The long goodbye

A native tribe tries to take their coastal home with them
Architect Dyke Nelson and DNA Workshop staff tour the old Entergy building site on Government Street. Nelson and the DNA Workshop were recently chosen as developers of the Entergy site.
The Onyx Residences are the place to be for a vibrant lifestyle that surrounds you in classic comfort and style. Located in the heart of downtown Baton Rouge’s arts and entertainment district, Onyx Residences are designed with today’s up-and-coming professional in mind.

Walk to work, stroll to lunch and dance the night away! Cool, classic and comfortable, these 28 one & two bedroom apartments include stylish details and modern comforts like plus SMART Home technology and 150 DIRECTV channels and Internet included. The ONYX Residences, the new crown jewel of downtown living.

- SMART Home technology
- Balconies
- Cable TV & High-Speed Internet (Basic Package Included)
- Quartz countertops
- Stainless steel appliances
- Washer & dryer
- Hardwood floors
- Ceiling fans

Visit us at onyxresidences.com!
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78–Coda: Dr. Karen Williams
I have spent countless hours working in the North Baton Rouge community where Alton Sterling died on July 5th. In fact, I was moved to visit the site on July 6th, still in disbelief that the videotaped shooting had occurred in our city. And then our community was again shocked by the deaths of three law enforcement officers leaving us again in grief and bewilderment. As a result, people are rightfully worried about themselves and worried about the future of our parish.

In this uncertainty, the community at large is responding with conviction to reclaim an area of our parish that has suffered much too long from disinvestment.

A bit of history is needed to tell how we got here. Spin the clock back to the 1950s and you’d see a different North Baton Rouge. Chemical plants and the world’s largest oil refinery employed people who were the bedrock of the nearby neighborhoods. The blue collar families earned enough to live good lives. They sent their children to schools around the corner. After school, the kids came together to play, often coached by the very parents who lived in the neighborhoods.

But the unexpected happened. As in so many cities across the South, school desegregation produced unintended consequences for NBR. White families fled established neighborhoods to raise their children in suburban parishes. Middle class African American families followed as economic opportunities in NBR decreased. They relocated to newer Baton Rouge suburbs, while many others followed their own version of the American dream to booming cities, such as Atlanta and Houston.

The result: across several generations, North Baton Rouge became devoid of economic opportunities. More than one in four people in our parish are considered poor by federal standards, and most of that poverty now is concentrated in the neighborhoods of North Baton Rouge.

Good jobs are scarce, so people make due at the margins, creating an underground economy that earns them just enough money to get by. Children there suffer the most. Looking at the world where they live and knowing only that way of life, they have little hope of escaping the cycle. This cycle is not new. As Dr. King noted in his lecture entitled The Quest for Peace and Justice, “[t]here is nothing new about poverty. What is new, however, is that we have the resources to get rid of it.”

At the Foundation, we have found hope for North Baton Rouge in an unlikely place. After Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans became an emblem of how to make a modern, innovative city while still cherishing its nearly 300-year history. We believe Baton Rouge can do the same with North Baton Rouge.

There is no quick or easy remedy. But we have begun small programs that should produce some tangible results. One is the East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority, a public agency that was assembled in partnership with local government.
The RDA is cultivating a seminal project in that part of town: Ardendale, a 200-acre neighborhood anchored by the kind of educational and training institutions that lead directly to good jobs. A Baton Rouge Community College automotive training center opened in Ardendale on North Lobdell in August. BRCC plans to build an allied health training center on the site, and EBR Public Schools will open the first career high school next to BRCC facilities within two years.

We realize that much more will be needed.

With that in mind, the staff and board of the Foundation are doing a lot of listening. We’re listening to the people who live in North Baton Rouge, as well as to the experts who have successfully revived similar communities in other places. We’ll use hard data and successful models to collaborate on projects to draw investment back.

Improvements won’t come overnight. It will be like building a cathedral. The endeavor will start with you and me and continue across generations. And then one day, there will be opportunities for people to be prosperous again in North Baton Rouge.

Sincerely,

S. Dennis Blunt,
Chair
THE BATON ROUGE AREA FOUNDATION ACCOMPLISHES ITS MISSION IN THREE WAYS:

1. We connect fund donors—philanthropists—to worthwhile projects and nonprofits. Over 52 years, our donors have granted more than $400 million across South Louisiana and the world.

