

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council
Self-Determination and Community Inclusion Committee Meeting Summary
Wednesday, April 1, 2026
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

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

View meeting [transcript](#).

Members Present: Patti Barovechio, Alaina Chachere, Cheri Crain, Jill Hano, Angela Harmon, Cherie Kelly-Adulli, Robby Smith, Geary Williams, Karen Xu

Members Absent: Frank Macaluso, Pasqueal Nguyen, Brooke Stewart, Brian Bennett

Staff: Brenton Andrus, Rekeesha Branch, Lauren Brown, Stephanie Carmona, Ebony Haven

Others Present: Mylinda Elliott, Jacki Pierce, Susan Riehn

Jill Hano called the meeting to order at 12:03PM. A quorum was established.

MOTION PASSED Approval of the [January Meeting Summary](#) made by Geary Williams, second by Robby Smith. Passed by a vote of 11 to 0 with no abstentions.

Non-Contractual Activities

Geary Williams with the Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS) shared a few updates about from his department. Some of these updates can be found in his agency report which is included in your Council meeting packet and on the Council's [meeting page](#). Mr. Brown from the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disorders and Mr. Bennett from Medicaid were unable to attend the meeting and provide their report.

Mr. Williams reported, OAAS continues to contract and meet bi-weekly with Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Strategies to do a full review and revamp for Community Choices Waiver to create a more needs-based waitlist and a continuum of care program for the participants. OAAS anticipates, by June, they will be in a position where they can make recommendations to CMS and Medicaid on how they plan to move forward.

Contractual Activities

The committee received multiple updates on contractual activities including Partners in Policymaking (PIP), LaCAN, Families Helping Families Resources Centers (FHF) and other initiatives of the Council that began with the Fiscal Year 2026 Action Plan. During the meeting the committee also discussed concerns for the Council's Women's

Health and Sex Education initiative contracted by LSU. As of April 1st, LSU had just signed both contracts but had not begun doing any work towards the goals set for these initiatives.

Additional information about these activities can be found in the Council's quarterly [Status of Planned Activities Report](#) under goals one and two in addition to reports linked in the committee's [agenda](#).

Meeting was adjourned at 12:52 PM.