

# **Louisiana's Resource Allocation Model: Recommendations for Public and Private ICFs/DD**

Waiver services enable people with significant disabilities to live safely in their communities where they enrich the lives of their neighbors. These services are also provided at less cost to the public on average than supporting someone in an institutional setting. However, the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) requires that states that offer ICF/DD services make that choice available to everyone who is eligible for developmental disabilities services.

Currently, the average annual cost of an individual in a developmental center is \$171,000. The current average New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) cost is \$70,000. With implementation of the Resource Allocation Model in the fall of 2008, average NOW costs for the 2,025 new recipients are expected to be \$44,208.

## **Plan for Implementation of Resource Allocation to ICF/DD Residents:**

Assess all residents of public and private ICFs/DD using the Supports Intensity Scale/La. Plus (SIS/LA+) and offer services based on need.

### Residents of Developmental Centers

- Developmental Center (DC) residents who do not require a high level of supports (i.e., intensive medical services) would be provided community services through the waiver or a community home.

### Residents of Private ICFs/DD

- Residents of Private ICFs/DD who do not require 24 hour supervision would be offered waiver services.

### Potential Funding for Waiver Slots

- Beds vacated in the private ICFs/DD will remain available. The waiver slots for people exiting the private ICFs/DD should be financed by the savings realized by the consolidation and closure of developmental centers and the voluntary closure of private ICF/DD beds.

## **What Legislators Can Do:**

Support these recommendations for implementation of the Resource Allocation Model in public and private ICFs/DD.