

Fill the Slots

9,000 People with Developmental Disabilities Need Waiver Services

Facts First

- **Over 800 of the NOW waiver slots funded by the legislature in 2007 and 2008 remain unfilled.**
- **DHH has decreased the number of NOW waiver slots offered from 300 to 100 per month.**
- **Over 9,000 people with developmental disabilities wait eight years for waiver services they need now!**
- **The average cost for a new NOW slot is \$45,000 vs. the average cost of \$201,852 per person in Developmental Centers.**

What Legislators Can Do

Ensure the Department of Health and Hospitals continues filling all available Home and Community Based waiver slots.

Why Do This?

The legislature appropriated funding for these slots with the expectation they would be filled by DHH in a timely manner.

Not filling available slots further delays the eight year wait individuals have for receiving critical services.

Without waiver services, many families reach crisis situations and seek more costly institutional care.

Waiver services are more cost effective than institutional settings and afford individuals with developmental disabilities a better quality of life living independently in their own homes or with their families.

Keep People in the Community

Louisiana should continue downsizing and consolidating costly Developmental Centers and reallocate the cost savings into Home and Community Based Services.