me now if with the end of the covid with the legislative session if that bill passed in terms of Medicaid and the government services?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: This is Julie. I'll take a stab at it. Jill, are you talking about the state, the Louisiana legislation or are you talking about the federal legislation?

JILL EGLE: The state. The state with the representative with our Governor John Bel Edwards.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Okay. So, with the state legislation what did pass is a rate increase for direct

care or for services that are provided by a direct support worker. And they are using money out of the new opportunities waiver fund. And we're still meeting with the legislators on that. And they're going to hear it this Friday in joint legislative committee on budget. But we did get (inaudible) and now we're just trying to figure out the other pieces of what will be tied to that funding. But yeah, there is going to be a rate increase for services provided by direct support workers. That did pass. Does that answer your question?

JILL EGLE: Yes. I appreciate what you're doing in Baton Rouge with Mr. Mark Thomas and everybody on the DD council. This is like the best gift we can ever give, and I appreciate that. Thank you. Y'all really made my day. Yesterday I turned 45 so that really made my day.

TANYA MURPHY: Happy birthday.

JILL EGLE: Thank you.

TANYA MURPHY: Do we have any other questions on the individual and family support report? Okay. I'll move onto the flexible fund family.

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Nicole Banks has her hand raise.

TANYA MURPHY: Oh, my bad. Go ahead.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. So, cause I don't know the acronyms for all of the regions just yet. I think it's called the SCLHSA, that one. And the FPHSA. Those ones up under the budgeted through the LFS and the LCS. Are those services they just don't offer because they're the only two that have zeros right there. Or like I'm just why are they the only two.

TANYA MURPHY: Yeah. I can answer that. So, there is a company called LFS and they are a separate company that some of the LGEs use to actually cut the checks. And so, they kind of funnel their IFS, their individual and family support money through the LFS company in order to get some additional funds for the district or authority. And so South-Central Louisiana Human Services Authority and Jefferson Parish Human Services

Authority do not funnel their money through the LFS. It's not a service. It's just a funding source. It's like not a funding source. Just a way of spending the money, I guess, through a different agency.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. I just wanted to know because, you know, just some of these acronyms and some of the things up on here I don't understand. And when I don't understand I have to ask and then I can ask a question if I don't understand from there.

TANYA MURPHY: For sure. That makes sense.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. I'm good. Thanks.

TANYA MURPHY: Okay. With the flexible family funds if you look at the expended year to date it's 99 percent. And so, they've served, the whole state has served, let's see. 1,870 children with the flexible family funds. And they've expended 5,380,590. Every LGE is either between 98 and 100 percent except for south central. And south central, I think they did make a comment on this document that they did say that they are in the process of filling their slots. They have some of their flexible family fund slots just weren't filled. But they're working on screening them so they can get that money spent. Does anybody have any questions with the flexible family fund report? All right.

Act 73 compliance report. This is the report that tells us out of the total amount of state general funds that each LGE receives they are required to put 9 percent of their state general funds towards these act 378 programs. And so, this report shows you the total state general fund amount that they received for this fiscal year. The total amount that would be equal to 9 percent of that state general fund amount. And then it shows the next column is the total amount that was actually budgeted by each LGE for these two programs. And then the next column shows how much they've expended so far this fiscal year. And then the last column shows how much of the 9 percent that they're supposed to spend have they spent. And we're looking for a total of 100 percent by the end of the fiscal

year. I think you can see a lot of them are over their 100 percent that they're supposed to spend, and everybody is pretty close. You know, if you look at the whole state statewide, they've spent 108 percent. For a total expended in both IFS and FFF programs statewide 12 million-dollars. 12,604,220-dollars. Any questions on the Act 73?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Nicole has her hand raised.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. Thank you for letting me speak. For the one that has 162 percent, that's like significantly over the rest of these guys. Like significantly over because they're like 162 percent. You know, I see 100 percent in one. 123. 137. But that's like 30 extra, you know. Why are they so high and when does the fiscal year actually end? Is it in December that this ends? Because then they actually still need more funding, right.

