

## **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY LAW**

A developmental disability is defined by the Developmental Disability Law (Louisiana Revised Statutes 28:451.1-28:455.2). The law states that a developmental disability means either:

1. A severe chronic disability of a person that:
  - a. Is attributable to an intellectual or physical impairment or combination of intellectual and physical impairments;
  - b. Is manifested before the person reaches age twenty-two;
  - c. Is likely to continue indefinitely;
  - d. Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:
    - i. Self-care;
    - ii. Receptive and expressive language;
    - iii. Learning;
    - iv. Mobility;
    - v. Self-direction;
    - vi. Capacity for independent living; and
    - vii. Economic self-sufficiency.
  - e. Is not attributed solely to mental illness; and
  - f. Reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic care, treatment, or other services which are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.
- OR**
2. A substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition in a person from birth through age nine which, without services and support, has a high

probability of resulting in those criteria listed above later in life that may be considered to be a developmental disability.