

## State Summary Report

# LOUISIANA

27 Early Childhood NBCTs in 5 districts (Caddo, East Baton Rouge, New Orleans/Orleans, Ouachita, St. Landry) launched an advocacy strategy to engage and mobilize NBCTs within their local communities.

Objectives include:

- Promote teacher retention
- Advocate for National Board Certification
- Increase awareness among educators and other stakeholders to tap into the pipeline of early career teachers to National Board Certification and beyond

### WORKFORCE CHALLENGE:

*Lack of effective, highly qualified teachers in high needs schools*

### STRATEGIC GOAL:

*Increase the number and percentage of effective teachers in high needs schools*

## Activities and Accomplishments

### Key Action Plan Components

- Engaged NBCTs in 5 districts to form an Advocacy Team
- Hosted numerous meetings around the 5 Core Propositions in these districts
- Promoted accomplished teaching with legislators, teachers, superintendents, and school boards

### Broadening Awareness

- Established a Facebook page, with 90 followers
- Launched Instagram and Twitter accounts and established a network email Served as critical friends at a "Teach to Lead" summit
- Presented a Jumpstart Training
- Held "Teacher Leadership Consultant" training
- Formed a partnership with Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana

### Stakeholder Engagement

- Increased LA NBCT Network from 5 to 103 members (including 46 NBCTs of color)
- Met with state legislators on the education committee
- Presented to the LA State Board of Elementary & Secondary Education
- Utilized monthly advocacy committee meetings to engage legislators on a proposal to increase LA NBCTs' salaries
- Engaged with the Board of Regents to connect with area Universities in effort to impact teacher preparation programs

### Highlight

In an effort to share learnings beyond the LEAP states, the Louisiana team held a 1-day Summit with the Mississippi and Alabama NBCT Networks which resulted in ongoing collaboration and NBCT Advocacy that secured an additional \$1 million for stipends and candidate supports in Alabama, with a focus on high-need schools.

## Challenges and Learnings

Louisiana's biggest challenge was securing meetings with certain high-level state policy leaders. A key lesson learned was the importance of communicating a clear, concise and relatively short message. As a result, the team developed a one-pager for use with stakeholders. Having a year-long calendar planned and posted for teachers and stakeholders in advance may also help in securing meetings with stakeholders who have very full schedules.