TANYA MURPHY: The fiscal year ended June 30th. So, it's done. The new fiscal year started July 1. And so, at the next DD Council meeting we'll have their final yearend report. They've got just a couple more weeks after to get all the invoices in. And the one that has 162 percent that's Northwest Louisiana Human Services District in the Shreveport area. And that's where I worked before I came to central office. And so, they are just absolutely amazing and that's why they have 160. I'll take credit for that. No. They would be so mad. No. What happened was they had always had this amount that they decided they would spend on IFS and flexible family funds. So, I know that when their state general fund changed, the amounts, their executive director said I'm not changing the amount that I'm budgeting towards IFS and flexible family fund. They're going to continue to get that amount from us and they've just never wavered from that. Which I know that the staff up there really appreciate and so do we. That he just considers it a priority and that's why he does it.

NICOLE BANKS: Got you. So let me ask this question since you did say that since he considered it



a priority. Are you guys like making, how much more people are you guys impacting with this since it is a priority. How much, you know, how many more-- not to put it like, you know, as in, you know, comparing one region to the other because you can't because of the population or whatever. But are you guys having a 30 percent increase. Has it been a, you know, 50 percent increase of people that have been serviced by this? Is it that?

TANYA MURPHY: You know, that is a great question. And this Act 73 has been in effect for two or three years now. Maybe three. And, you know, we have not gone back and done that data research to find out that since they have been required to put 9 percent in how many more people in comparison to previous years are they now serving. And how much more money are they putting towards the services. Honestly, that's probably something we should go back and do some number crunching and find out.

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah. Because if it is, then cool. Go for it. I mean I'm all for more people getting it out there, more people getting services, you know, that's available there. But if it's not making that kind of a difference that it needs to, just question it. You know, I would just question how it's being spent. That's all.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Tanya, is that maybe something for the next meeting that you could report out on? Just any increase, I guess, on the number of the individuals served. Is that what you were going to look at?

TANYA MURPHY: Yeah. You know, I thought we'd look at in comparison how much has been expended since the LGEs have been asked to put that 9 percent. And has it increased, decreased, how many people in comparison. I mean, you know, we'll just have to look at all the data and see if we can come back with some kind of report for you guys. And the other report I did send was the IFS approved pending funding report. There were only three requests on the report statewide. Two of them from Florida Parishes and one from Capital Area.

BRENTON ANDRUS: So, Tanya, I do have a question. I mean when you first started giving us this report there were upwards of 40 or 50 cases. So do you have any idea, it seems like every meeting it continues to drop and we're down to three. Just wondering if you've noticed or if they've reported like how they've been able to decrease the amount of folks that are just waiting pending funding.

TANYA MURPHY: Yeah. I can tell you Capital Area and Florida Parishes took up a bulk of this information had to list, and they were doing data entry incorrectly. And they were entering information in here that was not reflective of what was really happening at the LGE. So, when we talked about what requests actually went into the approved pending funding, asked them to define what it meant it was kind of a technical issue of just learning, just training on what they were supposed to be using this for. I think it was kind of, for Capital Area, it was just like-- I don't know if we have anybody from Capital Area that's actually on the call that might want to speak to it. Do we have anybody from Capital Area on?

HANNAH JENKINS: Ashley McReynolds has her hand raised.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Hey Tanya. Can y'all hear me?

TANYA MURPHY: Yes.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: So, there's only been one, if I'm reading this right, one request for incontinent supplies that was approved pending funding or in part. Is that how I'm reading it correctly?

TANYA MURPHY: There's only been one approved pending funding, yeah. For incontinent supplies.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Okay. Cause I sit on the family support group, and we approve pending and part. We approved three this past week in part for incontinent supplies because their max is 600-dollars.

TANYA MURPHY: At Capital Area?

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Yep. So, I don't know if this report is necessarily accurate.

TANYA MURPHY: This report is as of June 29th of

2021.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: So, this for the entire fourth quarter?

