Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee Meeting Summary
Wednesday, July 20, 2022
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

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

View meeting transcript here.

Members Present:	Patti Barovechio, Kim Basile, Cheri Crain, Jill Egle, Chaney Guidry, Julie F. Hagan, Jill Hano, Angela Harmon, Roslyn Hymel, Tory Rocca
Members Absent:	Matthew Rovira, Crystal White
Staff:	Marilee Andrews, Brenton Andrus, Rekeesha Branch, Lauren Brown, Ebony Haven, Hannah Jenkins
Others Present:	Brenda Bares, Corhonda Corley, Tamara Crane, Lillian DeJean, Kathy Dwyer, Mylinda Elliott, Nicole Flores, Liz Gary, Christi Gonzales, Aungelle Griffin, Lynsey Hebert, Charles Michelle, Davelyn Patrick, Bambi Polotzola, Susan Riehn, William Romero

Kim Basile called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM. A quorum was established.

Approval of the April Meeting Summary passed by unanimous consent.

Non-Contractual Activities

Julie Hagan shared multiple updates on behalf of the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) and the Bureau of Health Services and Financing (Medicaid). Additional information can be found in the linked agency reports.

Ms. Hagan shared a legislative update regarding specific bills and resolutions passed that would impact people with disabilities. Most of the legislation discussed can be found on the Council's bill tracking list. The committee was informed the federal public health emergency had been extended through mid-October which means the Appendix K exceptions for the home- and community- based Medicaid waivers will remain in effect until April 2023. This timeline may change if the federal government renews the emergency order. OCDD also plans to reconvene the Appendix K exceptions focus groups to further discuss family members serving as paid caregivers and virtual visits. Ms. Hagan also shared the deadline to use the additional American Rescue Plan home- and community-based funds was extended to March 2025 due to the extended amount of time it takes CMS to approve the spending plans. Ms. Hagan also committed to

developing a SD/CI committee specific report to summarize the updates she shares quarterly. The summary of updates for this meeting can be found here.

Ms. Hagan also shared an update on the implementation of Act 421 Children's Medicaid Option or TEFRA. As of July 15th

- 940 applications received
- 350 applications approved
- 491 applications being reviewed
- 85 applications denied
- 14 applications withdrawn

A concern was brought up regarding individuals being told they must apply for TEFRA before a waiver to see if their needs can be met via the TEFRA program. The committee was concerned by this because TEFRA may not be right for some families, and this creates another delay in getting them waiver services they may desperately need. Ms. Hagan stated the department was recently made aware of this issue, and they are working with the districts and authorities on processes and trainings to ensure unnecessary delays are not happening. She requested this issue be put on the October agenda to discuss in more detail and provide feedback on what efforts the department has made to address this concern.

Contractual Activities

The committee received multiple updates on contractual activities including Partners in Policymaking (PiP), LaCAN, Families Helping Families Resource Centers (FHF) and other initiatives of the Council that began with the Fiscal Year 2022 Action Plan. Additional information about these activities can be found in the Council's quarterly Status of Planned Activities Report under goals one and two.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM by unanimous consent.