

# Chair's Report

Greetings Council Members,

Welcome to our April quarterly meeting, and thank you for your continued commitment to this Council. I also want to extend a warm welcome to our new members: Landon Hanks, Julia Tanner, and Ashley Allen. We are glad to have you and look forward to working with you.

## Executive Committee Update

The Executive Committee met on January 28, 2026. The Committee reviewed several items related to Council operations and planning, including updates to the 2026 legislative advocacy agenda, discussion of options for the Council Member Retreat, and review of the current Council meeting schedule. The Committee also reviewed and recommended the proposed Code of Conduct to the full Council with revisions and completed the annual Executive Director evaluation, recommending a 3% salary increase.

## Meetings Attended

- Employment & Education Committee Meeting (4/8/26)
- 2026 Legislative Roundtables
  - Regions 1 & 10 (3/6/26)
  - Region 2 (3/5/26)
  - Region 4 (3/4/26)
  - Region 5 (3/2/26)

I want to recognize the LaCAN leaders, the Families Helping Families Executive Directors and their staff across all regions, as well as our Council staff for their continued work and coordination in these efforts. As we move further into the legislative session in Louisiana, it is important that we remain engaged in advocacy efforts. This includes not only participation in meetings, but also staying informed, reviewing materials shared by staff, and coming prepared for committee discussions.

## Council Member Expectations

I want to take a moment to reaffirm expectations related to Council participation and communication. While we all balance multiple responsibilities and deadlines, service on this Council includes specific expectations that support effective operations and informed decision-making. The following expectations are essential to fulfilling our responsibilities as Council members:

- Timely responses to emails and requests from Council staff and the Chair to ensure thoughtful consideration of materials, adherence to deadlines, and adequate preparation for meetings.

- Consistent attendance and active participation in Council and committee meetings, including engagement in discussions and contribution to the work of assigned committees.
- Preparation for meetings through the review of materials provided in advance to support informed and productive decision-making.
- Ongoing engagement between meetings by staying informed, following up on assigned tasks, and remaining responsive to Council business.

Council staff work diligently to support this body and respecting their time and effort through clear and timely communication is an important part of our shared responsibility. Consistent participation and communication are expected as part of Council service. When expectations are not met, those instances will be addressed and documented, as accountability supports the integrity and effectiveness of our work. My goal is to promote clarity, collaboration, and mutual respect as we continue working together. Together, we can ensure that this Council operates effectively and continues to serve the community with purpose and impact.

### **Council Member Reflection**

Before I close, I want to take a moment for reflection. As Chair, I like to take time to reflect on how I am showing up in this role, and I encourage each of us, whether new to the Council or serving for some time, to do the same. Reflection helps keep us grounded in our purpose and accountable to the work.

Quietly repeat each question and take a moment to reflect:

Why am I a part of this Council?

Am I showing up in a way that reflects that purpose?

Am I fully meeting the responsibilities of this role?

And if not, what needs to change?

Each of us was selected to serve in this role. Out of the many who applied for membership, and the many others who are committed to this work every day, we were chosen to sit at this table. That carries responsibility and reflects the trust placed in us.