TANYA MURPHY: It's anything that was in the database that was approved pending funding as of June 29th, 2021. So, it might have happened previous to that and still been on the list. But I just, the parameter is as of June 29th. So, if you guys at your committee meeting approved a couple more last week or the week before, it's not going to be on this report.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: We approve in part a lot especially and particularly for incontinent because the max that they will approve is 600.

TANYA MURPHY: You approve them in part, but do you approve them pending funding? So, in other words, they don't actually get the service yet, you have to wait till the money is there.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: No. So, it's approved pending funding and in part. So, it's both.

TANYA MURPHY: Okay. But I didn't run the report for current as of today. It's as of June 29th.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Got yeah.

TANYA MURPHY: So, end of the fiscal year.

ASHLEY MCREYNOLDS: Okay.

HANNAH JENKINS: Coralis Gremillion has her hand raised.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Okay. Ms. Coralis, you're unmuted if you want to speak. I don't know if maybe we don't have a connection with her. I see that she's unmuted, but I don't hear anything.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Do we have any other questions? Okay. I think that would end OCDD's report unless you have something else.

TANYA MURPHY: Thank you.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: So next on the agenda is the Office for, sorry. The Office for Aging and Adult Services, the Arc of Louisiana, SPAS program.

KELLY MONROE: Hey, you guys. Sorry. Okay. You got it on the screen. Yes. So, this is going to be our fourth quarter report and we were actually able to

wrap up the whole contract in this quarter. We don't have as much as some of the other programs, so it was easy for us to do. So, this will be the end of the year report as well. So in this last fourth quarter we were able to serv. 9 people. Which was a little bit more than what we normally serve. Our normal amount is usually around 42, 43 people. So, of those there were 14 of those were African American. Thirty-four of those were Caucasian and one was Hispanic. Twenty of those were female and 29 were male. So, these all are people who range between ages 21 and 89. And serve across all regions with the exception of region ten. There's no one who's served in that area at this time. If we go to the next page, it kind of talks about the services that were provided in this quarter. So, 49, all 49 received case management or support coordination. Of those 38 received personal care assistance. Three received some type of either utility assistance or rental assistance. Seven of them where medical supplies equipment and stipends and/or stipends. And this month we had no vehicle or home modifications. So, we set out to provide and budgeted for 907,528-dollars. But due to several different issues related to covid there was some therapies such as like Stem Cell Therapy. One of the home modifications. And then we had two people pass away during this quarter and we did not meet that amount of money. So instead, the direct service amount that was covered was 862,060.01. Which kind of left us with a little over 45,000 of unspent funds. We do have those now allocated for the next year though. And they were allocated for this year, it was just that because of in-person issues they were not able to use the funds.

So, if we go to the next page, it covers the waiting list. And you can see here that we have people in all regions. There are 55 people total on the waiting list. So, the waiting list has gone down from last year. I mean last time. I want to say it was 65, but because we were able to do some onetime funds it's now down to 55 people. And we have people on the

waiting list in every area except for region six and region ten. I'm not sure, I know region six has been on there for a while. I'm not sure why people are not applying for services in that area. I know we talked about sending fliers and letting people know. And we have done some of those things, but still really just don't have anybody who's applying for them. And then of the waiting list there are 20 individuals who are African American, 30 who are Caucasian, one who is biracial and four that decided, did not choose to document what their race was. And so, there's 30 of those people are males and 25 are females. So, if we wanted to, or if we were able to fund the full waiting list, we would need like \$1.1-million dollars. And the majority of that would go to personal care assistance. Forty-six of the applicants were requesting personal care assistance. Three were home modifications. And 11 of them were medical supplies and stipends. And two people requested some type of therapy or counseling. So, I know I kind of went through that kind of fast, but not sure if anybody has any questions. I would be happy to answer them.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Do we have any questions on that report?

HANNAH JENKINS: Ms. Nicole Banks has her hand raised.

NICOLE BANKS: Yes, Ms. Kelly. I was wondering, the services, I know everybody required different services so it's hard to just pinpoint like oh, this one person is going to equal to this amount of money, right. You can't really do that with this, right?

KELLY MONROE: Yeah. If you look at that chart, we tried to do that as best we could.

