

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council  
Act 378 Subcommittee  
October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Good morning, everyone. We're going to start the Act 378 subcommittee of the Developmental Disabilities Council. We will do, we have to do roll call. Brenton's going to do roll call.

BRENTON ANDRUS: All right. Ms. Banks.

NICOLE BANKS: Present.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Ms. Basile. Ms. Hagan.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Here.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Dr. McKee. Ms. Polotzola.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Here.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Mr. Stewart.

BROOKE STEWART: Here.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Ms. Tarver.

MARY TARVER: Here.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Mr. Taylor. Five and you do have a quorum. So just a few ground rules to keep in mind before we get the meeting started. Members and public make sure you're recognized by the chair before speaking. All this is also posted on the board over here. Make sure you silence, turn off your cell phones. No alphabets. That means please don't use abbreviations. At least let folks know what you're talking about before you start using abbreviations. Except as necessary please restrict the use of phones and tablets and things at the table unless it's necessary for the meeting. We're going to discuss everything in a responsible manner. We don't, this meeting is short enough we don't have any breaks here. But please be respectful of each other's opinions. And the big one. Keep side conversations to a minimum. One thing you need to keep in mind is this little system here picks up everything. So every shuffle of paper. Every little whisper. It's not a whisper. So please make sure that you take that into consideration. And that being said, I think that's everything. But I do need to shuffle this.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay. Thank you, Brenton. So in your packet and posted online, the minutes from the July meeting, we need to have an approval.

MARY TARVER: Bambi, I'll make a motion to approve.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay. We have a motion from Mary

Tarver.

NICOLE BANKS: I second.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: We have a second from Nicole Banks. Any discussion? Any public comment? Any objections? Any abstentions? Okay. Next item on the agenda is our report from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities. Tanya Murphy will be giving those reports.

TANYA MURPHY: All right. So I've got several reports to talk about today. I'll just start with the fiscal year 23 which is the last fiscal year's final total expenditures for the Act 378 which is for OCDD that's individual and family support and flexible family fund. So whenever we're giving the reports for each quarter we always start it out by saying but, you know, this isn't the total amount for the quarter because the report's coming in a month earlier. But this report is 100 percent accurate. It has all of the expenditures for last fiscal year. So we don't have to have any sidebar. Oh, by the way this really isn't the percentage for real because another month has to be. This is for real.

So I wanted to bring your attention to the fact that every single LGE with the exception of Northeast Delta spent 98 percent or higher of all of the funds that they allocated towards the individual and family support program. Northeast Delta has 93 percent. And so when I was up in Monroe we did talk about this 93 percent and what they indicated was there was 70,000-dollars leftover, but they had actually obligated 59,000 of that money to families but the families just didn't spend it. If they would have spent it then they would have spent 99 percent of their budget. So Northeast Delta said they're going to work more closely with families to make sure they spend the funds that are in their agreement to spend. And if they don't spend by quarter three then they'll pull some of the funds on those families and spend on others, so they don't have this amount of money leftover at the end.

And also I wanted to just because we're talking about Northeast Delta and the fact that they spent only 93 percent. If you go to the next report, which is Act 73 and you look at Northeast Delta they did actually spend 135 percent of the 9 percent that they're required to. So they went above and beyond what we asked them to spend. They just didn't spend everything towards the IFS budget. Any questions about individual and family support and the total

expended?

I'll move onto flexible family funds and that's 99 to 100 percent for the money they received for it, they spent it. And then the Act 73 report for the total for last fiscal year everybody spent-- I mean, the lowest was 98 percent. But a lot of the LGEs spent above. If you look at the statewide total it was 108 percent. But do we have any questions about fiscal year 23 final?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I just have a comment. I spoke with the, I guess the finance person at one of the LGEs, and the interesting thing about the requirement for the 9 percent that I don't think is going to change our position on it, but, for instance, every year state budget, state agencies will get a percentage increase because employees get a percentage increase. What is it like 4 percent, 6 percent, whatever that amount is. So that means everybody in their organization will get that raise and they get the allocated amount to cover all that. But because of this law they have to take 9 percent of that and put it towards DD. So that 9 percent they have to take from that extra money they're getting. That's specifically for all the employees' salaries they have to make it up from pulling from money that they already had because they have to cover that increase in salaries that's required. If that makes sense. I know it's a little bit complicated thing. The thing was sometimes it's a struggle to move that money over. But like I said, I think our position is that we want, you know, for our DD population to get the 9 percent. But I just think it's good to have that understanding of what the process is and what the LGEs have to do in order to, you know, to meet this obligation that we have in law.

LAUREN WOMACK: And I'm sorry. Just LG for somebody that's new.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I'm sorry. LGE, the local governing entities. That's another name for the human service districts and authorities in each region. So all of these, you know, our ten regional offices. Thank you for asking that question.

LAUREN WOMACK: No problem.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay. That's it. Any questions or comments about that? Okay. Thank you, Tanya.

TANYA MURPHY: So should we talk about the breakdown of last fiscal year information or what order do you want me to give these reports?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: That's the order that it's on the agenda.

BRENTON ANDRUS: And the IFS requests.

TANYA MURPHY: Okay. So at the end of the fiscal year I run these reports from our participant services database so the DD Council can get an idea of how many requests for individual and family support each local governing entity receives and kind of how the decisions are broken down. How they are funded, partly funded. Total number of agreements. That's just the word that they use that's sort of like a contract when they provide a service to a family. It's a lot of information to go over. I don't know if y'all had an opportunity to look at it in advance. If you have any questions that you have, anything that popped out while you had an opportunity to review. Or if you have time to review you can go back.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. So the fully funded, the requests fully funded and the fully funded agreements. Shouldn't that line up with each other? Cause it is a fully funded request, then the agreement should come with it, right?

TANYA MURPHY: Not always. And I understand your question and it makes sense that you have that question. An agreement is a contract that they do with a family to provide a service, but sometimes they have what they call crisis where they have like a bucket of money that's with an agency and that agency just cuts a check directly to something and that's not really an agreement. They don't have to do an agreement with that. They just cut the check. So it wouldn't actually line up.

NICOLE BANKS: Oh, okay. Good to know the process.

TANYA MURPHY: Yeah. I think all of the agreements are included in the fully funded, but not all of the checks for the crisis fund are.

