MARSHALL-JACKSON
ID/DD 310 AGENCY

FIVE YEAR PLAN
FY08-13

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August 2008

COUNTIES SERVED: Marshall and Jackson

Description of Services/Support Provided/Population Served

The Marshall-Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency was established in 1984 as a public, non-profit organization. Our organization is a 310 authority, formed as a public corporation to contract with the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Intellectual disabilities to administer programs for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The agency will provide administration, quality assurance, service coordination (case management), single point of entry, planning and utilization review for our target population The total number of individuals receiving institutional services continues to decrease. As individuals continue to be out placed into community settings and services, a corresponding reduction of client facility population and increase in clients served in the community will occur. Other factors contributing to the expansion of consumer and family driven services include: expansion of home and community based waiver services under the State of Alabama program; Individual/Family Support legislation; 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act; P.L. 94-142 of 1975 and its 1986 amendment, P.L. 99-457, which established entitlements for children from of three to age twenty two; and services to infants and toddlers ages zero to three (Part H-Medicaid).

MISSION

It is the mission of Marshall-Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency to ensure a provision of a system of effective and sufficient services to the citizens of this area with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

This is consistent with the provision of ACT 881 and 310. The system of services shall be consumer and family driven, shall be provided in the least restrictive setting, shall maximize consumer and family input, and shall use existing support services.

With the State of Alabama, Marshall-Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency, has adopted the following Principles of Services

1. People with developmental disabilities should have the basic services they need to lead self-sufficient lives, receive quality services, hold jobs, participate in community life, and exercise personal choice.

2. Publicly-financed services must be provided, but complement – not displace, the natural support networks upon which people with developmental disabilities rely. These networks – family, friends, schoolmates, co-workers, and neighbors – are enormously important so people with developmental disabilities are included in community life. Building on natural supports is the most powerful and effective means of assisting people with disabilities.

3. Services for people with developmental disabilities must be anchored in a clear understanding of each person's unique needs and preferences. Services should build on each individual's strengths instead of focusing on his/her weaknesses.

4. Wide varieties of service strategies should be available so that the system has the capacity to provide a diverse array of services that are personalized, effective, and economical.

5. People with developmental disabilities should make their choices unless they are not competent to make such decisions. Public services, therefore, must recognize choices that people with developmental disabilities make concerning where they wish to live, from who they receive services, how services are furnished, and the activities in which they wish to engage.

6. Effective systems of service not only respect the decisions that people with developmental disabilities make about their own lives but include people with developmental disabilities in making decisions concerning the formulation of public policy at all levels.

7. A system of services should promote maximum integration of people with developmental disabilities into all aspects of community life.

8. And effective system of services must recognize that people with developmental disabilities have diverse needs and be prepared to accommodate such diversity.

9. One fundamental aim of a system of services must be to promote the personal economic independence, productivity, and self-sufficiency of people with developmental disabilities.

10. Prevention and early intervention must be assigned equal status with the provision of ongoing services to people with developmental disabilities. Comprehensive, well organized, and effective strategies for preventing developmental disabilities and ameliorating their efforts must be viewed as a vital ingredient in any long term services strategy.

11. A system of services should attempt to ensure that people with developmental disabilities enjoy personal security, including the right to live and work in a safe and secure environment; have access to consistent and reliable health services; and have protection from abuse/neglect and economic exploitation.

12. A system of services must promote and value quality. Consumer, family, and employee satisfaction must be key measures of the quality of services which are furnished to an individual. The system must be outcome /goal oriented.

13. A system of services should attempt to ensure that the human, civil, and legal rights of persons with developmental disabilities are explicitly recognized, protected, and respected.

Vision Statement

The philosophy, in which Marshall-Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency believes, should guide the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of services for people with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities and includes the following elements:

1. Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are, first and foremost, people with basic human needs, aspirations, desires, and feelings; second, citizens of a community who are afforded all the rights, privileges, opportunities, and responsibilities accorded other citizens; and finally individuals who happen to have a disabling condition.

2. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are recognized as having diverse needs, concerns, strengths, motivations, goals, and abilities which can best be addressed through the coordinated and cooperative efforts of an interagency network of human service providers.

