



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

**MEMORANDUM**

**OCDD-P-20-030**  
**OCDD-SC-20-011**  
**OCDD-R-20-008**

**DATE:** June 12, 2020

**TO:** OCDD Providers  
OCDD Support Coordinators  
Self-Direction Participants

**FROM:** Julie Foster Hagan, OCDD Assistant Secretary

**SUBJECT:** ABLE Accounts Information

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Foster Hagan".

In 2015 Louisiana passed the Louisiana Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act, which allows individuals and families to save money for their loved ones, without affecting their eligibility for federal and state benefits like Medicaid and Social Security. Families and individuals can deposit up to \$15,000 per year for the individual to use on qualified disability services. You can access more information about the Louisiana ABLE program [HERE](#).

During the COVID-19 Emergency many individuals with disabilities have received Economic Impact Payments and unemployment benefits. Additionally, because of the reduced community engagement those individuals may not have been able to spend the money they are receiving. Opening an ABLE account would allow individuals to save the money received during the COVID-19 emergency, while ensuring that the benefits they receive are not affected.

The American Network of Community Options and Resources is hosting a webinar on Monday June 15, 2020 from 1-2 to give information about ABLE accounts, which you can register for [HERE](#). Additionally we are attaching an *ABLE Fact Sheet* (OCDD-PC-20-002, OCDD-RC-20-001) with additional resources and links.