



COMMUNITY PROVIDER ASSOCIATION

ADVOCATING FOR LOUISIANA'S DISABILITY SERVICES COMMUNITY

CAROLINE MEEHAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

www.communityprovider.org

Welcome **AGENDA**



COMMUNITY PROVIDER ASSOCIATION

Get to Know the CPA

Celebrate our Advocacy
Successes

Share our Priorities

Hear Your Perspective



COMMUNITY PROVIDER ASSOCIATION

WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY PROVIDER ASSOCIATION?

We are Louisiana's leading trade association for organizations providing quality services to individuals with disabilities. Our mission is to secure necessary public funding and to pursue initiatives through advocacy, collaboration, and education.



WHAT WE DO



ADVOCACY

The CPA is the unified advocacy voice for Louisiana's disability service organizations in Baton Rouge and Washington, DC. We equip members with tools to effectively influence policies and systems and keep you informed about the latest legislative and regulatory developments.

COLLABORATION

The CPA offers a supportive community where members can network, share best practices, and work through collective challenges that affect the disability services industry. We facilitate growth in our members and encourage the highest standards of quality and ethics for your organization.

EDUCATION

The CPA is committed to moving Louisiana's disability services system forward by building a strong professional workforce. We endeavor to provide education and training opportunities relevant to staff at all levels.



CPA MEMBERSHIP

CPA membership is open to any organization in Louisiana who operates one or more of the following programs: ICF/DDs, home and community-based services, or support coordination services. Our current members include*:

- Alexander Milne Developmental Services
- Alliance Healthcare Staffing
- Alternative Concept Care Services
- The Arc of Acadiana
- The Arc Caddo-Bossier
- ArcGNO
- ARCO
- Assumption Arc
- Beauregard Arc
- CADENCE of Acadiana
- CARC
- Care, Inc.
- Care Solutions, Inc.
- Caregiver Homes
- Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans
- CDF Healthcare of Louisiana
- Community Bridges
- Colwell Health Services
- Delta American Healthcare
- Direct Care, Inc.
- Evergreen Life Services
- Franklin Community Services
- G.B. Cooley
- Gulf Coast Social Services
- Holy Angels Residential Facility
- Lafourche ARC
- Leading Home Care of Louisiana
- Liberty Six Community Home
- Medical Resources & Guidance
- Moore Care
- OLS Community Homes
- Options, Inc.
- People Unlimited
- Preferred Living Inc
- Quality Support Coordination
- ResCare
- Right Hand Senior Care, Inc.
- Special Education District #1
- STARC
- Volunteers of America South Central Louisiana
- Volunteers of America North Louisiana
- Volunteers of America Southeast Louisiana

*current as of August 2022

BOARD MEMBERS



Laurie Boswell, President
Holy Angels Residential Facility

Cindy Leleux, President-Elect
Arc of Acadiana

Wendy Eschete, Secretary
Lafourche Arc

Heather Matthews, Treasurer
Volunteers of America Southeast Louisiana

Bridgette Willson, Past President
Care, Inc.

Eboness Black, Member
Volunteers of South Central Louisiana

Erica Buchanan, Member
CADENCE of Acadiana

Libby Leone, Member
CARC

Annissa Payne, Member
GB Cooley Life Services

Jeff Richardson, Member
CDF Healthcare

Matt Rovira, Member
Leading Home Care

Doug Ryland, Member
Evergreen Life Services

Randy Watts, Member
Delta American Healthcare





WHAT ARE OUR PRIORITIES?

- Working to ensure the implementation of a functional and reliable rate methodology based on real, evidence-based costs for ICF/DDs, HCBS waivers, and support coordination services
- Collaborating with the Louisiana Department of Health on policy initiatives to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of disability services and to address the ongoing workforce crisis.
- Ensuring that all components of the disability services system -- ICFs, HCBS, and support coordination -- are adequately supported and funded





WHY IS STATE ADVOCACY SO IMPORTANT?

- **The state funds disability services.** State legislators make money decisions that affect our ability to do our work.
- State officials and legislators make other important decisions about our industry. They are not on the ground doing the work day to day, so we need to education them about our needs.

