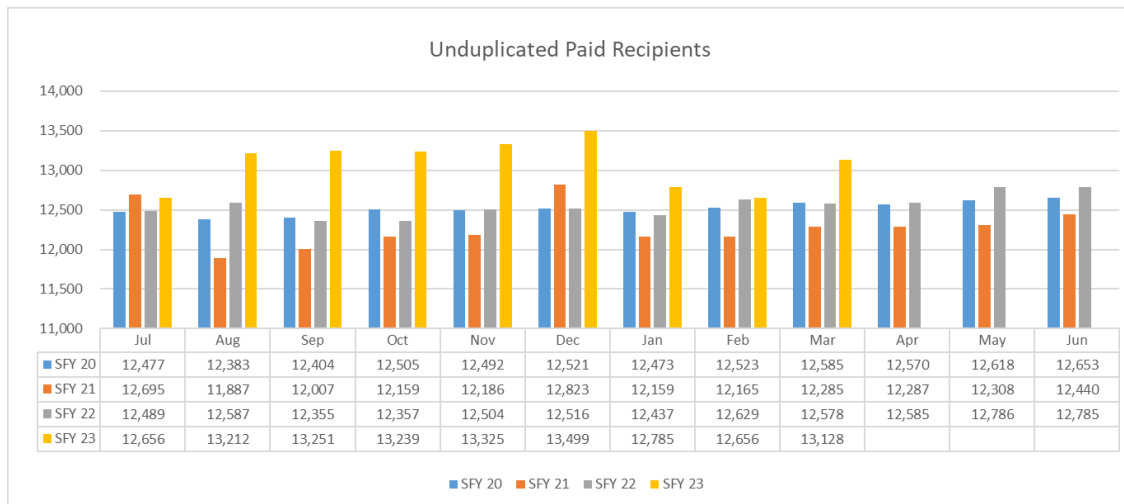


**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL QUARTERLY  
REPORT FOR THE 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER OF 2023**