NICOLE BANKS: Right. That's all I wanted to know.

TANYA MURPHY: So and then the next report breaks it down even more specifically to talk about what items were purchased. How many contracts or agreements were done for PCA, transportation, just all of the different various items that people might ask for. And it's the first two pages. The first page list all ten of the local governing entities and then on the next page the state ranked total for each service.

NICOLE BANKS: So it doesn't have the percentages like in the other report as far as the income and the money spent.

It doesn't have those percentages like the other report.

TANYA MURPHY: This doesn't have percentages. Actual numbers. Actual amounts.

NICOLE BANKS: So you would just do the math.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So I have some questions. And I think these are some of the questions that we've had previously. And what I did was kind of look and see which areas for each region had a pretty large amount percentage wise of funds. So for like Metropolitan PCAs is about half of their budget. So like why are they spending that much. Also for IMCAL, for instance, they have incontinent supplies, that's about 40 percent of their budget. And then PCAs are about 25 percent of their budget. And then they don't have any vocational, not much for vocational supports. And then you have other regions like South Central, Acadiana, Central Louisiana and Florida Parishes. I'm sorry. Not Central Louisiana. Actually, that's the opposite. South Central, Acadiana and Florida Parishes all have a large percentage of their budget going to vocational and employment supports. And then you have like IMCAL and Central Louisiana that have basically nothing. And so I know that people are pretty much the same around the state. There's some disparities, but that's like big disparities.

TANYA MURPHY: I mean, my first guess would be Imperial Calcasieu maybe doesn't have like a vocational maybe opened yet for them to spend money on because of all the devastation that happened in the region five area.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: The day habilitation vocational providers in Lake Charles, most of them have still not come back. We are having to look at a lot of different things. They actually still have a lot of people who haven't come back either. Or having to receive services kind of across the line in region four. Which we give permission to be able do that because just primarily because of staffing. Some still because of physical structures. IMCAL right now still doesn't-- like their local governing entity still doesn't have a physical location. They're having to rebuild. So even though it seems like those hurricanes were a long time ago, there's still pretty substantial rebuilding there. So yes, the number of day program and vocational services that they had before Laura, yeah, they haven't rebounded yet. So that's for them in terms of vocational, that's why. But you mentioned another one.

TANYA MURPHY: Central Louisiana Human Service District. I don't know. I circled it. I'll have to ask them. I don't know.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: But they have a very high amount for PCAs. So my question is I guess I have around vocational and employment supports, I know that that's needed in some cases, but if they're day programs, that's not necessarily integrated employment. And so while that might be something that someone needs, you know, sporadically or for a period of time I have concerns about these regions that have this really high percentage. Are they just keeping people in day programs all the time and they're not even looking at some type of integrated program. And then we look at Central Louisiana. I'm wondering are they not even thinking as much as even having a day program, that people are just staying in their homes with this large amount and not even getting out even to some segregated, you know, environment. And so those are my concerns. I don't know if this is what's actually happening. But those were my concerns in regards to that.

LAUREN WOMACK: And just looking at some of these numbers like just zero, if you go to the highlighters, like nothing. So someone in that parish, there is nobody that requested a service in certain-- like so for diagnostic evaluation and counseling and MHSD on your second page there is like nothing there.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: But most of them don't have anything for that.

LAUREN WOMACK: Yeah. Just some of them, some of the categories, you know, are we getting the word out there of what you can use the waiver maybe for too. Is that maybe one of the issues is that the medical resource. Or like what I'm saying is the support coordinators, do they know all these categories that are available and it's not just personal care. Or is the problem you have to use all your personal care first because you're only allocated that amount of money. You know what I'm saying. Like I don't know if this is showing as a problem.

TANYA MURPHY: Well, typically when the community support professional meets with the family we really try hard not to go in there with a menu of services that we provide in this program. We just go and talk to the family and what's your challenges, what's your barriers, what's your goals, what do you want to see happen. And then well,

maybe PCA would help reach that goal. Or maybe a vocational program will help you meet that goal. As opposed to going in there and saying these are all the services you could get. The community support professional goes in and says what do you need.

LAUREN WOMACK: Okay. Got it.

BROOKE STEWART: But what if they're not aware of what they need?

TANYA MURPHY: I hear what you're saying like how do they know what to ask for if they don't know what's available. It's a fine line. We don't want to tell people we're going to give you PCA because we think that's what will fix your problem. We want to kind of assess what the situation is with the family and then what are your goals and then talk about what are all the things that maybe we could do to help you reach that goal. So it's a fine line. I know what you mean. We have a whole list of what we can do because there's no way to tell you everything we can do. We don't want to put you in a box and say these are the only things you can ask for. That's why there's the other category because we will think way outside the box and find things for people that don't even fit in this list. And we don't want to limit people to this list. This is just we have these specific categories listed out because they're more often than not asked for so we can let you guys know what's paid for. But we don't want to go in and tell people this is all you can get. You know, we want to leave it wide open for them telling us what they need.

MARY TARVER: I'm in the Central Louisiana area and I don't know like what would this for vocational employment supports, do we even have the resources. If somebody needed it what would that-- if I said oh, I need it, is it available, I guess, in my area. Sometimes we don't have every resource. I mean, you can offer all kinds of things, but we might not have that resource. So what would that resource look like, do you know?

TANYA MURPHY: I would recommend maybe if somebody wanted to get a job and we didn't have like a supported employment situation then you could maybe do PCA and just have somebody help them go look for work, fill out an application. It wouldn't necessarily have to be titled vocational. It could just be a PCA person to go with the person to help find a job in the community.

MARY TARVER: I just wonder if maybe our area might need

some education about what that might look like. I don't know.

TANYA MURPHY: What vocational would look like?

MARY TARVER: Right. I could come in and not-- sometimes in the community, you know, oh, I've heard other people have gone here and they've gotten employment. If you don't hear it, don't know about it and then the staff is not sure. I wonder, you know, how often we used it in our area that they may not think about it or know what the resources are. It's kind of like if you know you can go to the Arc, you're going to go to the Arc. But if you don't know the Arc resources there.

KELLY MONROE: But don't you have to use LRS services, and these services are really for like after LRS finishes. And so this would be like after a provider's working, I'm not sure, I'm asking, that you would use these services, like follow along and stuff like that. So it's something where you would already be in the system working and have already really gotten a job, I think.