The Foundation offers several types of charitable funds, including donor-advised funds, which can be opened for a minimum of $10,000. Contributions to the fund are tax deductible. Donors use these funds to make grants to nonprofits. The Foundation manages the money in the charitable accounts, offers local knowledge about issues and nonprofits, and manages all the necessary paperwork.

2. We conduct civic leadership initiatives that change the direction of the Baton Rouge region and South Louisiana. Members support these projects, which solve fundamental problems. Tax-deductible memberships range from $100 to $10,000.

3. We offer strategic consulting services to nonprofits.

KEY CIVIC LEADERSHIP PROJECTS
JUST TREATMENT OF THE MENTALLY ILL:
The Foundation is partnering with Mayor Kip Holden, EBR council members, EBR District Attorney Hillar Moore, EBR Sheriff Sid Gautreaux, Baton Rouge Police Chief Carl Dabadie Jr. and behavioral health specialists to design a center for treating people with mental illnesses and substance abuse problems. Because of mental illnesses, people in crisis sometimes commit minor, nonviolent crimes and are incarcerated. The center will offer a less expensive and more humane alternative.

BATON ROUGE HEALTH DISTRICT (BRHEALTHDISTRICT.ORG): The Foundation hired consultants to engage local health care leaders and the community to deliver a master plan for creating a Health District, including a four-year LSU medical school and a Diabetes and Obesity Center. The plan offers a design and destination for health care in Baton Rouge, with recommendations to improve the flow of cars and people in an area that is set to have more health care services.

MISSION:
The Baton Rouge Area Foundation unites human and financial resources to enhance the quality of life in South Louisiana.

To achieve our mission, we:
• serve our donors to build the assets that drive initiatives and solutions;
• engage community leaders to develop appropriate responses to emerging opportunities and challenges;
• partner with entities from our service area, as well as with other community foundations, in order to leverage our collective resources and create the capacity to be a stimulus of positive regional change; and,
• evaluate our work and share the results with our stakeholders.
LEAD IN

MIXED USE IN ZACHARY

Zachary’s first traditional neighborhood development will include two restaurants. Commercial Properties Realty Trust is responsible for commercial projects in Americana. CPRT has started construction for a stand-alone Walk-On’s. A second building will have Bistro Byronz on the ground floor and 30 apartments above. A third building will be configured like the second but a tenant has not been named. CPRT develops and manages real estate for the Baton Rouge Area Foundation. A share of real estate profits is returned as grants to communities. As well, CPRT undertakes projects in challenged areas, such as the corridor between LSU and downtown.

HOPE TRUMPS FEAR

People from the Baton Rouge area—and from around the country—had contributed more than $150,000 to the Foundation’s EBR First Responders Fund when this issue was going to press. The Fund makes grants to fallen law enforcement officers and their families.

More donations were expected, from individuals and companies. More than 50 restaurants, for instance, were donating a share of revenues from operations on July 25. WBRZ was hosting a telethon a few days later; a benefit concert was being planned.

The Fund was established in 1988 to help first responders who fall in the line of duty. Grants to them have no restrictions.

The Fund itself is overseen by law officers: East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff Sid Gautreaux, Baton Rouge Police Chief Carl Dabadie Jr., East Baton Rouge Fire Chief Ed Smith and Louisiana State Police Major Mike Noel.

The Fund assists first responders who need help now, and also in the future.
ONYX RESIDENCES

The Foundation’s commitment to build an Arts Block will be fulfilled in September. The project that is rounding out the block is Onyx Residences, a 28-unit apartment building on the corner of Convention and Third streets in downtown Baton Rouge. Regal Nails and Iberia Bank will occupy the first floor. Commercial Properties Realty Trust, which manages the Foundation’s real estate, is the developer of Onyx. Other properties on the block are the Shaw Center for the Arts, Stroubes Seafood and Steaks, Capital City Grill, PJ’s Coffee and OneEleven Lofts, also developed by CPRT. The Shaw Center was a collaboration of Foundation donors, LSU, and state and local governments.

WATER CAMPUS

The first tenant of the Water Campus will move in this fall. The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority will relocate from a high-rise in downtown to a stand-alone building off Nicholson Drive near the Mississippi River bridge. LSU is building a River Modeling Center next door and a headquarter building for The Water Institute of the Gulf is planned for the abandoned dock. CPRA is a state agency responsible for implementing the state’s coastal plan. Commercial Properties Realty Trust and the Baton Rouge Area Foundation are building the 1.2 million-square-foot Water Campus on 35 riverfront acres. Scientists, engineers, nonprofits, government agencies and businesses working on water and coastal challenges will be among tenants of the campus.

