The FAIR Program

Disability Rights Louisiana (DRLA) protects, empowers, & advocates for people with disabilities throughout the state. There is no charge for DRLA services. With funding from the Kessler Foundation, the FAIR program will assist currently and formerly incarcerated people in removing barriers to employment and financial stability.

Eligibility requirements
Participants in the FAIR program should:

• Have been released from incarceration within the last 5 years or expect to be released within the next 3 months;
• Live in or will be released to Orleans or Jefferson Parish;
• Between the ages of 18 and 64;
• Have a disability, and
• Be interested in employment

All referrals may be subject to additional eligibility determinations by DRLA staff.

What is considered a disability?
Our program specifically has funding for people with disabilities. A disability is having an illness, diagnosis, or condition that gets in the way of everyday life. Disabilities can be physical or mental, temporary or permanent.

How to reach us
If you or someone you know may be interested in this program, please contact our office:

Libby Whiteside 504-522-2337 ext. 139
ewhiteside@disabilityrightsla.org

Services we directly provide include
• Financial coaching
• Managing debt
• Planning for the future
• Understanding your credit report
• Bill management
• Choosing banking products
• Saving for goals
• Help applying for jobs
• Help finding job training programs
• Help applying for schools or educational programs
• Finding accessibility tools for work
• Understanding release requirements
• Understanding your benefits
• Help applying for Medicaid and SNAP
• Assistance filling out paperwork
• Knowing your rights

We will provide referrals for
• Stable housing
• Basic needs like food, clothing, and childcare
• Healthcare providers
• Direct job placement
• Community and peer support groups
• Substance abuse/addiction recovery
• Affordable transportation
• Legal aid
• Expungement
• Protection from discrimination
• Other needs