

Disability Rights Louisiana (DRLA) is a statewide non-profit agency providing FREE legal services, advocacy, and other supports to children, adults, and older adults with disabilities.



## CONTACT US

**Disability Rights Louisiana  
(formerly known as Advocacy  
Center of Louisiana)**

Call: 1-800-960-7705  
Visit: [disabilityrightsla.org](http://disabilityrightsla.org)



## SILAP: SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

SILAP serves adults and children with developmental disabilities who receive Medicaid waiver services. SILAP advocates for people when they are facing problems that impact their health, safety, independence, and quality of life in the community.

# Who We Serve

To be eligible for SILAP services, a person must:

- Have a developmental disability. People with developmental disabilities have lifelong, severe, and chronic intellectual or physical disabilities that started before they turned 22 and impact their ability to care for themselves, communicate, learn, move, or make decisions.
- Receive Medicaid-funded waiver services. Medicaid waivers provide people with home-and-community-based supportive and healthcare services that enable them to live in the community.
- And reside at home in one of the following parishes: Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, Point Coupee, St. Bernard, West Baton Rouge, or West Feliciana.



# Our Services

## Individual Case Advocacy

- Help clients make requests of their support teams
- File complaints when clients' rights are violated
- Speak with clients' service providers and family members to share and advocate for their goals, issues, and rights;
- Teach clients to make informed decisions and to advocate for themselves
- Help clients understand their rights
- Connect clients to other resources that will help them solve problems, like DRLA's legal services, job training services, educational programs, and more.

## Systems Advocacy

Through SILAP, we collect information about the common issues that people with developmental disabilities are facing in the community, when they are using Medicaid waiver services. We offer recommendations to service providers and the Office of the Attorney General on changes that could improve the quality of life for Medicaid waiver recipients with developmental disabilities.

## Education and Training

- We offer trainings to people with developmental disabilities, their families, and their service providers about:
  - the community-based services available to people with developmental disabilities, and how they should work;
  - and where to get help when people with developmental disabilities are facing issues that make it difficult for them to live happily, independently, and safely in the community.