

Action Alert #16 Supplemental Budget with FHF Funding in Senate Finance

May 21, 2024



An amended supplemental budget (<u>HB782</u>) has made its way through the House and will now be discussed in Senate Finance, Wednesday, May 22nd!

HB782, in its current form, **includes** the <u>additional \$500,000 in SGF for Families Helping Families Regional Resource Centers</u> the Council and LaCAN have been advocating for. During the last three legislative sessions, an additional \$500,000 in state general fund (SGF) was added to the Council's budget specifically for FHF Centers. This increased the Council's SGF to \$1,007,517.

Every dollar of state funds the Council receives supports the work of FHF Centers across the state. Initially, the Council's request to annualize the full budget was denied, essentially cutting funding to Centers by half. Thank you to our Representatives for prioritizing this one of a kind resource.

Advocates are encouraged to share their thoughts about funding for FHF Centers with Senate Finance as they begin to discuss the supplemental budget.

How to Take Action

Share your personal story with the Senate Finance Committee and explain how you or someone you know has been impacted by FHF Regional Resource Centers.

Email or call the Chair and members of the Senate Finance Committee before they meet on Wednesday, May 22nd

- Find the contact information for the Chair and your member(s) of Senate Finance at the end of this alert.
- With your comments, please include your name, address, phone number, email address, bill number (HB782) and let them know the specific issue(s) you are writing about.
- Don't forget to thank the Chair and members for considering the needs of the disability community.

Email sfnce@legis.la.gov your public comments about the supplemental budget by Tuesday, May 21st

- With your comments, please include your name, address, phone number, email address, bill number (HB782) and let them know the specific issue(s) you are writing about.
- Don't forget to thank the committee for considering the needs of the disability community.

Attend Yellow Shirt Day

- Wednesday, May 22nd at 9 AM
- Louisiana State Capitol Senate Committee Room A-B
- Be sure to arrive early so you can get a seat in the committee room

If you plan to attend Yellow Shirt Day, want to meet with your legislator(s), need help preparing your testimony, need a yellow shirt or want to find out about carpooling options, contact your <u>LaCAN Leader</u>.

Can't make it for Yellow Shirt Day? You can watch the committee meeting(s) live from the <u>legislature's</u> <u>website</u>. When the meeting is in progress, click the camera icon to access the broadcast.

Confirm Your Action

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

Tips & Tools for Advocacy

Looking for tips and tools to help you in your advocacy? Check out the Council's <u>Advocacy 101</u> page. You can also find tips for:

- Writing/emailing your legislators
- Calling your legislators
- Writing your story

Contact Us

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

phone: 1-800-450-8108 email: info@laddc.org

website: www.lacanadvocates.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/LaDDCouncil twitter: www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil

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Find your member of the Senate Finance Committee!

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