TANYA MURPHY: In certain situations, you bet. We definitely refer people to LRS to utilize those services.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: But it's my understanding that a lot of this funding is going to paying directly day programs for people to go to day programs that they call employment but they are really...

TANYA MURPHY: Like sheltered workshops.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Sheltered workshops. And so I have a real concern. And this is-- how long we've been getting this report, for like three years. They continue and it continues to be the same regions. And I'm concerned of why are we pushing people. Is it that the LRS in the region is not doing what we would expect them to do. There's some regions that they are. Or is it the community at the LGEs, or whatever, like that's what they're saying people just need to go to a day program.

TANYA MURPHY: I wanted to tell you just as one example that I know about. Like at Northwest Louisiana Human Services District, Shreveport Bossier, they've got 43 people going to voc. Which you're thinking are they going to Frost Industries like a sheltered workshop. But I just happened to have had a conversation with (inaudible) the other day and like a huge percentage of those individuals are actually going to Barksdale Air Force Base. Frost Industries, the sheltered workshop has a contract with



Barksdale Air Force Base so we're paying Frost for that contract, but those individuals are working in competitive employment at Barksdale Air Force Base. So this is just one example of what looks like a bunch of people are just year after year working at a sheltered workshop. They're not. They're working competitively at Barksdale Air Force Base, and it's just paid for by a family support fund.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I guess our next question is all these areas that we see that's just a very disproportionate amount whether large or small, can we get feedback from each of these LGEs to say what are they spending it on and why. Like to get that from region seven. But actually they're only doing 162,000. It's not a large percent. It's not disproportionate. The example you just gave. Is that a possibility? Seems like we have this conversation every year. It's the same conversation every year and we never get feedback, and they continue to do kind of the same things, I think.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Just to kind of as a point of clarification about that. So like you said, is there some sort of factor you want us to set to look at what disproportionate is? Just trying to figure out who needs to respond to what. Because we actually vetted the last DD director, we shared this report with them and said we're going to be coming to the DD Council meeting. They usually look at this report and have lots of questions about it. Is there any information that you want to share with us to bring. And we had a couple kind of database sort of issues. So I just want to make sure if I'm bringing it back to say we need an answer to this, how do I know who to ask for what. And I don't mean that I want us to have to go through every detail of the report. But if y'all just tell me look at the percentages this way and if there's something like that so that I know how to ask them to direct who needs to give me feedback on like maybe why that's happening there or further information.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I have little stars on my paper, and I did it kind of in my mind. I didn't actually calculate it. But it was close to 25 percent of your budget is going to a certain area. And most of them are like in PCA, vocational.

MARY TARVER: I think the highest three on the last list that does this totals were the diapers, disposable undergarments and incontinent supplies, the PCA and

vocational employment supports. How much they all spent, those are the top three. But then we have some LGEs that didn't spend any money in vocational rehab.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: So you want us to focus on the PCA and the vocational. I'm happy to focus on incontinent supplies, but since we're adding that in October I would expect that would change. I don't know that we need to focus on that right now but.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I think North Louisiana region seven, they have it coded as in-home respite. That's 326,000 of 900,000-dollars. Oh, wait 380. I'm sorry. That's a large percentage of their budget. Maybe that's a coding thing. But they also have 244 in PCA. So like what's the difference.

BRENTON ANDRUS: So kind of piggybacking off of what Julie said just cause I'm trying to do your summary here. I'm still unclear what the actual request for them to look at is. I know we're naming like there's PCA vocational supports. Are you saying some regions spend a lot of money there, some don't and why is that?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yes. So vocational PCA. And then I have that respite, but that's really only North Louisiana region seven that I see that there's that large number.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Finding out why they're spending so much here and not there. Specifically looking at, like trying to see--.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I just want an explanation from them.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Because in the past it's always been the needs in each region might be different. And so this region has more need than this region. So I'm trying to capture what exactly we're drilling down to so I can have it in your summary, so we'll know exactly what they're following up on at the next meeting they're going to give us X, Y, and Z.

LAUREN WOMACK: I have a question. Are we asking how many clients are referred for certain services in each region or no?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: No.

LAUREN WOMACK: Just the money amount?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah. I hadn't looked at the number of people.

LAUREN WOMACK: Like figure out how many people got vocational services. You get what I'm saying?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Number of contracts.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: No. I was looking at the money. But to tell which one, I mean, I'd have to do like what do you look at.

NICOLE BANKS: If it was broken down, like I said, like the other ones in percentage we would be able to see it a little clearer with all of the categories just from the money encumbered from the money spent if they'll have a percentage of that already on there. Then you'll be able to look at it okay, you could just point it out. Don't have to keep doing the math back and forth, back and forth.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: So can I ask you a clarification on that. So do you want the percentages? So looking at just like the table where it says contracts. You want so if we spent 127 or there was 127 services, which percentage within Florida Parishes-- I'm trying to figure out if the percentage is a breakdown by Florida Parishes on what was spent or a breakdown--.

NICOLE BANKS: Let's take this first one right here. The MHSD, right. And we have the encumbered amount. That's the amount that's allowed to them to spend, correct?

TANYA MURPHY: That's right.

NICOLE BANKS: So if we take that number and we go by the number that's spent and we divide that we should get a percentage.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: No. That's not what-- I'm looking at what was spent. Because what's encumbered is just what they budgeted. But to me what's important is what they actually spent.

NICOLE BANKS: Right. But you wouldn't be able to get like a percentage off of that because of-- okay, as far as the contracts, you don't know exactly how much each contract is, right. Everybody's different according to whatever service they need or whatever their family is. They might have a family of one, or a family of six, or a family of three, right. So the contract would be different. We wouldn't be able to get a specific, you know, breakdown of okay, if they spent that amount of money then these people were served. We wouldn't be able to get that because they would really have to break it down even further than it already is, you know, for us to get those numbers like that.

MARY TARVER: I think what she's saying is take the, on that one, for 1.2-million as a percent of 1.2-million was spent on assisted devices and clothing that was only

6,400--.

NICOLE BANKS: So we take that out, okay.

MARY TARVER: And then you can see they spent 10 percent on clothing, and I spent 75 percent on this. You would be able to see where the percentage is and then compare it from one--.