3. Family units, both traditional and nontraditional, are frequently the most important resource and support to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

4. The rights, wishes, values, and needs of consumers and family members are paramount in planning and operating the intellectual disabilities service system.

5. The system is sensitive to other members of the developmental disabilities population who are members of minority or ethnic groups; elderly individuals; or people with multiple disabilities, autism, cerebral palsy, and epilepsy.

6. For the majority of individuals, the natural setting in the community is the best place for providing services.

7. Local communities are the most knowledgeable regarding their local environment, issues, strengths or gaps in the service system, and opportunities.

8. Staff who work effectively with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are highly regarded and valued resources of the system.

PLANNING PROCESS/KEY STAKEHOLDER ROLLS/METHOD OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Marshall-Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency coordinates the planning for the Division of Intellectual Disabilities regarding Marshall and Jackson counties. M J 310 does a consumer satisfaction survey annually for the purpose of identifying the needs not being met for the population being served, and to encourage input on filling those needs. MJ 310 and Mountain Lakes Behavioral Health Care join together annually to facilitate the planning process of DMH. Consumers, families, providers and city and county officials are encouraged to participate, as well as department staff are invited

to participate. These meetings serve as forums to evaluate the current system of services, and to devise appropriate strategies for redirection.

GREATEST AREA OF UNMET NEEDS

Funding for:

1. Adults on the waiting list for residential services, day training, work programs and transportation.

2. Children age 0-3 with any physical or mental delay

3. Transportation for work programs.

NEEDED EXPANSIONS

Community residential facilities, day training, and transportation.

CURRENT FUNDING SOURSES

State of Alabama Dept. of Mental Health
Department of Human Resourses
Childrens Trust Fund

FUTURE FUNDING SOURSES

Same as above

GOALS/OBJECTIVES

To serve all the individuals in Marshall and Jackson Counties with intellectual and/or physical disabilities with the services they need.

PLAN MONITORING & EVALUATION

Quarterly review services provided to the individuals we serve to insure the services they receive meets the needs they have

PLAN SUMMARY

SERVICE COORDINATION

The aim of service coordination is to develop in coordination with families (if a child) or individuals (if an adult), that specifies services and supports that are needed; assists in the brokering of these services and supports; and provides follow-along services to ensure this plan is implemented in a effective manner. Marshall-Jackson

ID/DD 310 Agency's focus is to provide a person or family-centered approach that recognizes the dignity and value of the person first and foremost and the individual's disability second.

Marshall Jackson ID/DD Agency is presently serving 205 adult individuals with five full-time service coordinators, 4 adolescents served by an adult service coordinator and 53 children with two full-time service coordinator. This includes the service coordination for adults, adolescents, infants and toddlers, supported employment, persons receiving residential services and persons residing (or wishing to reside) in supported living, and also day-training programs.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Marshall Jackson ID/DD Agency emphasis for residential services will focus on choice and the least restrictive alternative. Marshall and Jackson counties currently offer two options: several homes referred to as Supported Community Living Alternatives (SCLA) and Supported Community Living Homes (SCLH). There are 97 individuals receiving these services and this plan projects serving an additional 30 individuals. The development of semi-independent apartments is also proposed in the span of the plan.

DAY PROGRAMS

Marshall-Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency proposes that adult day programs shift program emphasis from activity-related options to work-related options. The adult training program in Marshall County ARC is currently serving 44 clients, a decrease from FY03-04 and is projected to increase by 10 persons over the span of this plan. The Jackson County ARC is currently serving 69 persons and plans to ask for additional slots for the span of this plan. Additional day programs have opened in the area, Tri-County Day Program serves 21 persons, Dekalb County Education Training Center serves 26 persons, VOA Training Center serves 17 persons and the Rama Jama Day Training Center serves 3 persons. There are 22 persons on the waiting list for dayhab services. Regarding supported employment, as indicated by tracking, there are individuals who have benefited from this service, and who are in need of services.

In the Early Intervention Programs, the MJID/DD Agency has brought the program in-house. Consult programs are being held in both counties at a location outside the MJID/DD 310 Agency office. MJID/DD 310 Agency contracts with Speech, Occupational and Physical therapist. There are 53 children currently receiving these services.

