

*Louisiana*  
*Developmental Disabilities Council*

*State Plan*  
*FFY 2002 - 2007*

*Goals and Objectives*  
*for*  
*FFY 2003*

## QUALITY ASSURANCE ACTIVITIES

**GOAL**        **People have information, skills, opportunities and supports to live free of abuse, neglect, financial and sexual exploitation, and violations of their human and legal rights.**

Objective 1    1588 persons with developmental disabilities and family members will be trained to become effective advocates.

Strategy 1.1    Continue Partners in Policymaking by awarding contracts for the Partners' Coordinator and Fiscal Agent.

Strategy 1.1.1        Solicit applications from potential participants and meet with selection committee by November 2002 to select new Partners.

Strategy 1.1.2        Conduct an annual evaluation of the Partners in Policymaking Program and modify the program as warranted.

Strategy 1.2    Continue to contract with Families Helping Families to financially support stipends for persons with developmental disabilities and their family members to attend training conferences, meetings, events, and community memberships.

Approximate Cost:    \$139,332 for FFY 2003

Objective 2    A statewide self-advocacy organization will be established through collaboration with the Louisiana Self-Advocacy Project.

Strategy 2.1    Develop and fund a solicitation of proposals to establish the statewide program.

Strategy 2.2    Develop and fund a solicitation of proposals for a leadership training program for two self advocates per regional chapter and their advisor.

Approximate Cost:    \$21,800 for FFY 2003

Objective 3 Individuals with disabilities and family members of individuals with disabilities will be supported as members of the Council to serve as effective advocates for systems change in Louisiana.

Strategy 3.1: Support individuals with disabilities and family members of individuals with disabilities in participation in Council meetings and other functions.

Approximate Cost: \$13,500 for FFY 2003

Objective 4 One thousand people with disabilities will be supported and empowered to become self advocates.

Strategy 4.1: Support people to participate in the self-advocacy movement in Louisiana through collaboration with the LA Self-Advocacy Project.

Strategy 4.1.1 Advocate for and help facilitate the appointment and participation of individuals with developmental disabilities, especially those with cognitive disabilities, on state and regional boards and committees.

Strategy 4.1.2 Provide support for a statewide self-advocacy conference. **ACCOMPLISHED IN FFY 2001**

Strategy 4.1.3 Sponsor training for Council members and other organizations on supporting self-advocates in meetings.

Strategy 4.2 Financial support will be provided to the LA Youth Leadership Forum. **ACCOMPLISHED IN FFY 2002**

Objective 5 The lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families will be enhanced by continuing a collaborative relationship through TRI\*ADD, the joint effort of the Council, the Advocacy Center, and the Human Development Center.

Strategy 5.1 Multiply the impact of the efforts of the three DD Programs by focusing and coordinating mutually agreed upon objectives.

Strategy 5.1.1 Promote efficiency and cost-effectiveness for the three programs through joint ventures such as producing and distributing a joint newsletter in print and on line.

Approximate Cost: \$6,764 for FFY 2003.

**OTHER SERVICES AVAILABLE OR OFFERED TO INDIVIDUALS IN A COMMUNITY, INCLUDING FORMAL AND INFORMAL COMMUNITY SUPPORTS THAT AFFECT THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE**

**GOAL Individuals have access to other services available or offered in a community, including formal and informal community supports that affect their quality of life.**

Objective 6 Two thousand individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will receive individual and family supports through support of grassroots systemic advocacy.

Strategy 6.1 Oversee implementation of the Community and Family Support System Plan.

Strategy 6.1.1 Determine legislative goals and implement legislative strategy.

Strategy 6.2 Continue to provide financial support to LaCAN for advocacy for the expansion of the Community and Family Support System.

Strategy 6.2.1 Hold strategy meeting with LaCAN Leadership to select new team leaders where there are vacancies and update and implement member recruitment plan.

Strategy 6.2.2 Establish calendar of advocacy activity and develop fact sheets and cost figures.

Strategy 6.2.3 Conduct and evaluate annual LaCAN leader and FHF directors' training event.

Strategy 6.2.4 Support FHF directors and LaCAN leaders to conduct and evaluate regional LaCAN trainings.

Strategy 6.2.5 Provide ongoing staff support and assistance to LaCAN leaders and monitor their activities.

Strategy 6.2.6 Collaborate and coordinate LaCAN activities with other advocacy groups.

Approximate Cost: \$41,400 for FFY 2003

Objective 7 Reform of the long term care system and the implementation of the Olmstead decision will be advanced through advocacy, collaboration, coordination, and education of legislators, policy makers and other stakeholders.

Strategy 7.1 Participate in the development and implementation of a plan for Louisiana to comply with the Olmstead decision in collaboration with other agencies.

Strategy 7.1.1 Participate in the Disability Services and Supports System Planning Group and the Consumer Task Force

Strategy 7.2 DD Council members will make presentations at regional conferences and forums.

