

Date: _____

Dear _____,

I am submitting this letter as one of many persons in the Baton Rouge metropolitan area that believe our citizens with mental illnesses are being underserved with effective, community-based services in our area in a way that respects their dignity and right to civil liberties in our community. In the recent One Book One Community public event held on the LSU campus in July, it was made clear by all panelists that services such as peer-to-peer mentoring, Intensive Case Management, and Assertive Community Treatment are very much underfunded in the Baton Rouge area. To highlight this fact, the metropolitan area of New Orleans with a population of approximately 1.2 million has almost 400 treatment slots for Assertive Community Treatment. The Baton Rouge metropolitan area, population approximately 800,000, has only 100 treatment slots for the same effective service. I ask you to please work with our state Office of Behavioral Health and the Capital Area Human Services District to increase access to these Evidence-Based Programs like ACT for our most vulnerable and underserved citizens of the Baton Rouge region.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____