**April 6, 2023**

**SERVICES DATA**

**Waiver Participant Data**



**\*Unduplicated Paid Recipients – monthly total of people who received a paid waiver service (by date of payment).**

**Annual number of waiver individuals receiving paid services**

**SFY20 – 13,268**

**SFY21 – 13,154**

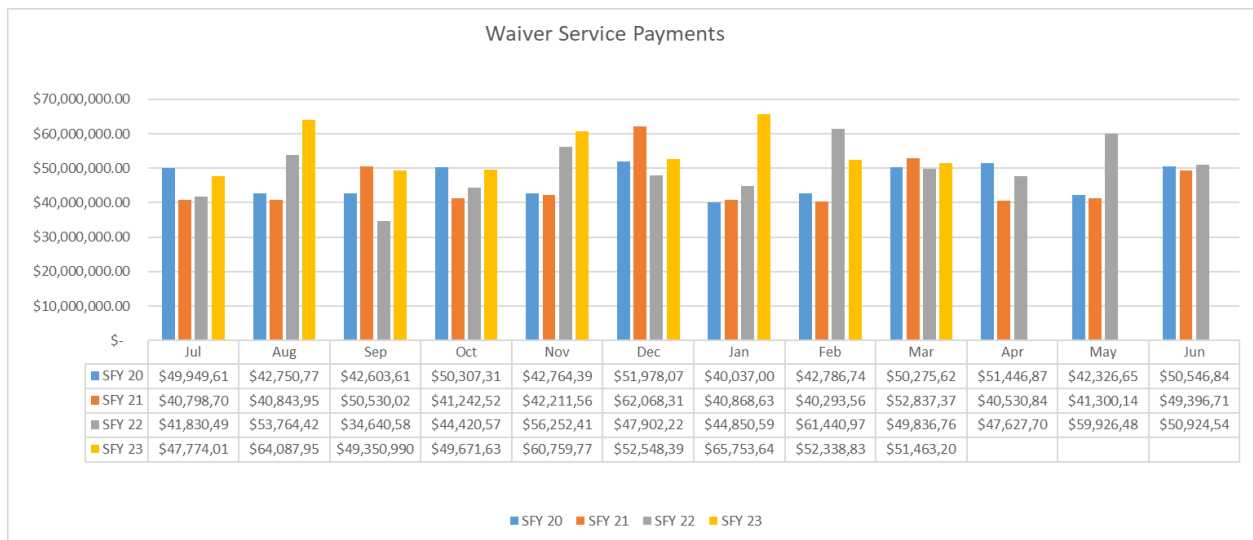
**SFY22 – 13,323**

**SFY23 – 13,807**

### Waiver Individuals Receiving Paid Services by Race

REGION	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE	ASIAN INDIAN	ASIAN UNKNOWN	BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN	CHINESE	JAPANESE	NATIVE HAWIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER	OTHER ASIAN	OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER	OTHER UNSPECIFIED	VIETNAMESE	WHITE	Grand Total
1	1	5		625		1				144	6	199	980
2	1	19		942	1			1		245	24	696	1,929
3	19	3		427					1	144	17	700	1,311
4	8	5	1	791						313	15	1,234	2,367
5	1	4		193			1			90	6	463	758
6	4	1		301						106	3	441	856
7	3	2		556						142	17	442	1,162
8	1	3		616				1		115	14	507	1,257
9	4	3		354				1		262	17	1,105	1,746
10	2	9	2	480						287	13	643	1,436
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5,285</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,849</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>6,430</b>	<b>13,803</b>

**\*Note: The breakdown of race in this table reflects those categories for which there is an identified member. There are some duplicates, as some people self-report to be in more than one category.**



**\*Waiver Services Payments – the amount paid for all waiver services for each month (by date of payment).**

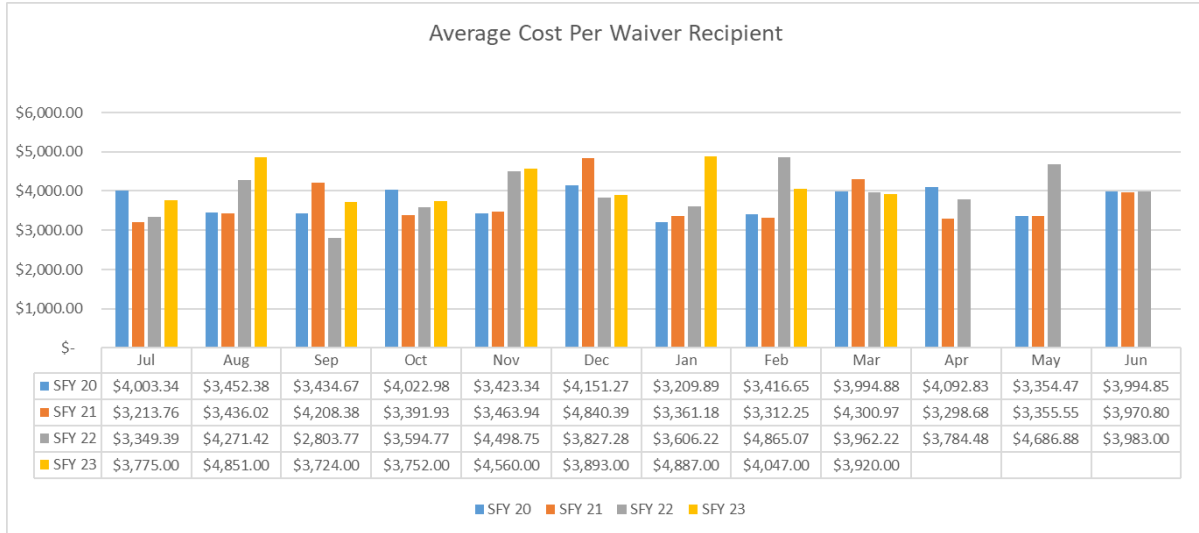
### Annual Totals for Waiver Services Payments

**SFY20 - \$557,773,523**

**SFY21 - \$542,922,366**

**SFY22 - \$593,417,775**

**SFY23 - \$493,748,444**



### Annual Average Cost of Waiver per Recipient

**SFY20 - \$44,552**

**SFY21 - \$44,154**

**SFY22 - \$47,182**

**SFY23 - \$50,288**

## OCDD Participant Data

### Screening for Urgency of Need (SUN)

The Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) uses the Screening for Urgency of Need (SUN) to identify if an individual with a Statement of Approval has unmet needs for support that can be met through Home and Community Based Waiver services and to connect individuals and families with services for which they may qualify. If an individual has urgent or emergent unmet needs, then they receive an offer for a Home and Community Based Waiver. An initial SUN screening is completed with all individuals who are eligible for OCDD services and who request waiver services unless the individual/guardian does not respond or declines to participate. In addition, follow-up SUN screenings/re-screenings are completed for two reasons:

- Systematic follow-up for individuals with previous SUN scores of 0, 1, or 2; and
- The individual has requested a re-screen due to a change in status.