NICOLE BANKS: One region to another. And then you ask okay, guys, up in this specific one because we have disparities up in the in-home respite. Well, what's really going on in these two regions that's not going on in the other regions. Because I can understand the ones that was hit by a hurricane. I can get theirs. But the ones that wasn't hit by anything and wasn't affected by something well, what's really going on over there.

TANYA MURPHY: I can tell you the difference between in-home respite and PCA. It's just a definition difference. In-home respite is basically rest for the caregiver. And PCA is assistance for the person with a disability. For Northwest Louisiana Human Services District they just break up that definition and put some under in-home respite and under PCA. Whereas some of the other local governing entities might just put it all under PCA. It's just a definition difference but the service is the same. It's still a direct service worker in there assisting a person with a disability.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So what I'm looking at is the total on the back. So of the total spent by all of the LGEs, say for vocational employment services, it's 17.5 percent of all the LGEs on vocational and employment supports. So perhaps what we can say is if any of the LGEs have a 10 percent variance from what the average is then they need to explain why. Whether it be, you know, do they have 27.5 percent of their budget going to vocational or 7.5 percent or less than that would show that they're not in line with what the average is for the LGEs. Would that make sense to you guys? Then after you say that about the in-home respite, I really didn't pay that much attention to that one except for the North Louisiana one. Those are almost essentially kind of the same. I know there's some differences. So maybe do those two columns as a, you know, a total, add those up for the total. Come up with the percentage and then do the same thing for each individually. And if any of them have 10 percent more or

10 percent less than the average then ask them for an explanation of what are they doing.

TANYA MURPHY: You want to know why one LGE would be 10 percent above the average spending on voc or why that LGE might be 10 percent below the average spending on that.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Ten percent or more. Ten percent or less, yeah.

TANYA MURPHY: And we're talking both PCA, respite combined.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Vocational is one line item.

TANYA MURPHY: And then PCA, respite combined as number two.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah.

TANYA MURPHY: Number one. And then number two is PCA, respite combined.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Those are the only areas I have concerns with. There are some that spend a lot on incontinent supplies. Like I said, that should be addressed. I don't have any other areas. I don't know if anybody else has any areas?

NICOLE BANKS: I didn't see any other areas. I just had a concern with Central Louisiana from the hurricane. I guess are y'all saying that they're just not up and running again?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: IMCAL?

NICOLE BANKS: I'm sorry.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: That's okay. No, they are. They're just still having-- like, for example, the Human Services District is operating, they have a temporary physical location, but they have gotten money to help build something new. I don't know if you remember when Laura hit with Lake Charles, there's a big glass building, and you saw all the glass. That's where the Human Services District and Authority offices were and that building is still, I just was in Lake Charles a couple weeks ago, it's still sitting sort of boarded up. So they had to physically move to a new location. They're operating. They have their staff. They are our smallest region and they're operating in some satellite offices, but they are having to work to sort of rebuild.

Then we know-- I mean, I don't know if you want to talk about this. I know a couple of the Arcs they're just still struggling to get, to have staff in the area. A lot of people moved out of the area. Again, their physical

locations too. I just know that's an area where they're, again, they were smaller, so they had fewer, but then they also now are having even more trouble kind of getting back going. But they are up and running.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. I was just wondering because my area got hit by the hurricane really hard.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Houma, Thibodeaux.

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah. Houma, Thibodeaux got hit really hard. And some of our stuff is still up and running or whatever, but I'm just surprised to see how far behind they are.

KELLY MONROE: I think Thibodeaux expects it. It was preprepared for stuff like that where Lake Charles probably was not expecting what they got.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay.

KELLY MONROE: You guys are prepared for things like that.

NICOLE BANKS: Yeah. Okay.

BRENTON ANDRUS: So PCA, respite. And then vocational you want to take from that total budget page and if they're 10 percentage points above/below whatever that average is here, which is 17 percent, I think is what you said.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: For employment.

BRENTON ANDRUS: For employment. And whatever it would be for the other one.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah.

BRENTON ANDRUS: The department will ask the LGE to explain why. Because I would assume that's the request they got, right. That's the process. That you have a request for this. We honor it or we don't. I'm not saying-- I don't know what information we're hoping to get back from that.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So what are they utilizing that for. So I'll give you an example.

BRENTON ANDRUS: So like the details of the contract. Like this was for this or that. I just want to make sure you guys get the info you're looking for when they come back. And you're trying to get this information for January or was this information for when this report happens again?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Well, no. January.

BRENTON ANDRUS: I just had to get it out there. But I just want to make sure Tanya and Julie have what they need.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I mean, we can just explain to them

that during the DD Council meeting there was discussion in those two particular areas, and do they have anything specific to their region that might explain the difference. And if it's okay with the group I would also like the opportunity to invite the DD director to come to the January meeting if they would like to so that we're not just reading a report but that they may be able to, they'll know more to your point. And there are some things that are very regionally specific so they may be able to provide more information. So I would like an opportunity to invite them to participate as well if that's all right with the committee.

BRENTON ANDRUS: This report you would like back on the January agenda?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So Julie's recommendation.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yeah. That's fine. So the summary is not going to include all of these details. I just wanted enough where I can have a very clear statement that I can put in the summary of what you've asked.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Thank you for bringing that up. Does anybody else-- does that address everybody's concerns? Any other points y'all want to make about this report?

LAUREN WOMACK: The only thing is the information, I don't know if we could maybe share it with the LRC committee too, anything we get back on employment. Because I don't know, but I work with people with disabilities in employment and there's always okay, who pays for what. Can they pay for something that LRS doesn't pay for and things like that. Even if we can get some education out there or even not to the individual participants, but to the resource coordinators what those funds can be used for. And if they are a participant of LRS if they aren't getting all of the services they need or they've already been through LRS, what these funds could be used for. Could these funds go to a vendor that they've already been through with LRS and just do something-- I don't know. I don't even know if that's an option. I'm just telling you what I'm seeing on the ground. I think it would be good data to bring to LRS and say hey, what's the connection here. They're both doing employment for people with developmental disabilities.

