

LaCAN Membership Form

By becoming a LaCAN member you will be connected to a regional LaCAN Leader and receive advocacy alerts on the topics you check below. You will also receive the Council's electronic newsletter, LaDDC News.

Full Name _____

E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Parish _____

Check one. I am a(n):

- Individual with a disability
- Parent or family member of someone with a disability
- Professional, educator, or provider
- Legislator or BESE member
- Other

Check all that apply. As a LaCAN member, I am willing to:

- Write or email policymakers
- Call policymakers
- Attend legislative visits with my LaCAN Leader
- Attend key meetings in Baton Rouge
- Share my story publically at key committee/board meetings



Linking lawmakers, individuals with disabilities,
and family members to make positive change in
systems serving people with disabilities

www.lacanadvocates.org | 800-450-8108

The statewide grassroots advocacy network of the



Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

Our Mission

The Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council's mission is to lead and promote advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change to improve the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

The Louisiana Council's Advocacy Network, LaCAN, furthers this mission by advocating for policies and systems that support inclusion everywhere people learn, work, live, and play. LaCAN advocates for service systems that support children and adults with disabilities to live in their own homes and be fully-included and participating members of their local schools and communities.

Our History

- 1988** LaCAN was created by the Council to advocate for a home and community-based service system
- 2004** LaTEACH was created by the Council to promote inclusive education for all students.
- 2016** These two initiatives united to form one powerful network to advocate for home and community-based services, employment, and education/early intervention issues.

Our Members

Regional LaCAN teams include individuals with disabilities, family members, friends, educators, and other professionals who are interested in advocating for systems change. Benefits to membership include:

- ✓ **Connection** - become part of a regional team of advocates
- ✓ **Information** - receive current information on proposed policy changes and how those changes may affect you and others
- ✓ **Training** - learn skills to effectively advocate for systems change
- ✓ **Support** - receive assistance from a regional LaCAN Leader who will link you with your policymakers

Our Guiding Principles

- Children, regardless of the severity of their disability, need families and enduring relationships with adults in a nurturing home environment to develop to their fullest potential.
- Adults with developmental disabilities should be afforded the opportunity to make decisions for themselves, live in typical homes and communities, and exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens.
- People with developmental disabilities, regardless of the severity of their disability, should have the opportunity and support needed to gain and maintain competitive, integrated, individualized employment.
- All students, with or without disabilities, should be provided the same opportunities to be educated in neighborhood schools as their sisters, brothers, friends and neighbors.
- All students, with or without disabilities, should be provided with the support to learn together effectively, involving family, school, and community.

Ways to Join LaCAN

Mail the attached membership form to:

LaCAN Membership
PO Box 3455
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3455

- OR -

Complete our online membership form at:

www.lacanadvocates.org



Find us on facebook!  www.facebook.com/LaDDCouncil

MEMBERSHIP IS FREE! NO DUES. NO FEES.