NICOLE BANKS: I know I was looking at it.

KELLY MONROE: What we did we gave you like an average of what it normally cost. That was the best, the closest we could come to it by saying like home modifications. Normally, they cost about 15,000-dollars. So then if we have three people on the waiting list it would be 45,000. We tried to figure

out the best we could of how much it would cost.

NICOLE BANKS: Right. So, depending on whatever the person needs that's how it kind of goes. It can't really go by like I'm servicing this person, but this person may need five times as many services as this person, correct?

KELLY MONROE: Well, we put all the services down there so when they turn in their application, they may have multiple things on that application of what they say I could use. Like personal care assistance, but I really could use some home modifications. They'll both be on there.

NICOLE BANKS: Right. Yeah. I just wanted to clear it up just in case there's other people that's watching that may not know how the breakdown of this chart and all of these things worked. So, to better explain it and, you know, to put it out there like that that kind of helps people out so they can follow what's going on with these reports. Cause if you're just looking, you're like wait. That doesn't add up. Wait, how does one person. You know, I'm just saying how a regular person would be looking at it like yeah, you have to really dive deep in it.

KELLY MONROE: Yeah. This is all based on utilization. So, it could be where somebody may cost more. You know, like in medical supplies, for instance, the amount is normally around 3,000-dollars. So, a medical supplies and equipment and stipends. But the stem cells that we do offer someone and help pay for is much, much higher.

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah.

KELLY MONROE: But that's the first case that we've had something that high in a really long time in medical supplies. So, we do the best to try to average it out and to get a roundabout of how much it's going to cost.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay.

KELLY MONROE: Anybody else?

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Thanks, Kelly. Our last, I guess it is our last item. Office of Behavioral

Health. Do we have Dr. Savicki on?

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Yes. I'm here. Can you hear me okay?

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Yes.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: All right. Hello. So, my report will probably sound pretty similar to some of Tanya's reporting. Thanks, Brenton. I assume Brenton's the one controlling that. For putting that up on screen. So, I'll just start by running through a few things on the child report on the consumer care resources. Much like as like Tanya was saying, you know, this is not a final yearend report. A number of LGEs report that their reports don't include any of June invoices. So, there may be quite a bit that comes in that we see reflected on the yearend report once all of those invoices hit and kind of clear the system. But you will see that the LGEs, in general, are making pretty good progress. There are quite a few who are not at the 95 percent threshold of spending yet. But almost all of those folks I will tell you, almost all of the folks who are under 95 percent right now are folks, are organizations that typically do meet that threshold. There's actually only, most of those LGEs are not on corrective action plans for expenditures from last year. So, we do have a fair amount of confidence just based on past history that we will be able to get to that 95 percent expenditure rate by the time all those June invoices come through. But again, I won't know for sure until those yearend reports come in. Let me just pause there and ask if anyone has specific questions on the consumer care resources report on the child side.

Okay. Well, I'll move onto the flexible family funds side of the same report. Again, that's looking pretty good. There are our performance threshold on that side is for LGEs that have 90 percent of their slots, their budgeted slots filled at any given quarter. And they're all meeting that threshold at this point and have been all year. So, they're getting their slots filled pretty expeditiously and making sure

to pull folks off the waiting list and get them into slots once those slots open up. And slots for the behavioral health slide a lot of times slots open up based on kids aging out. Or moving out of the region. Any questions on that?

Okay. We can go over to the adult report. Thank you. And again, pretty similar story. There's, you know, sort of about half of the LGEs that have historically had this allocation to spend for adults. Of those we've got three that are fully expended already and two that are not fully expended based on, you know, what they had to report up through May. But neither, both of these LGEs that look to be under expended right now they historically have expended all of their allocations by the end of the fiscal year. So presumably we'll see progress on that when we see the yearend reports. And that's all I have unless there are questions, concerns.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Do we have any questions on anything for OBH? Office of Behavioral Health. Okay. Hearing none. Thank you, Dr. Savicki.