TANYA MURPHY: So when I sat on the individual and family support committees if somebody asked for some kind of employment service we would refer them to LRS first and

see if they could assist an individual getting a job, or learning a skill, or doing what they need to do. Sometimes LRS had no funds, and we would keep up with LRS to find out. If LRS didn't have any funds available, we would do it. If a family specifically said hey, I heard that these people are going, this individual is going and working at Barksdale then oh, well, we're the only one that had that contract, so LRS can't do that so we would fund it. It's an individual, family-based decision each time based on the ability and funding.

LAUREN WOMACK: So maybe that's why those funds aren't being used. I doubt it, but it could be. So I think that would be good for information to get back.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I think to your point we could certainly bring in the LRS member representative on the council and once we get the data if there's some ways to be able to coordinate. And any data that the council has is public and we can bring it to the LRC as well. And LRC is Louisiana Rehabilitation Council. I'm sorry. Okay. Renoda.

RENODA WASHINGTON: I just kind of want to go back to what you stated earlier. I'm still stuck on it. Telling them. I just think it's a vast difference between telling and educating. You're telling someone something you're just sharing information. But when you're educating them we're imparting knowledge and understanding of whatever you're speaking of involves discussion for them to gain understanding. So I just kind of think that if you all's mindset is just I can't tell, I think that word need to be changed to more so educating that individual.

TANYA MURPHY: (Inaudible).

RENODA WASHINGTON: Can I finish. I think that you guys just consider they may not know or understand or know what's out there. You know, so does that make sense?

TANYA MURPHY: So I don't want to describe to you something that makes it come across as if we just sit there in silence in a meeting and we don't give the family anything unless they tell us, you know. We have planning meetings with families, and we talk about all of the services. We talk about what the family needs, you know. It's a meeting that does cover all the stuff that you're talking about. There are lots and lots of families that have absolutely no idea what we offer. And so, you know, we don't say hey, they didn't ask for it, so they don't get



it. The community support professionals are professionals at what's available and they assess the family's needs, and they will suggest things if the family, you know. But it's like what does the family need. If the family is going to come to us and say this is the situation. I need to work but I can't because I have to stay home. Or my child is getting in trouble at school, so I keep having to leave work. They're not telling us I need PCA, or I need respite. They're not using the phrases. They're telling us what the family situation is and then our community support professional says hey, these are the things we can do to help evacuate this issue you're telling us that you need help with. So we are educating them. But we're also just tailoring our services to meet the needs of each individual family because we just don't want families to come in and think, you know, I have this very specific need, but I can't get it from them because this is all they do, you know. I'm just trying to make it specific for you. It's not like we keep it a secret. We just don't want to provide somebody a menu and say this all we do. It's just how can your life be enhanced. How can your life be improved. How can we make things better or different for your family. And then we just pour it in there. What can we do to help.

RENODA WASHINGTON: Thank you so much. It's much more clarity.

TANYA MURPHY: Trying.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Sometimes I get calls where people say oh, I want to get disability. They're saying social security. And then I have a conversation because that few hundred dollars a month is not the need. They need a waiver. They have a severe situation, and they don't even realize how bad it is and they don't know anything else except what they've heard from whatever their community is is that people get social security disability.

TANYA MURPHY: I've known families that have children that have the most severe disability and come in and say we don't need anything. And I'm like you could have flexible family fund. You can do this. We can do this. And the families are like oh.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Thank y'all. Do we have any more questions or comments about this report? Okay.

TANYA MURPHY: Fresh eyes. Quarter one. Fiscal year 24. I just want to remind everybody this report is a month

early so it's not a full picture of quarter one because it's missing a lot of invoices that would be coming in. September's invoices aren't going to be coming until after this report. So although we would normally look for 25 percent some of these are going to be much less than that because they didn't receive all of their quarter one invoices yet.

Sometimes I'm not even sure where to send your eyes. It's just the information from quarter one. Acadiana that spent 20 percent. And it looks like 11. The average of 15 percent. But that's missing September invoices. The flexible family fund is a lot easier to predict because that 258-dollars goes out without fail so they're at 25 percent. Any questions about quarter one individual and family support and flexible family fund?

And so then Act 73 for quarter one, statewide total of 21 percent has been spent. I would encourage you guys to look at the fiscal year 23 final Act 73 and the quarter one and look at the total LGE state general fund column and then you will see the difference in the amount of money that each LGE has been given as their state general fund account and that way you'll know what some of the LGEs are facing. Some a little bit more money. Some a little bit less. So the 9 percent that they're required to spend is different.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So looking at this like Metropolitan, Capital Area, region one, region two, region four, they all received less state general funds?

TANYA MURPHY: That's correct.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: But like through the years sometimes they will get more moneys, so we see that added in sometimes. Do you see that budget change. Looking at the fiscal year 23 region three, four, five and six all had money added to their budget throughout the fiscal year of 23.

TANYA MURPHY: That money was not additional state general funds. That was additional money that the LGE administration itself decided from their state general funds to put more towards that program.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Okay.

TANYA MURPHY: And in this first report I do I always like to make sure that the LGEs have all budgeted at least equal to the 9 percent so they're starting out on the right foot at the quarter one. I think they all budgeted equal to or more. Okay. Good. I don't have to reach out to

anybody. That's a good start.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any other questions for Tanya with OCDD? Thank you very much.

TANYA MURPHY: My pleasure.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Next, we'll have our report from the Office of Aging and Adult Services the Arc of Louisiana.

KELLY MONROE: Y'all ready? Looks like this. Okay. So this quarter we were able to serve 42 people. A little bit less than last quarter but last quarter we served 57 people but we also had some extra unused funds and so we were able to do some one-time things, home modifications and a couple other things. So of those 42 people, which is typical amount of people to serve on this contract, 15 of those were African Americans, 26 were Caucasian and one was Hispanic. Those were 27 of those people were males and 15 were females. The ranges of the ages now from 30 to 91. Last year it was 20 to 91. So we had a couple of changes this contract year. And you'll see that when you look at the next page of the regions and the difference in the region. So the biggest change was in region two where we were serving 13 people last year and now eight. But if you look at the amounts it's six in region one. Eight in region two. Three in region three. No people in region four. Four in region five. Two in region six. Ten in region seven. No one in region eight. And then nine in region nine. So region seven is serving the most people at this time which is always the case because I think that's like where the SPAs program actually originated was like those people in region seven.