Advocacy

WHAT IS OUR PROCESS?



- The CPA Board sets priorities based on CPA member feedback and recommendations.
- Our members work in regional teams to engage their local legislators.
- We have an annual day at the Capitol during the legislative session
- We work with partners to advance our priorities and support their priorities.



RECENT ADVOCACY SUCCESSES



Appropriations

Home & Community-Based Services

- Annualization of \$2.50/hour increase for OCDD waivers
- Increase for transportation reimbursement rate in NOW and ROW and addition of transportation services to Supports Waiver
- Rate increases for OAAS services (Community Choices waiver, ADHC, LT-PCS)
- 250 additional Community Choices waiver slots

TOTAL: \$135.9 million

Appropriations

ICFs

- Rebase
- \$12/day add-on for at least duration of FY23
- Additional appropriation for one-time supplemental payments
- Comprehensive dental coverage for adult ICF residents
- Increase in ICF leave day reimbursement rate (85%)

TOTAL: \$51.8 million

Appropriations

SUPPORT COORDINATION

- Rate increases for OCDD and OAAS support coordination services
- Rate increase for Early Steps support coordination services

TOTAL: \$20.6 million

Appropriations

OTHER

- Rate increase for ABA providers

TOTAL: \$5.2 million

TOTAL FY23 INVESTMENT
IN DISABILITY SERVICES:
\$213,500,000

Appropriations

Since 2020

Medicaid reimbursement rates have increased:

- 14% for in-home supports in OCDD
- 46% for in-home supports in OAAS
- 6.5% for ICF/IIDs
- 30% for support coordination services

Bills & **RESOLUTIONS**

HCR 38 (Rep. Paula Davis)

Forms a working group to study the unique needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and co-occurring behavioral health conditions

HCR 39 (Rep. Rhonda Butler)

Requests a study and recommendations concerning barriers to hiring of direct support professionals who provide Medicaid-covered services to people with disabilities

HCR 40 (Rep. Chris Turner)

Requests the La. Department of Health to study and report on the costs of providing nursing services in certain Medicaid-funded programs and facilities for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Bills & **RESOLUTIONS**

Act 366 (Rep. Rhonda Butler)

Provides for Medicaid coverage of dental care for each Medicaid enrollee of age twenty-one or older who resides in an intermediate care facility for people with developmental disabilities. Appropriation included in budget.

HCR 4 (Rep. Rhonda Butler)

Amends present administrative rule to provide that reimbursement to non-state ICFs for all leave of absence days shall be 85% of the current applicable per diem rate. Appropriation included in budget.

Act 242 (Sen. Sharon Hewitt)

changes the name of the Community and Family Support System Fund to the Disability Services Fund. Bill creates two additional accounts within the fund that can be used for disability services beyond DD waivers.

2023

WHAT'S NEXT: PLAN OF ACTION



2023

PLAN OF ACTION

Session Dates: April 10-June 8

Fiscal Session:

Legislators are limited in the number of bills they can introduce

Top Priorities:

- Funding
- Workforce Stability

- Annualizing money in the budget that we got this year to avoid devastating rate cuts.
- Addressing the workforce crisis among DSPs and other key staff, including looking at hiring barriers.
- Pushing for funding to address the growing costs of providing nursing services to individuals in Home and Community-Based Services and ICFs.



COMMUNITY PROVIDER ASSOCIATION

SMALL GROUP BREAK-OUTS

- What do you think of these priorities: funding and workforce stability?
- How do they resonate with your programs, your staff, and the people you serve?
- What is missing? What else do you think would improve our disability service system in Louisiana?





Group Share!

What did you discuss in your groups?

How well aligned are the priorities with your work and your community?

What else do you think would improve Louisiana's disability services system?



Get Involved **IN ADVOCACY!**

**Even if you aren't a CPA member,
you can still be an advocate!**

Get to know your local legislators:

<https://legis.la.gov/legis/FindMyLegislators.aspx>



FROM THE CPA TEAM,

Thank You!



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