

## **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:

- A severe chronic disability of a person that:
    - Is attributable to an intellectual or physical impairment or combination of intellectual and physical impairments.
    - Is manifested before the person reaches age twenty-two.
    - Is likely to continue indefinitely.
    - Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:
      - Self-care.
      - Receptive and expressive language.
      - Learning.
      - Mobility.
      - Self-direction.
      - Capacity for independent living.
      - Economic self-sufficiency.
    - Is not attributed solely to mental illness.
    - 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**
- 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 criteria that later in life may be considered to be a developmental disability.