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY SUPPORT

MJID/DD 310 Agency has a service coordinator that works closely with the local council.

310 ORGANIZATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

The Marshall-Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency infrastructure will continue to keep pace with planning for the future. The board has worked with the regional office of DMH/MR to move appropriate functions from regional to the local board. The functions that have been transferred include service coordination, continuous quality improvement (CQI), utilization review, fiscal management, and single point of coordination. The transfer of these functions has occurred over the period of the past five years. This infrastructure has enabled consumers to access a much greater array of supports and services in their communities from local providers.

SERVICE COORDINATION

Narrative

Service Coordination is generally defined as a range of activities including needs assessment, person-or family centered planning, service arrangement, social support, reassessment/follow-up, and monitoring. The aim of service coordination is to develop a plan, in coordination with families (if a child) or individuals (if an adult), that specifies services and supports that are needed; to assist in the brokering of these services and supports; and to provide follow-along services to ensure this plan is implemented in an effective and efficient manner. The Division of Intellectual Disabilities focus is to provide a person or family centered approach that recognizes the dignity and value of the person first and foremost and the individual's disability second. The service coordinator provides support and assistance and listens to what individuals and families need, when they desire it, and how they would like it to be provided. In the end, it is believed that service coordination is effective only to the extent that individuals and families become more capable, competent, and empowered in influencing their environment, in exercising choice, and in making decisions regarding services.

The Division of Intellectual Disabilities has been providing community-based service coordination to individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families since the beginning of the deinstitutionalization process in the early 1970's. As the regional service delivery concept evolved from the recognition of the importance of locating residential habilitation center nearer individual's natural supports, their families, so, too, grew the recognition of the need to provide region-based follow-along services such as monitoring and service arrangement to those individuals who had been out placed from Alabama's intellectual disabilities facilities. Consequently, regional community service offices were established in conjunction with MR facilities to provide follow-along services. With the growth of the concepts of deinstitutionalization and regionalization, also grew the concept of institutional avoidance by providing interventions in the individual's home community at as early an age as possible. Service coordination is one of the community-based interventions that have been provided.

On the national level, sweeping legislative initiatives have occurred which have impacted on the availability of service coordination. These have included PL-457 which mandated services, including service coordination, to children birth through 36 months, who are experiencing developmental delays equal to or greater than 25 percent in at least one of six developmental areas as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures. Another federal legislative initiative which has positively impacted on the lives of persons with intellectual disabilities/related conditions or developmental delay was Title XIX of the Social Security Act which made possible the establishment of the Medicaid Program in 1965. The Social Security Act was further broadened with the addition of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (PL99-272) COBRA) which added optional "targeted case management" services service coordination to the list of services that could be provided under Medicaid. A section of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 (PL 100-203) added requirements dealing with the qualifications of case manager/service coordinators for individuals with developmental disabilities.

In Alabama, an amendment was added to the Title XIX State Plan which funded the provision of case management services/service coordination to designated target groups of Medicaid eligible individuals, including adults with MR/related conditions, children with MR/related conditions, and children, birth-3, with an assessed developmental delay of at least 25 percent in one of six development areas. In January 1993, the Division of Intellectual disabilities began the implementation of its targeted case management/service coordination program funded by a combination of Medicaid and state match dollars. The first "target" group to receive these services has been approximately 450 infants and toddlers in DMH/MR funded early intervention programs. This plan has been responsible for the expansion of the targeted case management/service coordination for the past five years.

Description and Strategies for Service Coordination

Adult Service Coordination

For the FY08, Marshall Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency. has provided "**Targeted Case Management/Service Coordination**" services in Jackson for
One hundred twenty two (122) adults, and in Marshall County seventy-seven (77) adults.

Currently we have sixty-two (62) adults with intellectual disabilities who reside in a SCLH in Jackson County who are receiving case management/service coordination, and twenty six (26) adults with intellectual disabilities who reside in SCLH in Marshall County who are receiving case management/service coordination. Therefore there are a total of twenty-three (23) persons with intellectual disabilities who live in SCLH who receive case management and (35) others who are in need of this service both in Marshall and Jackson counties.