In the past, OCDD asked for a certain number of *waiver slots* per year. Now that we have shifted to the tiered (most appropriate) waiver process OCDD now offers waiver services based on the identified budget. At this time, OCDD continues to be able to offer waiver slots to all individuals who are identified as having urgent or emergent unmet waiver needs. OCDD closely monitors the budgeted dollar amount and expenses to ensure that we are able to continue to offer waiver slots to these.

**Current Quarter Data, October 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022**

Total administrations completed 837

<b>Number of administrations by SUN score</b>	<b>Total</b>
Score of 4, unmet needs at the Emergent level	211
Score of 3, unmet needs at the Urgent level	259
Score of 2, unmet needs at the Critical level	173
Score of 1, unmet needs at the Planning level	58
Score of 0, no identified unmet needs	136
<b>Total</b>	<b>837</b>

The table below indicates the totals for initial screenings and re-screenings.

<b>Reason for Screening</b>	<b>Total</b>
Initials	548
Re-Screenings	289
<b>Total</b>	<b>837</b>

As of February 28, 2023, the current total number of individuals listed in the DD Request for Services Registry (Registry) is 13,387<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup>The total number of individuals listed in the Registry will fluctuate due to new additions, closures, and post-closure re-opens. Reasons for closures include no response to SUN contact attempts; no response to validation contact attempts; loss of eligibility; confirmed out-of-state for reasons not related to military, treatment unavailable in Louisiana, or disaster displacement; no response to out-of-state letter; death; individual request; no response to waiver offer after second attempt; declining a waiver offer; and accepting a waiver offer. Records closed due to no response will maintain their waiver request date in the event of a post-closure re-open.

## **OCDD QUARTERLY ACTIVITIES**

### **Waiver-Related Activities**

#### **Employment**

- *Supports Waiver*
  - OCDD submitted the Supports Waiver amendment to CMS on December 6, 2022 and it was approved on March 6, 2023.
  - The following were approved in the SW amendment:
    - Transportation as a separate billable service on the day that one of the following services is provided: onsite day habilitation, community life engagement, onsite prevocational, community career planning and individual and group supported employment services
    - Addition of Community Life Engagement Development
    - Revised billing for individual supported employment
    - Removed the 5 hour daily cap for onsite day habilitation, community life engagement, community career planning, onsite prevocational services and individual supported employment services
    - Revised the billing for Group Employment from a daily rate to 15 minute increments
  - The Supports Waiver rule changes are in process.
  - OCDD will outline the details of these waiver changes in the policy and procedures manual for providers, and a training will occur to providers and support coordinators upon approval from CMS.
- *Home and Community Based Settings Rule*
  - The final date for compliance with the HCBS Settings Rule is 3/17/2023. CMS has allowed states to request to a corrective action if the pandemic is the cause of the lack of compliance.
  - Louisiana submitted a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) on 12/1/2022. We are awaiting CMS' response and guidance on how to proceed.
  - OCDD continues to provide ongoing technical guidance and assistance and offer trainings in regards to the HCBS Settings Rule to all waiver providers.

#### **Waiver Updates**

- *Summary of any activities within Children's Choice (CC), Residential Options Waiver (ROW), or New Opportunities Waiver (NOW).*

- The PHE ends on May 11, some exceptions will end on that date. OCDD held roadshows across the state to discuss the end of the exceptions; you can access the slides [here](#).
- OCDD finalized and distributed the Self-Direction Manual on March 16, 2023.
- CMS recently approved the ROW renewal and the Supports Waiver amendment, they are returning to CMS. We will be posting the amendments for public comment. You can view the Waiver public notices [here](#).
- NOW amendments and Children’s Choice amendments are at CMS, and CMS held a 15-day call on Friday March 24, 2023.
- *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)* The following activities have been approved by CMS, and we must spend the funds on these activities by March of 2025:
  - START (Systemic therapeutic assessment resources and treatment) model assessment and pilot. This activity will allow Louisiana to bring in a team of experts to do an assessment to identify gaps in services for people with co-occurring behavioral health needs and intellectual / developmental disabilities. This assessment will begin in June. Once this assessment is completed, we will do set up a pilot program based on the feedback we receive to support individuals in crisis.
  - Infrastructure Standup for Technology First Initiative. The funding in this activity will help us purchase the equipment that is needed to begin using technology supports in our waiver. We will be meeting with stakeholders to help inform what these supports look like before we spend any of the money in this activity.
  - Implementation of Value Based Payment (VBP) Model. VBP is a way that states can pay providers who are able to provide quality supports to people. We will be developing a set of measures or indicators, and providers who meet specific targets will be eligible to receive a payment that is a reward for the quality services they provide. We will be meeting with stakeholders to get feedback on what measures we should consider for this model and payment to providers.
  - Community Practitioners Training. We will use this funding to support training opportunities for dental practitioners to better know how to support people with I/DD in their dental practices. Continuing education units for dentists were offered at the Louisiana Dental Association Conference in December, which focused on how to best support people with I/DD in dental practices. We will continue to host events at this state-wide conference as well as at regional events.
  - Temporary rate increase for Support Coordination. This rate increase was initiated. While funding is available, we will use this to give a 30% rate increase to our current support coordination rate.
  - Direct support workforce and support coordination recruitment and retention bonus. This funding will be used to give bonus payments to direct support workers. LDH has made changes to how these bonus payments will be made, and we are awaiting CMS

