

Council's 2022 Legislative Agenda

January 24, 2022

The Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council adopted its 2022 Legislative Advocacy Agenda with input from both its grassroots advocacy network LaCAN (Louisiana Council's Advocacy Network) and Families Helping Families (FHF) Centers. Thank you to all the LaCAN members, LaCAN Leaders and FHF Centers who shared their agenda recommendations!

Home- and Community-Based Services

The Council will advocate for funding to ensure comprehensive dental coverage for all adults enrolled in any Medicaid waiver for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

Fund Comprehensive Dental for Adults with I/DD

Education

The Council will advocate for funding to increase and expand postsecondary inclusive education opportunities in Louisiana for individuals with I/DD. Currently, of the 64 higher education institutions in our state, only six offer inclusive higher education opportunities.

• Fund New & Existing Postsecondary Inclusive Education Programs for Students with I/DD

The Council will also advocate for additional oversight and accountability related to Act 456 of 2021 which requires local education authorities of public and charter schools to adopt policies relative to the installation and operation of cameras in special education classrooms upon request.

 Address Oversight & Accountability Regarding Cameras in Special Education Classrooms

Get Involved

The 2022 Legislative Session begins March 14th and will conclude on June 6th. Individuals with disabilities, family members, and advocates are encouraged to take part in the Council's advocacy efforts by participating in upcoming *virtual* roundtables and legislative visits.

- Virtual roundtables will be held by each region of the state. These virtual events are an opportunity to gain more information about the 2022 Legislative Advocacy Agenda and connect with legislators. See the <u>2022 Legislative Roundtable schedule</u> and register for yours today!
- Interested in advocating for these agenda items with your legislator and regional delegation? Reach out to your <u>LaCAN Leader</u> to participate in legislative visits.

On Tuesday, January 25th, at 9:30 AM, the Governor's proposed Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 23 (beginning July 1) will be presented to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. Advocates are encouraged to watch the presentation to see what impacts, if any, the proposed budget may have on disability services. You can watch the committee meeting live from the

<u>legislature's website</u>. When the meeting is in progress, click the camera icon to access the broadcast.

For questions about virtual roundtables, legislative visits, or participating in other advocacy events, contact your <u>LaCAN Leader</u> or <u>FHF Center</u>.

Contact Us

LaDDC News is the electronic newsletter for the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information above, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below.

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