In the plan submitted in FY 94-95, it was determined that one Case Manager per year would be added for adults. Since this time we have added three case managers and probably will need to add another case manager in FY08. The approximate cost would be $36.00 per hour at least 24 hours per year, per consumer (50), which would cost $43,200.00. There is also a need to increase the contract for those being served already by Service Coordination. Each person receiving "targeted case management/service coordination" services should be allowed 24 hours of service coordination which equals an average of two hours per month. And each person receiving "case management/service coordination" services should have at least 12 hours of service annually, therefore allowing one hour per month.

Early Intervention Service Coordination

For Early Intervention Service Coordination, Marshall Jackson ID/DD Agency is currently serving fifty-five (55) infants and toddlers in Marshall and Jackson counties. The number of infants and toddlers requiring services fluctuate throughout the year as intervention services are offered and declined. Service Coordination is available to infants and toddlers in both Marshall and Jackson counties, however; intervention services are provided through other agencies from Huntsville. Every effort is being made to have these services be made available at a local level. **Therefore, Marshall Jackson**

ID/DD Agency anticipates service coordination for 75 infants and toddlers in FY 07-08, if intervention services are developed locally, at the cost of $36.00 per hour, three hours per month, for a cost of $129,600.00 annually. Marshall Jackson ID/DD Agency anticipates the number of infants and toddlers to increase each year by at least five by FY2013.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Narrative

The residential alternatives for individuals, who have intellectual disabilities in the state of Alabama, cover a broad array of settings and services. Offered are a complete range of alternatives from developmental centers to supported living choices. The state is energetically pursuing its goal that persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities be able to live in the most independent setting possible by offering numerous viable options and developing new choices.

A full range of community residential options are available. These options offer many choices in terms of the level of restrictivness/structure, supervision, and programming. The group home, for example, provides and intermediate level of structure, supervision, and intensive habilitation. The S.C.L.A. provide individualized structure, supervision, and maintenance training. The semi-independent living program offers minimal supervision but usually no training.

Another residential alternative for individuals with intellectual disabilities is the supported living plan. It is based on the individual's choice of personal residence. The individual, a family member, guardian, or the person with whom the individual is living must lease or won the residence. The individual and/or family is involved in hiring staff. The individual's needs determine the support services provided. This plan provides the person with intellectual disabilities great flexibility in choosing his/her living arrangements, but still ensures access to needed supports.

Description and Strategies for Adults

The State of Alabama Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities proposed during FY94-95 that the major emphasis in residential programming should be downsizing of the state facilities in each region. During the past three years, 27 individuals were out placed in Marshall and Jackson counties by the Lurleen B. Wallace Center, 15 individuals in Marshall County and 12 in Jackson County.

There are six individuals with intellectual disabilities who reside in Marshall County and live in a residential setting called Supported Community Living Alternative (SCLA). This service is provided by Volunteers of America of North Alabama. **There are approximately nine individuals who reside in the community in Marshall County who are needing this service and three individuals to be out placed from the Lurleen B. Wallace Center. These residential costs are approximately $78.00 per person. There will be strategies sought for fulfilling this need in Marshall County.**

There are ten individuals who reside in a group home in Jackson County. This home and services is provided by Volunteers of America of North Alabama. At present, there are no individuals who are in need of this type home that are not currently receiving the service. **The service cost is $78.00 per day.**

The strategy is based upon tracking numbers and is only an estimate. With downsizing and community need, the plan will be adjusted as necessary:

In Jackson County, there are fifty six individuals who benefit from a living situation that is similar to a semi-independent apartment, but it is called a Supervised Community Living Home (SCLH). In Marshall County there are seventeen individuals who benefit from this service. This service is provided by the Haymon Homes, Jackson County Community Services , North Alabama Family Services, Anita's Home, GSC Group Home and Tri County Group Homes. There are eight (8) individuals in Jackson County who are in need of the service of either a semi-independent apartment or a semi-independent community living home. **The cost of this service is $45.00 per person per day, therefore for FY07-08, eight individuals who receive this service would cost $295,650.00. Strategies are being sought to allow individuals this opportunity.** MJMRA anticipates this area to be a steady growth in regard to services in Marshall and Jackson counties.