TANYA MURPHY: This is Tanya. I just wanted to interject that Coral is now, I think she can be heard over on Shanetha's. Shanetha Smith, I believe, is on the line and she would like to talk about the approved pending funding report. And in the question that was brought up earlier if we could recognize Shanetha.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Okay. Can y'all move her over to panelist.

BRENTON ANDRUS: She should be unmuted. She should be able to talk.

CORALIS: Hello. This is Coral. Can you hear me. I'm showing up as Shanetha Smith. I couldn't get my microphone to work.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Yes. We can hear you.

CORALIS: Okay. So, I think there were a couple questions. Brenton had a question about the number of entries on the approved pending funding report that were probably in excess of 40 and now it was down to a minimal amount. I would just like to explain the



process at Capital Area. It may be different in Florida Parishes, so I can't speak for them. However, what we do is during the course of the fiscal year if we have to approve something pending funding, we go back around January beginning of the third quarter and we look at all the cases that we have approved pending funding and the ones that we can fund we go ahead and fund those in January. So, depending on which council meeting you are looking at and exactly when Tanya pulled the report, there could have been 40 that were outstanding approved pending funding. However, when we come to the beginning of the calendar year, we look at those and we go back and fund as many of those as possible. So towards the end of the fiscal year that number will be drastically reduced. Does that kind of help you to understand that a little bit better? That's how we do it at Capital Area.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yes. It does. Thank you for that explanation.

CORALIS: Okay. And the other thing I think Ashley was trying to explain with regard to disposable undergarments. What we do typically during our IFS committee meeting is we fund those in part up to 600-dollars because we try to stretch the money as far as we can. And so, if a person may ask for 800-dollars in funding, we fund it in part which means they get the 600-dollars. If they run out of undergarments before the end of the fiscal year, they can submit another request and if we have funding available at that time, we will provide additional funding. But we fund those in part because we have-- this fiscal year, for example, we just kind of talked about this in our committee meeting. We have approximately 800 family support requests and we have about 1.5-million in requests that have come through the committee that we have reviewed. And we have about a 650,000-dollar budget to cover that 1.5-million-dollar worth of requests. So, we have to try to make very hard decisions and fund people partially as best we can to make the money stretch and go as far as it can.

TANYA MURPHY: Thank you, Coralie.

CORALIE: All righty. You're welcome.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Thank you. Okay. Do we have other comments or questions? We're really, really ahead of schedule. No one's complaining, I guess. Staff, is there anything else that we need to do before announcements?

BRENTON ANDRUS: I don't think so.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Nicole is raising her hand.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yeah. Nicole just raised her hand.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. The part that I talked about earlier before the meeting even started with the expenditure report that we were supposed to go over. Okay. So, I have a lot of notes, I have a lot of questions in regards to that. I just wanted to know when was the right time to ask. That's why I asked earlier. So, this is the right time, right.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: I think we can. Is there any problems with her asking questions about that now? We probably should have did it during the OCDD report.

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah, I didn't know where to ask.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: That's okay. So, Tanya, are you willing to take some questions about that?

TANYA MURPHY: Willing and able to take the questions. I'll answer as well as I can.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Thank you.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. So just after reviewing let me just get some things understood so I can get a better understanding. So, the encumbered amount. Is that the amount that was allowed and then the spent amount was the part that was actually spent, correct? I don't even know if y'all can see it.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Maybe Brenton, can you click on that link.

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah. It has all of the individual family support expenditure by service. The fiscal year of 2019 and to 2020. And it has every single one. The Capital Service, Central Louisiana, Florida Parishes, Jefferson--.

BRENTON ANDRUS: This one you see on the screen, Nicole?

NICOLE BANKS: No.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Scroll to page three.

BRENTON ANDRUS: This one?

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah. That right there.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Just an FYI, you will get an updated one of this, I think, Tanya, at our October meeting, right?

TANYA MURPHY: That's right.

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah. I know they just had some questions about it. I remember Ms. Bambi having a question about some of the services on there and the monies that was spent and stuff like that. So, when they said review it, that's exactly what I did. And yeah, I do have some questions about some certain things because the encumbered part, let's get that part answered first. So, the encumbered part. Like this part that's up on there says contracts and then encumbered and then spent. This encumbered amount, is this the part that was given to us?

