

# ADVOCACY



# 101

**LACAN**

LOUISIANA COUNCIL'S ADVOCACY NETWORK

LACAN IS AN INITIATIVE OF THE LOUISIANA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL (LDDC)

# GET TO KNOW YOUR PRESENTERS



Christina M.  
R1/10



April H.  
R2



Julie S.  
R3



Mylinda E.  
R5



Kristen R.  
R6



Mimi W.  
R7



Konstance C.  
R8



Angel M.  
R9

LaCAN Leaders are available to provide additional information and support in your advocacy efforts for systems change.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDTABLES

LEGISLATIVE VISITS

## WHAT WE DO

INFORMATION & ACTION ALERTS

YELLOW SHIRT DAYS



# WHAT IS ADVOCACY?

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***SPEAKING UP  
FOR CHANGE***



***SUPPORTING OR  
OPPOSING ISSUES***



***SHARING LIVED  
EXPERIENCES***



***EDUCATING  
DECISION-MAKERS***

# WHY DOES ADVOCACY MATTER?

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*PROTECTS RIGHTS*

*PROMOTES INCLUSION*

*IMPROVES ACCESS*

*STRENGTHENS SERVICES*



# INDIVIDUAL VS SYSTEMS ADVOCACY

***INDIVIDUAL:  
HELPS ONE  
PERSON***

***SYSTEMS:  
HELPS MANY  
PEOPLE***

***POLICY  
SHAPES  
SERVICES***

***BOTH ARE  
IMPORTANT***



# WHAT IS SYSTEMS CHANGE?

*CHANGES LAWS*

*IMPROVES POLICIES*

*IMPACTS FUNDING*

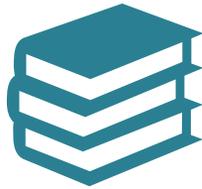
*AFFECTS MANY LIVES*

# WHY IS SYSTEMS CHANGE NEEDED?

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***MISUNDERSTANDINGS  
EXIST***



***RESOURCES ARE  
LIMITED***



***SERVICES ARE FRAGILE***



***ADVOCACY PROTECTS  
SUPPORTS***

# COMMON ADVOCACY FEARS



**POLICYMAKERS FEEL  
INTIMIDATING**



**FEAR OF CONFLICT**



**NOT ENOUGH KNOWLEDGE**



**LIMITED TIME**

# **THE TRUTH ABOUT ADVOCACY**



# **SIMPLE WAYS TO ADVOCATE**



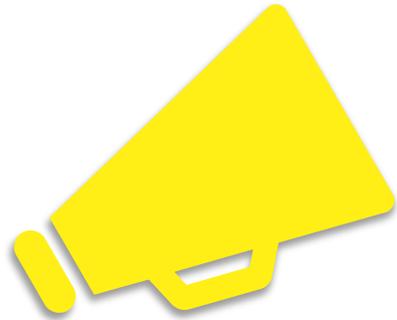
**CALL OR EMAIL**

**VISIT LEGISLATORS**

**SHARE YOUR STORY**

**RESPOND TO ALERTS**

# ADVOCACY IN ACTION



**GRASSROOTS  
VOICES MATTER**

**COLLECTIVE  
ACTION WORKS**



**CONSISTENT  
EFFORT COUNTS**

**PARTICIPATION  
CREATES CHANGE**

# KEY TAKEAWAYS

**ADVOCACY  
IS ACTION**

**SYSTEMS  
CHANGE  
MATTERS**

**YOUR VOICE  
COUNTS**

**SMALL STEPS  
CREATE  
IMPACT**

# CALL TO ACTION

01

STAY  
INFORMED

02

TAKE ACTION

03

USE YOUR  
VOICE

04

BUILD  
CHANGE  
TOGETHER

# ***THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!***

*Now its time to take what you've learned and start advocating.*

*Together, we can create meaningful, lasting change.*

**Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council (LADDC)**

**Website: <http://www.laddc.org/>**

**Louisiana Council's Advocacy Network (LACAN)**

**Website: <https://laddc.org/lacan/>**