DAY PROGRAMS

Narrative

Day programs are services that are provided to individuals with intellectual disabilities on a regular, routine, scheduled basis. At a minimum, the services are designed to prevent deterioration in skill level and include an array of programs. In general, these services are designed to reflect a routine of daily activity that is consistent with the principles of normalization. The intention is that individuals will begin at the least restrictive, most advanced day program possible and advance as they can through each program.

The regional/community organizational structure provides services to individuals in their communities, and day programs have increased in number and diversity. In the process of expanding and improving day programs, the number of individuals served in Alabama increased to 4,845 in 1997.

The purpose of this plan is to propose a concreted **focus on work**. The number of individuals in supported or competitive work, while increasing, is still small compared to the number of individuals in sheltered activities.

In examining program effectiveness and attending to consumers' and their families' expressed needs, the State has initiated a shift in day program emphasis from activity programs to vocational alternatives. A major component of this shift was the transition program in FY95. However; due to funding being cut by the State in FY98, we no longer have the transition program. This leaves a gap that must be filled in some way which leads to supported employment.

In conjunction with the emphasis on the supported employment program, the Division is also targeting individuals for supported work or competitive employment who are already out of school, but either are not satisfied with their activity program or are not attending at all. The work programs can improve the quality of life for individuals since work is a cornerstone to independent living and family stability.

The State's goal is to have 30-40% of all persons presently being served in day program in supported work or competitive employment. These vocational programs are the most economic and normalizing programs possible and have been consistently and overwhelmingly requested by consumers and their families. These programs are also congruent with the Division's mission and principles.

Another area of day programs where a major change is occurring is in the infant/toddler programs. Services in these programs range from service coordination, to home-based services, to center-based services to integrated day care. These programs are offered in numerous locations across the state. Several different agencies serve approximately 1056 children in Alabama with developmental disabilities. These include, but are not limited to, the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, United Cerebral Palsy, and Children's Rehabilitation. The division of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities is currently providing 455 program placements for children in the infant/toddler programs, approximately 45 percent of all children being served in

Alabama. It is projected that the Division will serve 45 percent of the projected statewide growth, which is based on the Department of Education's Child Find data. The Division's share of that estimated growth will be 120 children per year. Of these, it is projected 30 percent will use home-based infant and toddler programs, 25 percent will use center-based infant and toddler programs, and 45 percent will use integrated day care programs.

Inclusion in the complete range of community programs and services assists all children, both those with and without disabilities. Children with disabilities are helped to experience normalization which is of benefit in the developmental of language, self-esteem, and socialization as well as in areas of acceptance and lack of discrimination. Children without disabilities are helped to learn to better accept children somewhat different from themselves while at the same time learning to appreciate the commonalty in interests of all children even those with disabilities. It is recognized that integrated day care programs are not presently offered in many areas of the state, especially in rural locations. At present, most of the children in these programs are involved in home-based or center-based activities designed specifically for children who are developmentally delayed/intellectually disabled. However, since much of early learning is through modeling behavior, children with special needs can better learn behaviors by being in an integrated environment with children who do not have special needs. This will also facilitate mainstreaming efforts in the early school years and into the community as a whole. Of the children presently receiving services through the Division, 72 percent are developmentally delayed as opposed to being diagnosed as having an organic or metabolic basis for intellectual disabilities or a related condition. Therefore, expansion of this service will be emphasized during the time of the plan.

The State's goal is to expand integrated day care to offer placements for 50 percent of children presently being served in center-based programs. This will provide crucial early learning experiences, with children who do not have special needs, through structured interaction on a regular basis. Thus, the State will advance its commitment to prevention and early intervention services. These changes in day program services will be based on/reflect consumer choices/needs; promote maximum integration into the community, independence, productivity, and self-sufficiency, and acknowledge the importance of prevention and early intervention.