TANYA MURPHY: Yeah. I can explain that for you. So, like let's say, for example, a family has asked for personal care attended services. And the family was given an agreement for the full fiscal year for 5,000-dollars. So, they have encumbered 5,000-dollars. And so then throughout the fiscal year they spend a little at a time, a little at a time and send in their invoices. So sometimes like around January they might look at that and say you've got an agreement to spend 5,000-dollars, but you've only spent 250-dollars or something. So, then they're going to take that encumbered amount and they're going to lower that agreement so they can free up that money and give it to somebody else. So encumbered means it's in an agreement with a family that they're going to spend that money on a service. And sometimes the family spends it all and runs out, and sometimes the family doesn't spend it all. So, you can have the encumbered, that's how much we are anticipating we're going to

spend. And then the actual amount spent is the amount. So sometimes there's money left on a table if the family doesn't spend everything that they said they needed or they said they would spend by July. We've got some families that, you know, they want to serve some money back for summer months. Which makes perfect sense. You know, we need a little bit more PCA. So, we've encumbered the amount in hopes that they'll spend it before June 30th. But there's times that we don't get it all spent because the family just doesn't get it spent. If that makes sense.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. So now that does make sense. So, the encumbered amount, there is a significant difference in some of these now. The only way I'll be able to accurately ask a question that I really want to ask since it's like this and I know it's a comparison from one year to the other cause there are extra money. Like a lot of extra money on a lot of these accounts that's like to me way excess amount. So, this next report should reflect those excess amounts, those encumbered amounts that was not spent should it be allocated somewhere else, and that money should show up on these reports, correct?

TANYA MURPHY: Well, no. Because I think this is the end of the year report from last-- Brenton, isn't this the end of the year report of last year.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yes. So, this report was originally given to everyone October 2020. And it stretched it to January meeting, the April meeting and so coming up next October you'll get a report that's going to be for the 2020-2021 year.

TANYA MURPHY: So, this is the end of the year amounts. So nothing is going to change from this number.

NICOL. ANKS: Right. Nothing will change from these numbers, but, you know, the next report for this year should show those amounts that was excess, right. That was in excess like where are those allocated funds. Because they're still there according to the reports. Some of them are still there. One of the

reports it just doesn't add up to me. I'm sorry. It just doesn't.

TANYA MURPHY: No. It's not something you can absorb after looking at it one time. There's just so much to look at.

NICOLE BANKS: I've been taking notes trying to understand.

TANYA MURPHY: So, on June 30th when our fiscal year ends there are some encumbered amounts that are not spent. And then that is just money that's left on the table. And then starting July 1 we go back to starting all brand new with all new agreements and a completely different funding amount. So, this that you're look at is the end of the year report for last fiscal year. And that's the end of the year report. The money that was leftover doesn't carry over to the next fiscal year. It's just money that wasn't spent.

NICOLE BANKS: So, is it given back to the government? Is it just sitting in a savings account? I mean, like what is it doing?

TANYA MURPHY: I can answer that one for you too. Because I used to think the same thing. Oh my gosh. What happened to all this money, right. It's not like we give the LGEs this pot of money and then if they don't spend it all it just stays in that pot. They send an invoice and then they're reimbursed for that amount. So, if it's not spent then it just wasn't spent. It's not like they got the money and then they still get to keep it. It's just money that wasn't spent and it stays in the state general funds budget, I'm assuming. Because it wasn't ever pulled out of it.

NICOLE BANKS: Oh, yeah. Yeah, cause I get what you're saying, you know. You know, I get what you're saying that it's just money that just wasn't spent. So, where you said it goes to the general fund, do we all know that that's exactly where it goes, it goes back into the general fund to be repopulated and reused. Because that's a lot of money that's being left on the table and there's a lot of people needing services with all these waiting lists we have, with all

the people that need to be serviced. So, if the money is still there and it can be used, why are we not using it? Just trying to make sense of it, you know.

