

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee Meeting Summary
Wednesday, January 18, 2023
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

You can watch the meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/LADDCouncil/videos>

View [meeting transcript](#).

Members Present: Libby Airhart, Cheri Crain, Jill Egle, Julie F. Hagan, Jill Hano, Angela Harmon, Tory Rocca, Chaney Savoy, Brooked Stewart

Members Absent: Patti Barovechio, Kim Basile, Roslyn Hymel

Staff: Brenton Andrus, Rekeesha Branch, Lauren Brown, Stephanie Carmona, Amy Deaville, Ebony Haven, Hannah Jenkins, Anne Montelaro

Others Present: Gwendolyn Amelin, Anastasia Boudreaux, Rashad Bristo (in for Kim Basile), Brenda Cosse, Brandi Croft, Kristie Curtis, Nicole Dejean, Mylinda Elliott, Nicole Flores, Julie Folse, Corlis Gremillion, April Hampton, Lynsey Hebert, Keisha Hertzock, Janice Louis, Ashley McReynolds, Charlie Michel, Christina Martin, Kelly Monroe, Tanya Murphy, Kristen Reed, Lenora Robinson (in for Patti Barovechio), Vivienne Webb,

Rashad Bristo called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. A quorum was established.

Approval of the [October Meeting Summary](#) passed by unanimous consent.

Non-Contractual Activities

Julie Hagan shared multiple updates on behalf of the [Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities](#) (OCDD) and the [Bureau of Health Services and Financing](#) (Medicaid). Additional information can be found in Ms. Hagan's [SD/CI report](#).

Ms. Hagan shared a detailed update on the implementation of [Act 421 Children's Medicaid Option or TEFRA](#). As of December 31st, over 1,000 applications received with 877 approved. In the report, this information is broken down by each local governing entity (LGE). You can also find a breakdown according to age, race, ethnicity and gender.

A few other topics shared include:

- Transportation service amendment in the Supports Waiver is out for public comment. Transportation rate increases in the New Opportunities and Residential Option Waivers will be paid out retroactively beginning in January.
- Reports dealing with studying individuals with co-occurring intellectual and developmental disabilities and behavioral health needs, studying barriers to hiring

direct support workers, and studying costs of nursing have been sent to the Secretary for approval. Those finalized report will be made public and sent to the legislature in February.

- The state plan amendment to add dental coverage for adults in intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ICF/IID) is out for public comment. Comprehensive dental services for adults in waivers began in July and the department continues to work with providers and case managers to ensure individuals know how to access this service.
- OCDD will be hosting in-person and virtual meetings in February to advise individuals and families on all changes that will take place once the Public Health Emergency (PHE) expires. These meetings will detail the rules and regulations in place before COVID, during COVID, and after COVID to assist with planning. The PHE was extended last week for another 90 days. Federal Health and Human Services continue to say they will give states a 60 day notice prior to ending the PHE.

Ms. Hagan also shared information about Medicaid unwinding. As a part of the Cares Act, states could draw down additional federal dollars (enhanced FMAP) for services provided. However, states could not remove anyone from Medicaid in order to keep drawing down these additional dollars. Changes were made recently, and those additional federal dollars, beginning April 1st, will decrease incrementally each quarter until ending December 31st. This gives states time to determine Medicaid eligibility of participants before removing those that do not qualify at the end of the year. The department will begin sending letters out to participants with information needed to determine continued eligibility. It was also note that someone cannot be remove from Medicaid for not responding to letters mailed to them. A second contact (email or phone) must be completed first.

Contractual Activities

The committee received multiple updates on contractual activities including Partners in Policymaking (PiP), LaCAN, Families Helping Families Resource Centers (FHF) and other initiatives of the Council that began with the [Fiscal Year 2023 Action Plan](#). Additional information about these activities can be found in the Council's quarterly [Status of Planned Activities Report](#) under goals one and two in addition to reports linked in the [committee's agenda](#).

Recommendations for FFY24 Action Plan

The committee discussed activities to recommend to the Planning Ad-Hoc Committee for inclusion in the Council's FY2024 Action Plan under goals one and two which will begin October 2023.

A motion by Jill Hano, second by Chaney Savoy for the committee to recommend the planning ad hoc committee consider the following activities/initiatives for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 24 Action Plan and will offer this recommendation to the full Council for consideration

- Voting awareness training specifically for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Continue the following current initiatives (providing consistent positive feedback throughout FY23):
 - Activity 1.1.5: Video initiative and ensure videos specific to voting and accessibility are included
 - Activity 1.1.6: Supported Decision Making trainings
 - Activity 2.2.1: First Responder Trainings
 - Activity 2.2.2: Emergency Preparedness and Response Training

passed without objection, no abstentions.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:47 PM by unanimous consent.