approval for these changes. Communications on how these payments will be made will be provided upon CMS approval.

### **MyPlace/Money Follows the Person**

- Money Follows the Person demonstration is an addition to services that helps people with disabilities move or transition from an institution into a home and community-based setting, such as a home or apartment.
- The OCDD My Place or Money Follows the Person (MFP) program has continued to grow through 2022. CMS approved the program to continue receiving funding through 2027.
- MFP participants range from children born with complex needs to teens and adults diagnosed with intellectual/developmental disabilities currently living in a nursing facility, specialty hospital, or an intermediate care facility for 60 consecutive days.
- OCDD MFP has started planning to implement several initiatives to assist individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities transition from institutional settings into the community. CMS has made a nationwide policy change, allowing individuals who have been in an institution for 60 days to access the MFP program.
- In 2022, MFP assisted in over 55 successful participant Transitions.
- In 2023, MFP will provide training on My Place on enrolling in our demonstration, an overview of potential participants, and the benefits of My Place participation to anyone who requests them.
- In 2023, MFP received additional funding from CMS to begin a statewide marketing push, including video and radio advertisements.

### **Early Steps**

- *EarlySteps Budget*
  - The US Department of Education, Office for Special Education Programs (OSEP) released the IDEA Federal Application for funds for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The state award amounts have not been announced yet so states will submit the application for the same amount as last year (\$7,123.564) until the award amount is announced. The Application will be posted to the EarlySteps website ([Early Steps | La Dept. of Health](#)) the week of March 20 for 60 days for public comment. New to the application process this year is the state's response to the General Education Provision Act (GEPA) expanded assurance, which establishes how Louisiana addresses access to early intervention for underserved populations and areas. Reviewers may submit comments to the GEPA statement as part of public comment to the Application.
- The State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC), the advisory council to EarlySteps, will meet on April 13 at 1:00. The meeting will be face-to-face at the Claiborne Building with an option to participate by Zoom. You can obtain more information on the meeting details from Alishia Vallien, the SICC chair, at [alishia.vallien@la.gov](mailto:alishia.vallien@la.gov).

**Public Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IIDs)**

**Pinecrest Supports and Services Center**

Current Census	2023 Calendar Year Admissions	2023 Calendar year Discharges
421	4	3

**Access to Behavioral and Medical Intervention in the Community**

**Community Capacity Building to Serve Individuals with Complex Medical and Behavioral Health Needs**

*OCDD Resource Center Activities*

The mission of the OCDD Resource Center is to collaborate with private providers/clinicians to assist with identification of support needs, as well as develop activities/interventions/products that improve their abilities to achieve positive outcomes for persons who experience IDD. The Resource Center services are designed to assist individuals who experience IDD to have greater access to needed medical and behavioral health services so that they are able to remain living, working and involved in their community.

- The OCDD Resource Center clinicians provide consultations to private providers and clinicians to enhance their ability to support and/or provide treatment to individuals who experience IDD. When necessary, the Resource Center clinicians may provide direct services to individuals as a service of last resort. Through the second quarter of FY 22-23 (**October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022**), OCDD Resource Center Clinicians provided consultation and/or direct services that impacted **1353** individuals who experience IDD. Over **95%** of all individuals receiving consultative or direct services from the Resource Center were able to remain living, working and involved in their community, and over **98%** report satisfaction with services provided. These consultations and services were across nursing, therapy, and behavioral health clinicians.
- The OCDD Resource Center Nursing staff provide needed outreach and education to all HCBS provider nurse consultants. In the second quarter of FY 22-23 (**October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022**), the nurses conducted **978** outreach and education contacts/activities.
- The OCDD Resource Center dental coordinator and RN Manager, along with OCDD’s Clinical Director also participate in the State Dental Taskforce and are working collaboratively with the taskforce to address the educational components of the efforts to expand access to needed dental services for individuals who experience IDD.