TANYA MURPHY: That's well over my head when it comes to state general fund money. I don't really know. I'm assuming the state uses it to calculate their budget for the next year.

NICOLE BANKS: I mean, I get what you're saying. But it's a lot of money left on the table, not allocated and it's just sent back or, you know. Not saying, you know, it's just there or it's not spent so it rolls over, it just disappears?

TANYA MURPHY: Well, it's just that the money wasn't ever really sitting in an account. You know, it's not like it was just sitting there. It just was never billed for.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: This is Julie. Let me ask a clarifying question real quick. Brenton, can you go up a little bit so we can see the last, the bottom of the fiscal year. Sorry, the other way. There you go. So, like are you thinking that because they're saying that 1 million was encumbered, 779,000 spent, that that's 200 something thousand dollars.

NICOLE BANKS: Well, no. See how I learn. I work backwards instead of up. So, most people would have just looked at the encumbered years. So I went from quarter to quarter. And I did the differences. That's how I did it. That's just how I did it.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: And the part of what I was going to ask Tanya, so that is part of, you know, when we look at did the LGE spend their whole 9 percent. And when we look at it every quarter, I think this is probably, this is one that will probably tell you that is one thing that they struggle with. They don't want to leave money on the table. But at the same time because we work on a fiscal year basis and the money's only there, let's say you have a crisis that comes up in May or June. You also have to try to figure out how do I keep enough that if I do have something that comes up in May or June, I still have money I can spend. But

at the same time, I don't want to leave too much on the table. I think it is a balancing act. And even with some of those contracts, that's why I was asking Tanya, cause I think like you were saying if they then, if they say you have a contract for 5,000 but it looks like you're only going to spend 3,000. Does it still show up as 5,000 in encumbered or do they reduce that then to 3,000? I think that makes a difference too in terms of looking at the money that might be left on the table. And we may just need to take a look at how they do that. Because when you're looking at it, Nicole, like quarter by quarter they are adjusting each quarter. So, each quarter they're looking at hey, this is what was spent. Like Tanya said, we look like we have some leftover. So maybe we can start to fund some of the other priorities that we weren't able to fund at the beginning of the year. It really is sort of a balancing act, I think, throughout the year to try to make sure how you don't leave that money on the table. In terms of state general fund, you know, there's a certain amount that's allocated. Any state general fund that's remaining there is an ability to kind of use it to cover, but it does all go back to kind of the greater good. And they call that surplus. But then just so you have an idea, all of the money that is left as surplus at the end of the year then there are certain things that happen. We talk a lot about our new opportunities waiver fund. Sometimes that fund is zero. If you have surplus dollars there's a certain amount of money that goes into the new opportunities waiver fund. So, it is very, very complicated when there's money left. There is some helping to cover holes, but there is also then targeted areas it goes to where people know there's a need. And if you have additional funds. And we do have some of that money that goes back into the. You know, so it would then would be reinvested into developmental disability service system. That was lot of info. I don't know if that helps.

NICOLE BANKS: That did help. That did kind of

clear a lot of things up. Because, you know, just as working on this council and we are trying to do things for the best of people with developmental disabilities. Then yeah, I want to make sure that money it is going to the correct places that they're going to and to ask the question of where it goes to. I think that's appropriate because that's why we sit on this council. We got to know that our stuff and these funds that, you know, could have been used and may not have been used then it was being used for somebody in the community.

TANYA MURPHY: I also wanted to throw out there just while you're thinking about it. There are times that you encumber more money than you actually have available to you so that because you know that there are going to be some people that don't spend all their money. So sometimes that encumbered amount represents more than they actually have available to them. That's what I did when I was supervising individual and family support. I would encumber thousands of dollars more than what I knew I had available to me because I knew there were some families that were not going to spend every penny that they had given to them in an effort to play the game that Julie was talking about you want to spend all of it, but you also need to keep some of it available right up to end.

