

DRLA Policy Analyst, Dr. Ashley Volion, Interviews Gubernatorial Candidate, Alexander "Xan" John

1. What is your assessment of the accessibility of healthcare and home and community-based services for individuals with disabilities in Louisiana?

-My assessment has never even started. No idea. I can't relate. Sorry.

2. Can you propose potential enhancements and outline the implementation strategies for these ideas?

-As mentioned before, I can't relate, so maybe you, or the disabled community, could let me know what needs enhancing. And suggest how that should be implemented. I am not disabled, not related to anyone disabled and never cross paths with physically and/or mentally disabled people – I truly can't relate and don't want to comment on something I have no experience with. I can say that I look forward to working with this community to help accomplish any rational goals that they want to voice.

3. Similarly, what is your evaluation of the mental health services available to adults with disabilities in Louisiana?

-Mam, I do not have an evaluation. Where does one start, if not employed by that industry or has the disabilities, that would qualify me to experience the way of life needed to relate. This is a specialized group of people, that I am very glad have assembled for a stronger voice, but I regret to inform you and your audience that I never run into them and need to be more exposed to this community before I make an adequate comment or suggestion.

4. Can you suggest potential improvements and elaborate on the methods of implementing these proposals?

-The disabled community in Louisiana can hold events where candidates they are interested in hearing out may meet and greet them so we may build a closer relationship. This is something I am interested in personally. Perhaps an annual forum or debate that way candidates may gain exposure and be able to better suggest potential improvements and elaborate on the methods of implementing these proposals.