Objective 8 Seventy-five thousand persons with developmental disabilities and their families will continue to obtain the information, training, and support they need through support to the Families Helping Families Resource Centers.

Strategy 8.1 Continue funding Families Helping Families Resource Centers at current FY '02 funding levels.

Strategy 8.1.1 Develop and implement a five year plan to replace DDC funding of FHF with appropriate alternate funding sources.

Strategy 8.2 Continue to fund a statewide Families Helping Families Coordinator position.

Strategy 8.3 Participate on FHF Statewide Advisory Council.

Approximate Cost: \$302,808 for FFY 2003

Objective 9 Twenty-seven thousand people with developmental disabilities and their families will continue to receive information on disability services and resources through the continued operation of the Disability Information Access Line (DIAL).

Strategy 9.1 Continue to provide services for the Baby Line and Child Net funded by the Maternal and Child Health Program and the LA Department of Education.

Strategy 9.1.1 Continue to update the DIAL data base.

Strategy 9.1.2 Make DIAL accessible to non-English speaking persons.

**ACCOMPLISHED IN FFY 2002**

Strategy 9.1.3 Collaborate with the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs in order to avoid duplication of effort with the internet resource data base.

Strategy 9.1.4 Make presentations at regional Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS), Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD), Office of Mental Health (OMH) and Office of Public Health (OPH) staff meetings to promote awareness of DIAL.

Strategy 9.1.5 Ensure that DIAL is listed on as many appropriate web sites and brochures as possible.

Approximate Cost: \$68,000 for FFY 2003

Objective 10 Forty children with developmental disabilities and their parents will receive training on assistive technology devices and services.

Strategy 10.1 Continue funding for the Assistive Technology Camp at current level.

Strategy 10.1.1 Determine effectiveness of camp.

Approximate Cost: \$1,500 for FFY 2003

## HOUSING ACTIVITIES

**GOAL**        **Adults choose where and with whom they live.**

Objective 11   People with developmental disabilities will have access to 20 supported living providers that have been trained to provide high quality person-centered supports.

Strategy 11.1   Continue supporting the “Partnership for Excellence” Project.

Strategy 11.1.1     Encourage the Partnership for Excellence Project presenting at statewide conferences.

Strategy 11.1.2     Monitor and evaluate project’s effectiveness.

Strategy 11.2   Promote the existence, goals, principles and benefits of the Supported Living Network.

Strategy 11.2.1     Publicize the Supported Living Network in the Triangle.

Strategy 11.2.2     Advocate for a waiver provider certification process.

Approximate Cost:   \$90,000 for FFY 2003

Objective 12   Persons with disabilities will have increased access to housing through the establishment of a website.

Strategy 12.1   Provide funding for website for collaborative grant project with the Advocacy Center, the Human Development Center, and the Fair Housing Action Center to provide fair housing education and outreach.

Approximate Cost:   \$1,435 for FFY 2003

Objective 13   MR/DD Waiver rates will be increased by 20% as a result of Council advocacy efforts.

Strategy 13.1   Participate in advocacy activities for Waiver reform and expansion.

Strategy 13.2   Participate in groups working on Direct Support Personnel issues.

## **HEALTH ACTIVITIES**

**GOAL**            **People are healthy and benefit from the full range of needed health services.**

Objective 14   Health care for persons with developmental disabilities will become a priority in Louisiana as a result of the DD Council's collaboration with at least 8 advocacy bodies, programs and projects.

Strategy 14.1   Participate in collaborative advocacy bodies, including but not limited to the Mental Health Planning Council, the LA Health Care Campaign, the Mental Health Reform Coalition, La Team, the LA Consortium of Citizens with Disabilities, the OCDD Oral Health Task Force, the Advocacy Center and the University Center for Excellence (HDC).

Strategy 14.2   Participate in collaborative programs and projects, including but not limited to the CSHS Long Range Plan Committee, the Medicaid Buy-in Advisory Council and the Medical Home Project.

Strategy 14.2.1            Collaborate with the Medical Home Project to increase the number of physicians trained in providing primary health care services to children with disabilities.

Strategy 14.3   Support outreach efforts to the disability community for health related systems like LaCHIP.

## **EDUCATION AND EARLY INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES**

**GOAL**            **Students reach their educational potential and infants and young children reach their developmental potential.**

Objective 15   Key decision-makers in one local school system and other stakeholders will increase their knowledge of the principles and benefits of inclusion.

Strategy 15.1   Contract with the St. Charles Parish School Board to develop and implement a training academy based on the Michigan or similar model.

Strategy 15.1.1 Incorporate a “team” approach for training teachers, administrators, parents, and Families Helping Families staff.

Strategy 15.1.2 Collaborate with existing school reform initiatives.

Strategy 15.1.3 Monitor and evaluate the program’s effectiveness.

Approximate Cost: \$100,000 for FFY 2003

Objective 16 Information and technical assistance received by families will result in more inclusive educational opportunities for 500 children.