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah. Just from looking at all the reports and just the categories that you can see the spending. Some of them are consistent where it is no flexibility spending. It is a certain category that they do it in and others, you know, they right on target. And then others, you know, it is different. Yeah. I'm just looking at the report, just going through it all. Just an enormous amount of money to me. All I'm saying. Cause I'm hearing everybody's numbers and I'm hearing people with the funding stuff, and they couldn't have it because they didn't have funding. You know, you hear all these things, and you hear money being left on the table. Like well, maybe some of our money could have been used to fund that thing right there because they're a part of our



community, probably needed that. So, we don't know for sure if that went there or not. We have no idea. It's just going back to the general fund. And we just have to guess and estimate it is what it is. But sitting on the council I feel like we should know. And I mean I think that's it. Because this will go into all the questions cause I got stuff highlighted. I really do have a lot of notes cause I really did do what she told us. To review and go over it, so that's what I did. Just new on the council I'd just like to have a good grasp and understanding and everything before I just, you know, blurt it out, okay this is what I feel. I want to know all of the facts first, and then, you know, we go from there. So, I don't know.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: So, I think since the next meeting in October we will have this new report. And I think we'll have a broad discussion because it will be new numbers. And I know, as you said, in our last meeting we did, you know, we asked OCDD some of the things we wanted to see why is there discrepancies between certain types of categories of costs between different LGEs. And so, they said they were going to look into those type of things. So, I think in their next report they're probably going to incorporate some of those questions we've had about this report into that to be able to answer that better with like really current numbers. Is that right, Julie and Tanya?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Yeah.

TANYA MURPHY: Bambi, you were saying we're going to send the report. I'm going to try to get that to Brenton as soon as I can because it's about the end of the year numbers that we should have available to us well before the October meeting. So hopefully, I'll be able to get that to him to give him plenty of time to put it together. Because I have to send it in ten reports one for each LGE. And then he puts it together and does his magic. Math magic. But yeah. Bambi, I don't know if that answer your question, but we will be supplying that information.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: So, I guess, but my question was

in regards to we discussed at the April meeting like there's discrepancies in spending in certain categories by different regions. We talked about some regions spend a lot on incontinence supplies. Some spend a lot on dental. And as I recall you and Julie said that y'all were going to kind of analyze that a little further. My question is for the new October report for this new fiscal year, y'all will be able to answer some of those questions that you weren't able to answer necessarily for this report from 2020.

TANYA MURPHY: Right. As a matter of fact, we can use the numbers from 2020 and this one. We have a DD Council meeting-- not DD Council. That's what you guys are. The DD directors quarterly meeting on July 29th and we've slated some time to talk with them about some of those things that, you know, one LGE will spend 150,000 dollars on incontinent supplies and the other LGE spends zero. And it's like why is it so different. How is the one LGE providing that service without using IFS funds and why. You know, that is absolutely something that we're going to be throwing out there and trying to get some information from the LGEs specifically. Cause I think that was the main discussion was, are they using some sort of resource in this LGE that the other one could use as well to fund that service rather than using IFS funds. Or do they not realize they can or what's the difference. And so yeah, we're going to be looking into that and gathering that information, so we'll be prepared to talk about it at the next meeting.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Thank you. So, Nicole, is that sufficient for you to answer your questions?

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah. Because once we get the end of the year of the final reports for 2020-21 then yeah, of course. Cause then I'll be able to see numbers.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Do we have any other, I guess, questions before we go to announcements? Okay. Do we have any announcements? Staff or members.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Just a reminder for everyone. So tomorrow we have our self-determination community

inclusion committee from 9 to 12. And then from 2 to 4 is the executive committee. And then on Thursday from 8:30 to 3:30 is the full council meeting. So, if you go to our council's meeting page on the website you can access all of the registration and all the materials that we've received for all of those meetings.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Thanks, Brenton. Anything else? Anyone else have any announcements? Okay. If not, we'll see you guys in meetings over the next two days. So, thank you. Thank you, staff.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Bambi, can you ask if there's any objections for ending the meeting, please.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Any objections? Thank you, Brenton. Okay.

BRENTON ANDRUS: All right. Now we can end.

BAMBIE POLOTZOLA: Unanimous consent. Okay. Thank you, guys.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Thanks.