*OCDD Clinical Training and Education Activities*

OCDD’s Clinical Services division including the Resource Center clinicians provide training and other educational resources to individuals who experience IDD and their families, clinicians



across disciplines and IDD providers. The following activities occurred in first quarter of FY 22-23 (**October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022**):

- 95 training events with clinicians
- University level training for undergraduate and graduate level students at 4 Louisiana University programs, which are:
  - Southeastern Louisiana University
  - LSU Health Sciences Center
  - LSU Eunice
  - Louisiana College
- OCDD's nursing staff continue to partner with LSU Medical School for Operation House Call which is focused on training medical residents to better support individuals who experience IDD.
- OCDD's Clinical division is currently working with colleagues in Missouri and the National State Directors of Developmental Disability Services to build brief training modules and videos for use nationally in clinician training.
- OCDD's Clinical division along with other OCDD leadership staff began quarterly meetings with the MCO behavioral health medical directors to enhance collaboration, education and training.
- OCDD's Clinical division continued providing formal CE offerings during the last quarter.
- OCDD worked collaboratively as part of a grant the Arc of Louisiana secured focusing on dual diagnosis. Initial project focused on developing a clinician Guide to Accessible BH services for Individuals with IDD. This Guide has been completed and is being readied for dissemination. The collaborative project also includes membership from OBH, community clinicians, and CSoC.
- OCDD's Clinical division initiated a pilot for an updated risk management system in conjunction with two (2) LGEs.
- OCDD's Clinical Division assigned clinical liaisons to each of the MCOs to assist in the early identification of critical situations to initiate needed behavioral health, medical, allied health, and DD services and supports.
- OCDD's Clinical Division is working with the Department of Psychiatry at Ochsner-LSU Health in Shreveport to provide didactic training to both psychiatric residents and doctoral-level psychology interns. Future plans include clinical consultation from Resource Center clinicians with the adult and child outpatient psychiatric clinics associated with Ochsner-LSU Health in Shreveport.

#### *Urgent Triage and Diversion Activities*

OCDD continues to receive and triage urgent referrals impacting an individual's ability to remain living in their home/community. Trends associated with placement requests to OCDD Central Office for the **2022** calendar year (covering the period of **October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022**).

- Between **October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022** there were **32** urgent referrals made to OCDD.

- During this quarter, **34** urgent cases were resolved, with **16** of the **34** cases (**47%**) receiving a consultation from the Resource Center, with the ability to divert **88%** of these individuals from long-term institutionalization. While the Resource Center is available to the Human Services Districts/Authorities to offer clinical guidance to assure that no diversion efforts are missed, there are several factors which can impact the ability to engage in an urgent consultation:
  - timeframe once person is referred for consultation: if the referral is not received until a person's ability to remain in the current living option is exhausted, and there are no viable community living alternatives, the ability to divert with clinical consultation would be unlikely);
  - timeframe and status for persons referred from psychiatric hospital settings does not routinely allow for diversion consultation (i.e., clinical activity related to this more often involves a commitment evaluation);
  - the individual/family declines to receive consultation, and/or;
  - lack of an existing clinical provider to receive consultation.

Given these factors, it is important to focus on the diversion percentage instead of the number of persons receiving a crisis consultation, as this is a more accurate indicator of persons for whom there was some ability to receive and potentially benefit from diversion efforts.

- Since 2011, there have been more persons referred from more intensive and institutional-type settings as opposed to the community. This trend continued for the current reporting period, with **62%** of referrals coming from institutional/acute care settings. Further breakdown within these settings revealed that **24%** of these referrals were from psychiatric hospital settings, **12%** were for persons who were incarcerated, **21%** were supported in ICF/DD settings, **6%** were in an acute care setting, **0%** of persons were in a psychiatric residential treatment facility, and **0%** were in a nursing facility at the point of referral.

The Resource Center also continues to work to ensure that individuals with a history and/or current challenges related to non-consensual sexual behavior (NSB) continue to have access to needed supports. 211 individuals are being followed by the Local Oversight Team (LOT). This quarter there were four reported subsequent incidents of NSB, all incidents included direct contact (one incident did result in legal involvement-the mother bonded out the individual and the move to pursue State Custody is on hold as the individual is in process of moving to Illinois with father). All individuals remain in Waiver and currently reside in their homes, including the individual that is in the process of moving out of state.