MEDICAID ENROLLMENT

Partnering with Gov. John Bel Edwards’ administration, the Baton Rouge Area Foundation established a charitable fund to raise money for the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals’ expansion of Medicaid. DHH used the money to enroll people into Medicaid. Enrollees have jobs but don’t earn enough to pay for private health insurance. Louisiana was expected to enroll more than 375,000 residents, saving the state an estimated $184 million in this fiscal year.
BIKE IT

BREC is adding trails. A trail connecting Siegen Lane to the Mall of Louisiana along waterways is unfinished, but the parks system has several other trails completed or under construction. A trail from Riverbend Subdivision to the levee recently went into use. Olympia Park is being linked to the new Rouzan neighborhood with a trail that runs behind Pennington Biomedical Research Center. And a trail is under construction from Greenwood Park to the surrounding neighborhoods.

Meantime, the Downtown Development District is building a bike path from North Boulevard in downtown to City Park. The route is about 2.5 miles, or less than 10 minutes on a bike.

DESTINATION AT LSU

The Nicholson Drive side of LSU’s campus, somewhat overlooked by the university, is about to become a destination. LSU Property Foundation expects RISE Real Estate to begin construction of housing and retail on 28 Nicholson acres from Skip Bertman Drive to West Chimes Street in October. By fall 2018, there will be 1,550 new beds and 50,000 square feet of retail replacing cinder-block student housing on the site. The gateway project will anchor one end of a proposed tram line; the state Capitol is the other anchor. LSU Property Foundation may also build Spruce Hall next to the Greek Amphitheater. The university is updating and adding residence halls to meet student demand. About 6,000 students live on campus, but there’s a waiting list.

CATHEDRALS OF LEARNING

The library system has found a tentative location for a branch in South Baton Rouge. The system is interested in purchasing a 16,000-square-foot building on Quail Drive that houses the Louisiana Licensing Board for Contractors, which wants to shift its offices to be near downtown. Some modifications of the interior would be required for the library. The branch could be linked to a BREC path that is under construction, letting people who live in Kenilworth and other surrounding neighborhoods bike or walk to it. Meantime, construction of a $19 million replacement for the downtown library on the Town Square should begin in October and be completed in August 2018.
Nicholson Drive will turn into a destination in the next decade. The Baton Rouge Area Foundation’s and Commercial Properties Realty Trust’s 1.2 million-square-foot Water Campus is under construction near the bridge. Next door, a private developer is building 224 apartments, 34,000 square feet for offices and 15,000 square feet of retail. LSU is adding 1,550 beds and 50,000 square feet of retail from Skip Bertman Drive to West Chimes Street. Two large apartment complexes were built off Nicholson near LSU in the last two years, adding to two condo developments at the university.

A tram might connect them all, while also luring more development to the area. In June, EBR’s Metro Council pledged $10 million in bond money in an attempt to draw millions more in federal dollars for a modern streetcar linking LSU and downtown along Nicholson. Downtown parking fees would repay the bonds.

Up to 80% of the estimated $170 million tram project would be covered by federal grants. Parish government has already applied for a $25 million federal grant. An application is due Sept. 2 for an additional $85 million federal grant.

Project planners estimate the tram would produce $1.04 billion for the Baton Rouge economy by 2041. An additional benefit is pulling people to live in the city and near the two largest employment areas – LSU and downtown, which may reduce traffic on other streets and the interstate.

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation sponsored a trip earlier this year, offering Metro Council members an opportunity to learn from a tram project in Kansas City that opened in 2016. That line has exceeded expectations. It was initially supposed to transport 2,700 daily riders, but about 4,600, on average, were riding it daily. Weekend ridership is averaging 9,100.

The proposed tram would run from Tiger Stadium to the Louisiana State Capitol along Nicholson Drive, St. Ferdinand Street and North Fourth Street.
THRIVE ACADEMY

THRIVE Academy will move into a new 43,000-square-foot student dormitory and a building renovated for classrooms on Brightside Drive for its upcoming school year.

THRIVE, a boarding charter school, financed the $11.5 million development with a combination of grants and public and private financing. In the new complex, THRIVE can educate 160 students, up from 110 at-risk schoolchildren attending 6th through 10th grades.

