

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
Act 378 Subcommittee Meeting Summary
April 17, 2024 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM

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

View meeting [transcript](#).

Members Present: Nicole Banks, Julie Hagan, Tony Piontek, Bambi Polotzola, Brooke Stewart, Erick Taylor, Lauren Womack

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Brenton Andrus, Rekeesha Branch, Stephanie Carmona, Ebony Haven, Hannah Jenkins

Others Present: Troy Abshire, Carlos Amos, Kristin Bonner, Carol Calix, Brandi Croft, Kristie Curtis, Carmen Domingue, Kathy Dwyer, Mylinda Elliott, Jamar Ennis, Nicole Flores, Julie Folse, Dana Foster, Sharla Green, Christi Gonzales, April Hampton, Jill Hano, Lynsey Hebert, Kasey Hill, Chanel Jackson, Aisha Johnson, Shontae Johnson, Whitney Ledet, Christina Martin, Charlie Michel, Kelly Monroe, Tanya Murphy, Pasqueal Nguyen, Tanisha Petersen, Susan Riehn, Kristen Savicki, Shenitha Smith, Monica Stampley, Katherine Thomas, Mimi Webb, Vivienne Webb, Vanessa Wells

Bambi Polotzola called the meeting to order at 10:28 AM. A quorum was established.

Motion to approve the [October Meeting Summary](#) made by Brooke Stewart, seconded by Nicole Banks, passed by a vote of 5 to 0 without objections or abstentions.

Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) – Kristen Savicki
Consumer Care Resources and Flexible Family Fund Programs

In [State Fiscal Year 24 \(SFY24\) Third Quarter](#):

- 56% of funding for the Consumer Care Resources (CCR) program and 74% of funding for the FFF program was spent assisting 493 individuals in the CCR and 365 in the FFF programs.
- Concerns noted for Capital Area (CAHSD) only expending 6%. They have provided explanation to spend balance with upcoming large purchases now that the requests for proposals were received.

Regarding Florida Parishes' (FPHSA) low CCR expenditures for FY23, they did provide OBH a corrective action plan which focuses greatly on improving and establishing partnerships throughout the region. They anticipate this will help promote the program and fill more requests.

Regarding South Central's (SCLHSA) use of \$7,000 on marble composition books, it was reported they participate in an annual community supply donation event. Some members expressed concerns for utilizing funding on donated goods rather than client specific needs.

Supported Living Program

In [SFY24 Third Quarter](#):

- 76% of funding for the adult program was spent serving 154 individuals.

- Concerns noted for CAHSD low expenditure. CAHSD noted its plan in the report to expend all funds in the fourth quarter. It was also noted CAHSD typically spends funding later in the year, so OBH is not concerned about expenditures.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) – Tanya Murphy

In [SFY24 Third Quarter](#):

- 58% of funding for the Individual and Family Support (IFS) program and 75% of funding for the Flexible Family Fund (FFF) program was spent assisting 2,850 individuals in the IFS and 1,882 in the FFF programs.
- At this time, all LGEs have appropriated an amount equal to or greater than 9% of their State General Fund (SGF) to DD services as required in Act 73 of 2017.

Members discussed the [FY23 IFS Priority Requests and Expenditures](#) report which provides a regional breakdown of requests by priority in addition to the types of services and goods provided and the cost. Over 4,000 IFS contracts were completed totaling over \$7.9 million. During the course of the discussion, local governing entities' (LGE) representatives noted they have seen a slight decrease in incontinence supplies requests since this was added as a waiver service. They noted that restrictions on the products made available in waivers still generates IFS requests from waiver recipients. It was also noted that there are limited incontinence waiver providers.

As a follow up to the October meeting, Ms. Murphy also provided the committee with a [document](#) showing the percentages of IFS funding spent on Vocational Supports and Personal Care Attendant/Respite (PCA) services. 34% of all funding was spent on PCA/Respite services and 17% was spent on Vocational/Employment supports. Seven out of the 10 LGEs spent at least ten percentage points above or below the average. This just shows the regions are responding to requests which vary region by region. No trends were identified. Ms. Tanya Murphy did mention a few of the LGEs have prioritized vocational supports over personal care and respite for various reasons including cost and the ability to support individuals with an activity outside of the home.

Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS) / Arc of LA – Kelly Monroe

In [SFY24 Third Quarter](#):

- 61% of funding for the State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) program was spent assisting 42 individuals.
- There are currently 96 people on the waiting list.
- Over \$2.5 million is needed to provide services to all on the wait list.

Meeting adjourned at 12:12 PM.