Description and Strategies for Adults

Adult Training

There are forty four adults being served in the adult training program provided by the Marshall County Association for Retarded Citizens' Achievement Center. During FY97-98, each person was served at a cost estimate of approximately $36.00 per person, which should increase by 4% for FY98-99. Therefore, the cost per person per day will be $37.44 for adult training. There is a waiting list of approximately 20 individuals who are in need of this service. **MJMRA would like to encourage transitioning those individuals who are able to, to supported employment services, thereby alleviating the "bottleneck" of those on the waiting list.**

The Jackson County Association for Retarded Citizens' Achievement Center is Serving 69 individuals for Adult Training in FY 07-08. This includes a "model" project funded to serve senior citizens who have intellectual disabilities, ages 55 and up. JCARC Achievement Center provides an excellent service in transitioning individuals to sheltered work or supported work. The cost estimate of this program per person, per day is $36.00 which should increase by 2% for FY98-99. **It is anticipated that as people transition into work centers, and supported employment, individual's who require that service will be able to move into the program without the need to have additional slots. Transportation needs continue to surmou**
Work Centers

The Jackson County ARC serves individuals with intellectual disabilities in it's Valley Industries program. Valley currently serves thirty five individuals. The cost of these services is $38.53 per day, per person, which is $20,343.04. **Valley Industries should be commended for moving individuals to supported employment and thereby mostly alleviating their waiting list. Last year's need was estimated at twenty-seven individuals needing work center services. They also have procured a grant from the ARC, National to offer supported employment to those in the Valley Industries program. They are also contracting with the Dept. of Rehabilitation Services in providing Work Adjustment servic**

310 ORGANIZATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

Narrative

The regional community services staff positions have been standardized to promote efficiency and to expedite the move away from profiting direct services to a more administrative role in the statewide structure. This will allow the Division to transfer most direct services, such as financial/contracting services, quality assurance, and a single point of coordination, out of existing and emerging community 310 structures. To promote this transfer, the Division will fund the following functions: Director, Fiscal Manager, Quality Assurance, Single Point Coordination and Planning. All service coordination will be provided by the local 310 board.

As the Division shifts service provision responsibility from regional community services staff and places them in more administrative and technical assistance roles, it will assist the community 310 boards to assume more responsibility for direct services by providing staff funding for specific positions. This, in turn, will benefit consumers by providing community based, local access to supports and services they need, which will bring the Division into essential accord with its principles and philosophy.

Description and Strategies

During FY02, Marshall Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency. had one Director covering the two counties of Marshall and Jackson. We have five adult case managers, three to cover Jackson county and two to cover Marshall county, two service coordinators to cover each county serving infants and toddlers, and a Special Instructor for each county. We have one Administrative Assistant, a Secretary Receptionist, one Program Manager and a service coordinator to provide services for children 0-22 for Marshall and Jackson county. We have determined that based on growth of all programs we will need to increase our staff by one full case manager.

For FY 07-08, MJMRA has determined that it's contract be increased to $65,000 for hiring additional staff we need to provide adequate services. This plan will be adjusted with the continued need to develop the infrastructu

Description and Strategies for Infant/Toddlers
Home Based Program

For FY08 we are serving fifty five infants and toddlers with (2) full-time case managers. The therapy is being provided in house. **The need at this time is to increase the number of infants and toddlers receiving services to seventy five children in both Jackson and Marshall counties. Each child's services may cost up to $7,500.00 annually. For services other than service coordination, this totals $5,400.00 annually. This is the cost estimate in the table that follows.**

Integrated Day Care

Integrated Day Care promotes serving children who have disabilities as well as those who do not have disabilities. Therapeutic interventions may be provided by qualified professionals at the day care center. Efforts will be made to have integrated day care services available by FY99-00. The estimated cost at this time will be $24.50 per child per day. These projections are only estimates and the plan will be adjusted as the community need arises.