So of those services everyone of course is receiving support coordination. Thirty-seven of them are receiving personal care assistance. Three are either getting some type of rental assistance or utility assistance. Two are getting medical supplies equipment. That's probably the biggest difference. Last year there were 15 people receiving that. And then no one this year so far received any type of like home modifications or vehicle modification.

Below that you'll see that the total amount expended was 1,600-- yeah. I'm sorry. Okay. I lost my train of thought. So 16585.53 And then the breakdown is right above that. And of course in the next table you can see the percentages of those funds and how that took place. So right below that is something that you guys had asked for

last time. It was not an easy task, so I hope this is the way you wanted it. We had to call a lot of people. It's not completed though because we were not able to get in touch with everyone. We had lot of like disconnected numbers and different things like that. And some people didn't call us back so we did send them letters, but we did the best we could to get the demographics on the waiting list like you asked.

So there are currently right now 89 people on the waiting list. So that went up I think by like 12 people because I think we had 77 last year. So it went up a little bit. So in region one there is 21 people on the waiting list. On region two there's 20. Region three there's seven. Region four there's 16. Region five there's two. Region six there's one. Region seven there's five. Region eight there's two. And region nine there's 15. If you turn the page you'll see the breakdown as far as the race and the gender. Like I said, there's now 89 people on the waiting list. If you turn the page it will have like what they're requesting. So PCA services. It went up a little bit. It was 63. Now it's 74. Home modifications. There's 11 people waiting for that. Medical equipment and supplies is 27. Rental assistance or utility is just one. Some people are requesting more than one thing, so you'll notice that the numbers are kind of off or whatever, but some people are requesting more than one.

This was the part that you guys, the new information that you guys requested. And it was to find out what people were already receiving and if they were receiving other things. So I'm hoping this is the way y'all wanted it. So LTPCS, there are four people who are currently receiving that and one who applied for it. The CCW, ten people are currently receiving it and 23 have applied for that service. On the NOW waiver there is six people who are currently receiving and six more additional people who have applied for it. The Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Fund, there are 14 people receiving it and four who have applied. The ROW, there's one and they have no other people have applied for it. And then the supports waiver or the PACE, one person applied and no-- I mean, one person's receiving it, and no one has applied. So there was four applicants of that 89 who don't qualify for any other service and 19 of the applicants we were unable to get the information for. So there was no reply. And that

is it. If anyone has any questions I would be happy to answer anything.

SPEAKER: What does LTPCS?

KELLY MONROE: I'm sorry. Long term personal care services. Sorry. I forgot about the no alphabets.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Kelly, when people apply for long term personal care services in the Community Choice Waiver they apply for both so why is it a difference? Like when you call the hotline you get in the system.

KELLY MONROE: You don't get both unless you request it. You have to say which one you want. I tell them to apply for both. But if we don't tell them and someone answers the phone they'll say like what are you applying for and they'll say oh, long-term personal care support or CCW. At least when I've called for families that's how it is.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So the 23 that you say are on the Community Choice Waivers.

KELLY MONROE: That applied for it?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah.

KELLY MONROE: Uh-huh.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: They're on the waiting list so none of them are qualified for Medicaid?

KELLY MONROE: Well, we don't know. They applied for the service, but I don't know if they have an answer just yet. Like when they call, and I said do you receive any other services and they'll say no. And I'm like have you applied for any other ones and some of them we tell them hey, call this number and apply for CCW, apply for long-term personal care. Some of them say oh, we applied for the waiver. I said, which one. And they'll say oh, the one through Office of Aging. Okay. So you applied for the CCW. Yes. I'm like are you on the waiting list. I don't know. So most people, I mean, the only other way to figure that out is to, and I guess we could, but was just a lot going on to bump up their social security numbers up against OAAS's list to see.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: We could do that too.

TANYA MURPHY: This is all self-reported information.

KELLY MONROE: Yes. This is all self-reported information.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Cause I thought when you called to get long-term personal care service or Community Choice Waiver if you were Medicaid eligible, you're already

getting Medicaid then they would then see if you meet the disability requirements to get long-term personal care services.

KELLY MONROE: When I've applied for services like with a family they specifically ask are you applying for the waiver or are you applying for long-term personal care.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: But that doesn't make sense that Medicaid wouldn't say you're calling for these services, you are Medicaid eligible. Therefore you would be able to see first off if you get long-term personal care and I just say-- I don't know. Maybe we should ask that question to Office of Aging tomorrow.

KELLY MONROE: Yeah. And people respond to it that way too because they'll say oh, I've applied for LTPCS, or I applied for Community Choices Waiver.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: And I get what people are saying. Like they might just not even know what it is. But I'm concerned that if you call that number and someone's calling that they need services and they say I want Community Choice Waiver that don't look at people and say oh, you're Medicaid eligible so long term that's a state plan. They could get it if they're qualified.

KELLY MONROE: When you call OCDD, like when you call to apply for a waiver with OCDD services do you say I want to apply for the NOW or the Supports Waiver or do you just apply for one?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: It's different. Cause they have like a contract that you would call in. And I don't know how it works. I can tell you that there is a federal requirement that we attempt state plan services, and we must use state plan services before we enact waiver services. In fact, like we have to explain a lot of times why what's the difference in LTPCS verses the personal care type services you get in waiver because you can't have duplication of state plan in waiver services, and you must do that first. So that's why a lot of times when we talk about families a lot of times get frustrated, and I can only speak on our end when we say well, we have to try EPSDT personal care or long-term personal care before waiver because we're mandated to use state plan first. So it would seem like they would look at that, but I can't answer for the Medicaid question or OAAS, how that works. But Mindy should be able to explain it if she's able to come tomorrow because I know they have a script that I have seen.

I just haven't seen it in a long time for what they're supposed to say when they answer the phone when people are calling to apply.

TANYA MURPHY: Perhaps there's like a wait list for long-term personal care services.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: There's not. Well, there can't be.

TANYA MURPHY: So you've got the 23 people on the waiting list but the reason that they aren't also is because they don't realize they're also receiving it or there's no waiting list so they wouldn't be on both.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Well, there's no waiting list if you meet medical necessity. But you have to go through the medical necessity criteria.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah. Okay. And then for the NOW you said there's six people who they applied so they're in the process of getting the screening?

