

Executive Director's Report
October 2022 Council Meeting

Bill Signing

On July 5th, Governor Edwards signed SB192 (Postsecondary Inclusive Education) and SB45 (Cameras in Special Education Classrooms) into law.

Partners in Policymaking Graduation

On July 16th, the Classes of 2020 and 2022 had their graduation ceremonies – in person.

Federal Reporting Update

September 30th – The Louisiana DD Council State Plan was approved. On the same day, we were also notified that our FY20 and FY21 Program Performance Reports (PPRs) had been approved. FY22 Program Performance Report will be due in December of 2022.

Meetings Attended by Council Staff

Ebony Haven:

July 5 – **Bill Signing with Governor Edwards for SB192 and SB45**

July 14 – **Membership Meeting**

July 16 – **Partners in Policymaking Graduation**

July 25 - 28 – **GODA Conference**

August 3 – **Partners in Policymaking Debriefing**

August 6 – **LaCAN Call**

August 18 – **LaCAN Leader Summer Training**

August 23 – **Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) Meeting**

September 9 – **Staff Training**

September 15 – **2023 Legislative Kickoff**

September 19 – **GACDA Education Committee**

September 19 – **OCDD Family as Paid Caregiver Focus Group**

September 20 – **GACDA Legislative Committee**

September 21 – **GACDA Full Council Meeting**

September 26 – **OCDD Family as Paid Caregiver Focus Group**

September 27 – **Attorney General Civil Law Training**

September 30 – **Membership Committee**

Brenton Andrus:

July 13, September 14 – **OCDD State Advisory Committee (SAC)**

Multiple updates were shared from the Regional Advisory Committees and the department. Updates included information from the 2022 Regular Legislative Session and other needs.

Topics included:

- OCDD budget update, legislative update, federal funding received from the American Rescue Plan, an update on Act 421 Children’s Medicaid Option program, and SUNS assessment updates.
- Updates on the COVID19 pandemic and continuation of the Appendix K exceptions.
- Implementation of comprehensive dental for adults on OCDD waivers and residing in ICF/DDs.
- Report on complaint and investigative processes by the Health Standards Section was also discussed.

Note many updates provided at the July meeting were also shared with the full Council during agency updates at its July quarterly meeting. Many of the September updates will also be shared at the Council’s October meeting.

September 19 – **GACDA Education Committee**

Multiple updates and discussions were had on many education issues including, but not limited to,

- Act 576 of 2022 and updates to membership of local special education advisory councils
- Department of Education efforts to codify cameras in special education classrooms into its rules. Plan to disperse funding to districts based on estimated number of eligible classrooms and funds should be available by end of September. Expenses incurred will be reported to BESE annually (in June)
- Update on LaPIE legislation and progresses made during first two meetings. Hoping to expand postsecondary inclusive education opportunities in North LA

September 20 – **GACDA Legislative Committee**

Members discussed legislation passed in previous sessions that may need additional follow up. It was determined that additional oversight would be needed to ensure closed captioning services were offered by the legislature and continued work with the taskforce to ensure virtual participation in public meetings were accomplished. A taskforce regarding accessible voting was also created last session but has not met yet. The committee also discussed possible new legislation including incontinent supplies for adults on all Medicaid waivers and requiring generators for ICF/DDs. There was also discussion about continued efforts to get additional funding for Community Choices Waiver slots and the possibility of creating a fund for the OAAS population similar to the NOW Fund. A motion was passed to recommend GACDA send a letter to ensure funding is added to the base budget that aligns with American Rescue Plan funds so there will be continued stable funding at current rates and amounts.

Meetings Attended by Executive Director (July 1 – September 30, 2022)

- July 5 – Meeting with Julie Foster Hagan (OCDD)
- July 7 – National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) Public Policy Meeting
- July 8 – Meeting with Chair

- July 13 – Meeting with LDH HR
- July 13 – National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) Weekly ED Call
- July 14– LaDDC Membership Ad Hoc Committee Meeting
- July 16– Partners in Policymaking Graduation
- July 20 & 21 – DD Council Committee and Full Council Meetings
- July 25 - 28 – Governor’s Office on Disability Affairs Conference
- July 28 – ITACC Webinar: Framework on Assessing Self-Advocacy Outcomes
- August 3 – Louisiana Rehabilitation Council Meeting
- August 4 – Youth Leadership Forum Ad Hoc Committee Meeting
- August 5 – Meeting with Julie Foster Hagan (OCDD)
- August 17 – Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council Meeting
- August 18 – LaCAN Summer Training
- August 18– Evaluation Capacity Building: BUDDIES Project
- August 19 – Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline
- August 30– Meeting with Chair
- August 30 – Meeting with LDH Budget for FY24 Budget Request Review
- August 31 – Meeting with Youth Leadership Forum Committee Chair
- August 31 – NACDD Weekly ED Call
- September 1 – NACDD Public Policy Meeting
- September 1 – Meeting with Vendor
- September 6 – Meeting with Julie Foster Hagan (OCDD)
- September 7 – NACDD Weekly ED Call
- September 8 – Meeting with Voting Commission and other DD to discuss voting systems
- September 9 – Staff Training
- September 13 – LDH Budget Training
- September 14 – NACDD Weekly ED Call
- September 15 – LaCAN Kick-Off Meeting
- September 16 – Meeting with Chair
- September 19 – Postsecondary Inclusive Education Advisory Council
- September 20 – GACDA Accessibility Committee
- September 20 – DD Councils State Policy Task Force
- September 21 – GACDA Meeting
- September 23 – OCDD Virtual Visits Focus Group
- September 27 – Attorney General Civil Law Training
- September 27 – LAPIE Focus Group
- September 28 – NACDD Weekly Update Call
- September 30 – Membership Ad Hoc Committee Meeting