



Action Alert #5

House Appropriations to Discuss LDH Budget

March 29, 2023

On **Tuesday, April 4th, at 9:00 AM**, the Louisiana Department of Health's (LDH) proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (beginning July 1st) will be presented to the House Appropriations Committee ([Meeting Notice](#)). Unfortunately, funding for our Families Helping Families (FHF) Regional Resource Centers is **NOT** included in the proposed budget.

During the last two legislative sessions, an additional \$500,000 in state general fund (SGF) was added to the Council's budget specifically for FHF Centers. The Council's request to include this additional funding in its FY24 budget was denied leaving these Center's in an unfortunate situation. Total SGF needed is \$1,007,517. More information about this issue can be found [here](#).

Now is the time to let members of House Appropriations know how important our FHF Centers are!

How to Take Action

Share your personal story and explain how you have been impacted by FHF Centers and why their funding is important to you.

1. **Email or call** the Chair and members of the House Appropriations Committee *before the committee* meets Tuesday, April 4th! Find your member(s) of the House Appropriations Committee at the end of this alert.
2. Email metoyers@legis.la.gov your public comments about the budget:
 - Only statements emailed to the address above and received prior to noon Monday, April 3rd will be included in the record for this committee meeting.
 - With your comments, please include your name, address, phone number, email address and let them know you are writing about the Louisiana Department of Health's budget and funding for FHF Centers.

If you would like to watch the committee meeting, you can do so via the [legislature's website](#). When the meeting is in progress, click the camera icon to access the broadcast.

Confirm Your Action

- Email your [LaCAN Leader](#) after you take action

- Why confirm your action? This helps the Council know how effective we are reaching you with important information and engaging members across our state in advocacy for systems change.

Tips & Tools for Advocacy

Looking for tips and tools to help you in your advocacy? Check out the Council's [Advocacy 101](#) page.

You can also find tips for:

- [Writing/emailing your legislators](#)
- [Calling your legislators](#)
- [Writing your story](#)

Upcoming Legislative Visits

Individuals with disabilities, family members, and advocates are encouraged to take part in LaCAN's advocacy efforts by participating in upcoming legislative visits. If you are interested in advocating for any of the items on the Council and LaCAN's [advocacy agenda](#), reach out to your [LaCAN Leader](#) today. Visits are occurring in your local area and at the Capitol in Baton Rouge.

Contact Us

LaCAN is an initiative of the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information in this email, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

Phone: 1-800-450-8108

Email: info@laddc.org

Website: www.lacanadvocates.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LaDDCouncil

Twitter: www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil

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Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

Find your member of the House Appropriations Committee!

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Committee Members are sorted by region. Find your region!