KELLY MONROE: Yep. They applied for the services, so I think they're in the process of determining eligibility.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: And so that would mean if they got a NOW they wouldn't need the SPAs program.

KELLY MONROE: Well, it depends on what they're looking for. If they're looking for something else like home modifications or medical assistance and equipment we would do that, but we can't supplant any other services that are already being received.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: But wouldn't the NOW pay for that?

KELLY MONROE: If the NOW's not paying for it and they refuse to pay for it or whatever then we could pick up, yeah. But a lot of families they go out and they apply for everything that they can and whatever they can get first, you know. And so you're going to see some overlap in some of this but that's just because they're looking for something and which one's going to be able to meet their needs first.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any other questions?

MARY TARVER: We're providing services for 42 people. Is that in this group of people?

KELLY MONROE: No. That is in the beginning of the report. These are just the waiting list people. Yeah. But know that if we're serving people right now and they're receiving PCA they're not receiving PCA services with any of these.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any other questions for Kelly?

Okay. The next item is our Office of Behavioral Health, Dr. Savicki.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: All right. So let's talk first about the yearend report for the fiscal year that just ended. Feels like it just ended. So this would be fiscal year 23. I wanted to point out a couple of things. One is going even all the way backwards to the previous fiscal year from fiscal 22. We had a couple of LGEs on corrective action plan based on fiscal year 22 and I just wanted to make a note to everybody that based on this sort of yearend report for fiscal year 23 both of those corrective action plans were successful, essentially. That the LGEs were able to this past year kind of get back up to where they needed to be in terms of meeting those performance thresholds that we set. So just wanted to make a note of that. Metropolitan had, in fiscal year 22, had some barriers in terms of getting all their community care resources funds out. And you can see they expended 100 percent of their fund this past fiscal year. And then at the end of fiscal year 22 North Louisiana was having a hard time getting through their waiting list of flexible family funds and they were having a hard time filling some of their slots. At the end of that fiscal year 22 they worked through the issue and back, you know, getting those slots filled, you know, more consistently now. Just wanted to make a note of that.

In terms of fiscal year 23 a couple things to note in terms of, as Tanya noted, this is everything. We're no longer saying that we're missing invoices. This is all of it. Just to note a couple of areas of concern, you know, one is Florida Parishes which did not-- so our target threshold is that we want to see the LGEs expend 95 percent of their allocated CCR funds by the end of the year. Florida Parishes did not so we have requested a corrective action plan from Florida Parishes. And we've requested that within the last couple of weeks, so they'll be getting that. We give them 30 days to give us that correction. And that corrective action plan we can potentially, you know, after we consult with them we can bring the council up to speed at the next quarterly meeting about what they're trying. You know, what their efforts entail in terms of getting more of those funds out this fiscal year.

There is one, let's see, it's Northeast that looks like they would need a corrective action plan and I'm going to



tell you why they don't. Which is that so they have, they're showing I think 86 percent of their funds expended by the end of the year. I just wanted to let y'all know the only reason for that is they actually added additional funds I think in that last quarter of the year. Which to my mind is a great thing in terms of they're recognizing some additional needs in the community. They're throwing some additional funds in this fund, and we just didn't expend all those by the end of the year. So they did expend-- oh, shoot. I don't have the percentage. Oh, here it is. They expended 98 percent of their original allocation. So all that is to say we don't feel the need for a corrective action plan based on that. That's just them sort of being responsive to community needs. And I think those were the two areas-- one area of actual concern. One that we don't find a concern in. I will note also that South Central, it looks like a concern on the report in terms of the number of filled slots, but that's actually just a reporting area that we didn't get a chance to get the response back and get that fixed by the time we submitted the report. But they're actually fine in terms of their goals. So those are all the things that I wanted to make note of in the yearend report for this period that just ended. Any questions on that before I move onto this year?

CHRISTI GONZALES: What were the marble notebooks for?

KRISTIN SAVICKI: The what? I'm sorry.

CHRISTI GONZALES: In South Central they ordered almost 7,000-dollars of marble composition books.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: These are LGE administered programs. They report to us. We report out to the DD. That would need to be a question for them. I do know that sometimes LGEs do report on getting supplies for, for instance, summer camps that are related to, or summer programs, after-school activities that they do with kids with different health needs that they're serving so that would be my guess. But, you know, that question would have to go to South Central.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So you're saying the question has to go to South Central, but she's asking it to you. Will you be able to ask that to them?

KRISTIN SAVICKI: If that's a request.

CHRISTI GONZALES: That's a lot. They're fifty cents. A dollar at the least.

NICOLE BANKS: Like unless they sponsored a school.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: We can ask for clarification on that.

CHRISTI GONZALES: Also, in Acadiana the gift cards. Were those gift cards just given to the parents or what were they for?

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Again, ask for clarification from them.

CHRISTI GONZALES: And then they have drivers ed. Does every parish or every LGE offer drivers ed to some of these children?

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Every LGE is different so I'm sure there's different decisions made on LGEs about what programs they're funding and how they're trying to meet the needs of kids with behavioral health needs.

CHRISTI GONZALES: Because not many, for instance, I didn't know certain things, you didn't know certain things because we didn't know what was available and we've, you know, been doing this a while but if we're not, if we don't know what's available we don't know what to ask.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: So these are based on asks, right. The consumer care resources fund is based on a family asking the LGE. This is something we need in order to, you know, successfully support our child with emotional needs in the home and we can't find another way to fund that. Can you fund that with Act 378 funds. So that's likely what happened here. The family went to their LGE and said hey, this is something we need, we can't fund it. Can this be supported as a way of successfully helping your youth stay in the home. So that would be my best guess because Acadiana has a long list of things here. These are likely some things that they're doing as an agency. They may be hosting an event for kids that they're serving, or it may be individual family needs who are requesting can I get some support to fund this need that I have in my family.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Can I just interject something for clarity, if you don't mind. Because this took me several years to get my mind straight around it. What she's talking about is behavioral health which not all these kids have developmental disabilities. You can't have overlap. So some of these are different. As well as with Kelly's report. Some of the people that she serves are people with developmental disabilities and some of the people are not.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Specifically these are funds that are used by the behavioral health team and staff at the human

services district. And kids and families are eligible for these supports based on the behavioral health needs. They may also have a developmental disability, but possibly not. They're going to the behavioral health staff at the human services district for therapy, for medication management, for those kinds of services. And also saying hey, I also have this need, can you help. Can you use these Act 378 funds to help my family address that need. Thanks for that. A good thing to point out.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So, for instance, like the driver's education, you can have a kid that's getting treatment or that type of thing and know that that's going to help build their self-esteem or help something else and that's going to help them with their behavioral health need. I think that's how I interpret some of these things.

