

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
Act 378 Subcommittee Meeting Summary
January 29, 2025 3:45 PM - 5:00 PM

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

View meeting [transcript](#).

Members Present: Christi Gonzales, Julie Foster Hagan, Brooke Stewart, Erick Taylor

Members Absent: Pasqueal Nguyen, Tony Piontek, Bambi Polotzola

Staff Present: Brenton Andrus, Rekeesha Branch, Stephanie Carmona, Ebony Haven, Bridgette Talley

Others Present: Adrienne Burns, Jude Boynton, Lynn Comeaux, Brandy Croft, Kristie Curis, Erin Downing, Liam Doyle, Kathy Dwyer, Mylinda Elliott, Nicole Flores, Marilyn Goodman, Jill Hano, Lynsey Hebert (CC), Christina Martin, Lamartine Meda, Susan Riehn, Robby Smith, Summer Stevenson, Renoda Washington, Mimi Webb, Vivienne Webb

Brooke Stewart called the meeting to order at 4:01PM. A quorum was established.

Motion to approve the [October Meeting Summary](#) made by Erick Taylor, seconded by Christi Gonzales, passed by a vote of 4 to 0 with no objections or abstentions.

Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) – Dr. Kristin Savicki

Consumer Care Resources and Flexible Family Fund Programs

In State Fiscal Year 25 (SFY25) Second Quarter:

- 49% of funding for the Consumer Care Resources (CCR) program and 50% of funding for the Flexible Family Fund (FFF) program was spent assisting 398 individuals in the CCR and 136 in the FFF programs.

Last quarter, members asked about Central Louisiana's (CLHSD) use of CCR funds for school credit recovery. It was believed this was a free option. Follow up showed CLHSD uses CCR funds to assist students who need financial support to enroll in school credit recovery programs during the summer. The school district charged an enrollment fee, and this funding helps students stay on track academically, advance to the next grade and enhances their self-esteem and confidence.

Follow up was also done to determine how many individuals received funding for driver's education courses through CCR funding and also received a license. It was reported, out of all individuals who received funding for drivers education courses only one has not yet obtained their driver's license. The client successfully passed the class. However, behavioral issues have lead their parents to withhold permission for them to receive a driver's license at this time.

Supported Living Program

In SFY25 Second Quarter:

- 66% of funding for the supported living program was spent serving 169 individuals.

Last quarter, members questioned why South Central (SCLHSA) and Central Louisiana (CLHSD) expended all or most of their funding in the first quarter. Follow up was completed and it was reported

that these funds were largely utilized to address urgent needs for eviction prevention in Central Louisiana.

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) – Brandy Croft

In SFY25 Second Quarter:

- 38% of funding for the Individual and Family Support (IFS) program and 50% of funding for the FFF program was spent assisting 2,273 individuals in the IFS and 1,866 in the FFF programs.
- At this time, all local governing entities (LGEs), with the exception of CLHSD, 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. Ms. Croft stated she would follow-up with CLHSD to ensure compliance.

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

In SFY25 Second Quarter:

- 44% of funding for the State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) program was spent assisting 40 individuals.
- There are currently 104 people on the waiting list.
- Nearly \$2.7 million (with the federal match included) is needed to provide services to all on the wait list.

Members discussed the large number of individuals still on the waiting list and advocacy efforts that will be needed to eliminate this list. Members recommended this concern be brought to the full council when discussing advocacy ideas for FY2027.

Meeting adjourned at 4:44PM.