# Governor's Office of Disability Affairs
## Report to the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
## April 2022

**Click here for Governor's Office of Disability Affairs Monthly Newsletters**
or find newsletters located on the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs webpage.

**Call for Proposals: 2022 GODA Conference**
GODA has begun planning for its 2022 Conference! Proposals to speak are being accepted at this link. If you have more than one idea, please submit a separate proposal for each. Priority selection will be given to proposals that include people with disabilities. The Annual GODA Conference is scheduled the week of July 26 to coincide with the anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Contact Jordan Brisco, Assistant Director of Disability Affairs, at jordan.brisco@la.gov or 225.936.1742 if you have any questions. Proposals to speak are due by April 24th, 2022.

**GACDA Takes Positions on Over 30 Legislative Items**
The Governor's Office of Disability Affairs created a Google spreadsheet to track over 100 pieces of disability-related legislation. Because it is stored in the cloud, the link is always up-to-date. The spreadsheet is updated multiple times a day.

At the last quarterly meetings, the Governor's Advisory Council took position (support/oppose) on approximately 40 legislative instruments. You can find this information, along with the positions of other disability-focused organizations, in Column F of the spreadsheet.

**GACDA Receives Reports on Broadband Accessibility**
The GACDA Accessibility Committee met on 3/9/22, 4/4/22, and 4/8/22 to discuss accessibility of broadband. Veneeth Lyengar presented on the Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities (GUMBO) grant program, which aims to help applicants facilitate the deployment of broadband services to unserved areas of the state. The current vision is to solve the digital divide by 2029.

**Statewide Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC)**
The Statewide Interagency Coordinating Council's last meeting took place on January 13, 2022. They received their quarterly reports and discussed the Family Assessment Workgroup, Service Delivery Supports Family Priorities, and Term Based Practice Supports.

The next quarterly Statewide Interagency Coordinating Council will occur on April 14, 2022. This meeting will be held in a hybrid format; if you choose to attend in person, the meeting will be in the Louisiana Purchase Room 1-100 in the Claiborne Building. Please contact Alishia Vallien, Executive Director of SICC, at alishia.vallien@la.gov for more information.

**Webinar Series in Honor of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**
The Governor's Office of Disability Affairs partnered with The Arc of Louisiana, the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, People First of Louisiana and the Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities to host a series of webinars in honor of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. Topics included Employing Individuals with Disabilities, Inclusion and Self Determination, and Community Success Stories. Click the individual links to gain access to each recording, or click this link to access the Governor's Office of Community Program's YouTube channel.