Strategy 16.1 The Council will develop desired outcomes for the Inclusive Education Family Facilitators.

Strategy 16.2 Consumer satisfaction will be surveyed and evaluated annually.

Strategy 16.3 Projects will be monitored and evaluated annually based on desired outcomes.

Approximate Cost: \$60,000 for FFY 2003

Objective 17 The DD Council will be represented on at least 3 educational decision making bodies in order to represent the interests of students with developmental disabilities.

Strategy 17.1 The DD Council will be represented on Louisiana’s Task Force to respond to the US Department of Education’s Federal Monitoring Citations. **ACCOMPLISHED IN FFY 2002**

Strategy 17.2 Nominate a DD Council member to serve on any School Accountability Committees established.

Strategy 17.3 Request that the LA Department of Education sponsor two additional parent conferences in two other areas of the state.

Strategy 17.4 Nominate a DD Council representative to serve on the Transition Committee created by the Executive Order.

Strategy 17.5 The DD Council will be represented on the SICC. **ACCOMPLISHED IN FFY 2002**

- Strategy 17.6 The DD Council will become involved in assessment, accountability, curriculum, graduation, and exit issues.
- Strategy 17.7 The DD Council will establish a relationship with other related groups such as the LA Children’s Cabinet.
- Strategy 17.8 The DD Council will be represented on the Louisiana State Improvement Grant Committee working toward higher education reform issues.
- Strategy 17.9 Develop and implement strategies with the LA Department of Education to better disseminate information to special education students and their families.

Objective 18 The awareness of the 11 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education members will be heightened on the needs of students with developmental disabilities.

- Strategy 18.1 Collaborate with the Louisiana State Improvement Grant to develop and disseminate a needs assessment process for parents.
- Strategy 18.2 Summarize and publicize the results of the needs assessment through the TriAngle.
- Strategy 18.3 Develop and implement strategies on how the concerns identified can be communicated and addressed by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and other policymakers.

## **EMPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES**

**GOAL**        **People get and keep employment consistent with their interests, abilities and needs.**

Objective 19 Five hundred families of adolescents with developmental disabilities will obtain information on service options for adults with developmental disabilities resulting in families having more opportunities to make informed choices.

Strategy 19.1 The Council will develop outcomes for the STAR Facilitators.

Strategy 19.2 Consumer satisfaction will be surveyed and evaluated annually.

Strategy 19.3 Projects will be monitored and evaluated annually based on desired outcomes.

Approximate Cost: \$60,000 for FFY 2003

Objective 20 Sixty people with developmental disabilities currently being served by a state funded vocational program will realize more integrated, competitive employment opportunities.

Strategy 20.1 Contract with Arc-Baton Rouge on the conversion of a sheltered workshop to community integrated employment.

Strategy 20.1.1 Develop, in cooperation with OCDD, funding mechanisms and program strategies which provide an incentive for providers of sheltered workshops to move towards providing integrated employment opportunities to the people they serve.

Strategy 20.1.2 Educate parents and self advocates on the benefits of diversified employment.

Strategy 20.1.3 Project will be monitored and evaluated annually.  
**ACCOMPLISHED IN FFY 2002**

Objective 21 The interests of individuals with developmental disabilities will be addressed in the activities of the Workforce Commission and through participation on each of the 18 local Workforce Investment Boards (WIB).

Strategy 21.1 Advocate that each WIB include a person with a disability.

Strategy 21.2 Encourage Council members or someone they know to become involved with their local WIB.

Strategy 21.2.1 Solicit Partners Graduates for participation on local WIBs.

Strategy 21.3 Nominate a DD Council member to sit on the Workforce Commission.

## **TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITIES**

**GOAL**        **People have transportation services for work, school, medical, and personal needs.**

Objective 22   Transportation choices and opportunities for persons with disabilities will be expanded through the Council's assistance in the coordination of at least one transportation program in Louisiana.

Strategy 22.1   The Council will be represented on the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs Transportation Task Force.

Strategy 22.1.1        The Council will support efforts to expand transportation services and develop new transportation services in the state through collaboration with the Task Force.

## **RECREATION ACTIVITIES**

**GOAL**        **People benefit from inclusive recreational, leisure and social activities consistent with their interests and abilities.**

Objective 23   Nine hundred forty individuals with developmental disabilities will have opportunities to enjoy increased or enhanced recreational activities through Council collaborative efforts.

Strategy 23.1   The Council will be represented on the Louisiana Serve Commission.

Strategy 23.1.1        Advocate for the involvement of people with developmental disabilities in projects funded or supported by LA Serve.

Strategy 23.1.2        Facilitate the involvement of representatives of LA Serve in inclusive recreational opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

Strategy 23.2   Collaborate with the Arc-Louisiana in increasing recreational opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

Strategy 23.3 Develop a solicitation for proposals and contract for an awareness training program for recreation departments throughout the state to increase inclusion of people with disabilities in recreation activities/opportunities.

Approximate Cost: \$15,000 for FFY 2003