LAUREN WOMACK: Thank you for the clarification. That makes a lot of difference.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I went years.

CHRISTI GONZALES: We are opening a little bit. The door is opening.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Any other questions on that report?

NICOLE BANKS: I do have one more question. So you're saying that it may or may not be for a child with disabilities, right.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Yeah. This funding. This report is all data recorded by the behavioral health staff of the human services district and it's based on funding that is for kids who qualified based on their behavioral health need.

NICOLE BANKS: So may or may not be a child with disabilities.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: Yeah. Often times kids with developmental disabilities will be working with the DD staff. And so that will probably, so they would more likely, I would think, would more likely request support from the DD side. And so that would show up on the reports that Tanya has gone through. There certainly could be families that are accessing supports from both sides, which is fine and appropriate based on their needs. But these are likely, most likely to be kids who are just kind of there and getting services based on their behavioral health needs.

NICOLE BANKS: Okay. My little brain went off in my head, okay. We have Act 378 that is specifically for

children with disabilities, but if the funds that we're using are just going to someone that they don't fall underneath the act.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: So that's a long, there's a long history there way before my time. But my understanding is that back in the 90s, I don't know if folks with more history can maybe speak to that more, that back when the act was created that there was some reference in terms of the planning committee that-- somebody please help me here cause this is way beyond my scope or history. But there was folks advocating for this funding for folks with developmental disabilities also at the same time advocated for some funding to be allocated for folks with behavioral health needs.

JILL HANO: But is that the whole point of this committee is to discuss DD and also behavior health needs?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yeah. So this committee is designed to monitor the Act 378 programs. And that includes programs on the developmental disability side. It also includes programs under behavioral health. These specific programs. Because that's the council's charge as a part of the community and family support system that we're supposing to monitor. We're supposed to monitor these Act 378 programs and funds. So that's why you've discussed both at this meeting. The only thing that we don't discuss and then we don't talk about waivers in this particular meeting because we discuss more of that in Self-Determination. So we look at and we discuss in Self-Determination Families Helping Families which was also part of the community and family support system plan. But here we talk about these particular programs. So it's common to be discussing OBH or behavioral health and developmental disability. If that answers your question.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: In terms of these funds it is a significantly smaller amount on the behavioral health side. I think last time I looked at it it was about a third, I think, statewide. So it is a smaller amount that is sort of allocated by the behavioral health side of the human services district, but there are these amounts that can be used by behavioral health services staff. Just the kind of thing that's being described that they're seeing a kid and their family in treatment and realizes, the family realizes, the staff realizes hey, there's this additional thing that if the family could pay for that would really

help with the behavioral health needs and these funds are available to help with that and that kind of thing.

BRENTON ANDRUS: But also just to throw it out there, if you want to know more about the history of Act 378 certainly we have information here. But as part of our Families Helping Families contracts they do trainings on Act 378 for us. So if you're signed up for their list serve they push out information about when they host trainings and stuff. And a lot of trainings or webinars so you can do them at home, or at work, or whatever. I would say when they have an Act 378 training just participate in those. It gives you a lot of great history of kind of how it started and what it's about.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I was thinking the same thing, but I'm wondering, Brenton, could we get the Families Helping Families to let you know and then you send it out to all committee members when they're having them.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yeah. We can do that.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Then we can join in whenever we have that opportunity. Thank you, Brenton. One more thing on your to-do list. Okay. Any other questions for Dr. Savicki on behavioral health support for fiscal year ending 23? And that's the children adolescent report. Okay.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: And the adult one. The adult one, no concerns on the adult one. Essentially the LGEs spent the funds for adults. Spent all their funding or very close to it. But yeah, I can jump into the fiscal year, the current fiscal year quarter one report if that's okay.

BRENTON ANDRUS: Yep.

KRISTIN SAVICKI: So this one, you know, there's not a ton to say about it at this point because again, this is supposedly for quarter one, but based on a time that LGEs need to submit the report in time for this meeting it doesn't include all the invoices for quarter one. We hardly ever see, you know, you want to see at the end of quarter one is about a quarter of the funds expended. We never do for a variety of reasons partly because they haven't actually processed three months of invoices yet. Also, there are a couple of LGEs that use federal funding source first as is required so they save their Act 378 funds to use later in the year. There are also several LGEs that specifically save some funds towards the ends of the fiscal year to support families currently in the summer. You know, really helping families with, for instance, summer

(inaudible). So, you know, the percentage expended shown on the quarter one, there's not a whole lot we can take from that because it's going to change significantly.

You know, one thing we do look at when we look at the quarter one report for a new fiscal year we look at what LGEs have done in terms of how much money they've allocated. Because we're interested to see if LGEs are choosing to keep the same level of funding in the program. You know, increase it or decrease it. It is more or less the same. There's a few digits difference. I can't remember, I think there was an LGE or two that (inaudible) by a couple hundred dollars. But it's more or less the same. So just wanted to point that out to the DD Council that the LGEs are choosing to keep the same amount of funding for the program. And yeah, or more or less. I believe they have all of their, everybody has all of their slots filled. Okay. We've got one LGE that has one that they're working to fill, but they're doing pretty well as of this quarter report in kind of getting through wait lists and filling slots. Certainly kids age out or move out of the state and they have to go through their wait list and find the next family that's eligible. I think that's all I wanted to note on the quarter one report. Let me know if there's questions.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Seeing no questions that will end the report for the Office of Behavioral Health. Thank you. Any announcements?

BRENTON ANDRUS: Did we cover the adult?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yes.

BRENTON ANDRUS: I was just typing up little things. I missed the reports. Announcements wise just after this the members will break for lunch and then at 1 in this room we will have Self-determination. At 3:00 in this room as well we will have our Education and Employment Committee. And then tomorrow at 8:30 in this room will be the full council meeting. And you can adjourn by unanimous consent as long as everyone agrees.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Thank you.