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY SUPPORTS

Description and History

The Individual and Family History Support Program, enacted by the Alabama legislature for the period of October 1, 1993 until October 1, 1997, provides many varied services and equipment to persons with developmental disabilities and families having a person with a developmental disability. These services are delivered through regional councils and their affiliated local councils in each intellectual disabilities region of the state. As the regional councils are incorporated, they will have the authority to contract with state agencies and others to implement the provisions of the legislation. Community support councils will be developed locally to ensure that decisions about how individual and family support funds are allocated reflect the needs of each local area. This is in keeping with the grass roots nature of the entire movement. There is no fixed number of community councils. Community councils may choose to incorporate or to affiliate with the regional council or another incorporated agency as their fiscal agent. The council members are all people with developmental disabilities and their families. A state

council, composed of two representatives from each regional council, guides the development of the program which reflects the needs and experiences of each region and reports to the legislature its evaluations and recommendations for future policy.

Membership in the councils is limited to people with developmental disabilities and family members. Membership terms and appointments for the regional councils and the state council are set by Act 93-334. The regional councils in turn set the broad guidelines for membership appointments and terms for community councils in their respective regions. It is intended that the membership of each council will have equitable representation throughout its respective region and from the prevalent disability groups. Although membership is on a voluntary basis, council members may receive reimbursement for expenses they incur in council participation. Each council shall have specific responsibilities in the implementation of Act 93-334.

Regional Councils

- Develop a coordinated planning process.
- Develop appropriation requests for the region.
- Develop fiscal accountability procedures.
- Develop broad guidelines for: Eligibility determination; Methodologies for allocation of resources; and Criteria for allocation of resources.
- Develop a grievance process.
- Develop a quality assurance process.
- Perform annual evaluations of services.
- Make a provision of financial assistance to eligible persons and families.

Community Councils

- Develop local criteria for eligibility within the criteria determined by the regional council.
- Participate in the local planning process.
- Authorize and disburse funding according to the criteria and within the funds available.
- Adhere to the constitution and bylaws as developed by the regional council.

State Councils

- Oversee the adherence to the principles of individual and family support in the development and implementation of all policies and procedures.
- Make an annual report to the Alabama Legislature.
- Serve as a forum to advise state policy makers on the development p0f a statewide support system that reflects the needs of each region.
- Update the Individual and Family Support State plan annually.

The local, regional, and state plans for individual and family supports developed by each community and regional council and the state support council are developed in conjunction with the regional planning process of the Division of Intellectual disabilities.

The Alabama Development Disabilities Planning Council has funded seven model projects across the state. Each of these addressed needs in its own area and served as a springboard for the regional councils formed during FY95-96.

Current Services and Strategy

The Regional Council for Region I, was formed in FY95-96. A Local Individual and Family Supports Council was formed in December of 1995. Marshall Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency. was the fiscal agent for this program. A local council was formed that serves both Marshall and Jackson counties with representation equitable from both counties serving all developmental disabilities.

For FY96 the contract for Individual and Family Supports was $33, 333.00. This money was sued for the salary and benefits of one fill-time service coordinator, travel, postage, training and supports for 61 individuals. The contract for FY97 was reduced to $12,571.00, with these funds we provided supports for 41 individuals. During the contracting process for FY98, it was decided by all parties involved that Easter Seals would be the fiscal agent for Individual and Family Supports for Marshall and Jackson county. The local council has utilized one of our staff as the service coordinator for this program.

It is proposed to have Marshall Jackson ID/DD 310 Agency. appointed as the fiscal agent for Individual and Family Supports for FY99. This would require hiring at least a part-time staff member to assist in handling the contracts for the local council. **We estimate the cost to increase staff would be approximately $20,231.00 annually.**

We have determined that the following are the services that need to be provided according to surveys that were sent to consumers:

Service Needed	# of individuals
Advocacy	30
Crisis Intervention	5
Diagnosis and Evaluation	3
Out of Home Respite	7
Personal Care	20 *
Recreation	10
Undefined therapy	3
Occupational therapy	5
Physical therapy	10
Speech therapy	10
In Home Respite	20 *
Environmental Modification	2
Family counseling and Education	5
Behavior Management	5

- Companion Services..... 10 *
  (Sitter Services – 20 utilize the service at this time)

*These numbers are higher because of the cutbacks in Home Health Care.

The table below estimates the monies needed to provide the fiscal management services for the council. This program has grown tremendously since FY96, more monies is needed to manage the fiscal responsibilities of the local council and provided the services need in this area. This plan will be adjusted in order to compensate for the increase in number served.