THRIVE plans to add a second dorm and more classrooms within three years to teach up to 350 students in a middle and high school. Sarah Broome, a Teach For America alumna, opened THRIVE in 2011.

Since then, the school has proven its model works. Smaller classes and extended schooldays have resulted in soaring achievement scores for THRIVE students. The children live at the school during the week, taking afterschool enrichment lessons and assisting in chores. They spend weekends at home.

CAA READY TO BUILD NEW SHELTER

A quick five years after it was created, Companion Animal Alliance has raised more than $11 million to build a new animal shelter for East Baton Rouge Parish. Near Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport, the existing shelter is nearly four decades old. Construction of the new shelter should begin later this year on LSU’s campus near the School of Veterinary Medicine.

The new shelter will be a more humane place for dogs and cats while they wait to be adopted. Modeled after the best in the country, it will be:

• Less expensive to operate. An efficient design requires less maintenance and staffing.

• Easier to reach. The location means more adoptions, less time in the shelter for animals, and more volunteers—especially among LSU students who live only minutes away.

• More humane. Fewer dogs and cats will get sick because the shelter is designed to contain diseases. Dogs will have more room to run outdoors, and cats will stay in calmer places away from barking dogs.

• A location for training students who are attending the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. Students can diagnose and treat diseases that they don’t see often, and try the latest surgical techniques.

• A place for evacuating pets after hurricanes and other disasters.

Families will get happier, healthier pets to adopt.

Since taking over the old shelter five years ago, CAA has boosted the number of animals saved and adopted from 20% to more than 70%. With a new shelter, even more lost or homeless dogs and cats can be placed in happy homes.

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation and our donors are contributing more than half the cost of the shelter.

Donors of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation have granted more than $1 million to THRIVE Academy. The Foundation’s staff has supported and advised THRIVE.
BR HEALTH DISTRICT NAMES FIRST BOARD

With aims of collaboratively improving health outcomes, increasing economic development and promoting Baton Rouge as a health care destination, the Baton Rouge Health District has enlisted chief executives of top health care operations to guide the nonprofit in its first two years.

The founding members of the Baton Rouge Health District Board of Directors are Dr. William Cefalu, executive director of Pennington Biomedical Research Center at Louisiana State University; Teri Fontenot, Woman’s Hospital president and CEO; Eric McMillen, Ochsner Medical Center-Baton Rouge CEO; Mark Slyter, General Health System president and CEO; Todd Stevens, Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center CEO; Dr. I. Steve Udvarhelyi, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana president and CEO; and Scott Wester, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center CEO. John Spain, executive vice president of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, is the first board chair, and Slyter was named secretary and treasurer.

At its first meeting, the board directed Suzy Sonnier, executive director, to establish governance, increase awareness and develop a strategic plan.

The Baton Rouge Health District will continue to promote improved infrastructure, access and transportation as recommended in the community-developed master plan that was funded by the Baton Rouge Area Foundation at the request of City-parish government. The master plan, which serves as a foundation for Health District activities, calls for building new roads, sidewalks and paths to reduce traffic and offer transportation choices, while integrating parks to promote better health in the Bluebonnet, Essen Lane and Perkins Road area, where a number of health care assets are clustered.

Parish government has adopted the infrastructure plan under FuturEBR, which is the overarching growth strategy for the parish. And Mayor Kip Holden has pledged to build the first recommended infrastructure project, an extension of Dijon Avenue across Essen to Bluebonnet, a connector to provide traffic relief in the most congested part of the parish.

The master plan, developed by Perkins + Will in collaboration with city-parish and health care leaders, recommends a number of additional strategies, including expanding opportunities for increased medical education, development of a clinical trials consortium and implementation of shared services that could eliminate duplication and reduce costs.

START (REPAIRING) YOUR ENGINES

Baton Rouge Community College is ready to enroll the first students in its new automotive training center off North Lobdell. By mid-July, nearly 30 students had registered and a total of 50 were expected to be members of the inaugural class. They will learn to repair big and small vehicles, including gasoline and diesel engines, transmissions and electrical systems.

The training center will let Louisiana residents learn in Baton Rouge instead of traveling to Texas and other states. The center is the first building in Ardendale, a 200-acre neighborhood to be anchored by education places. EBR Public Schools will build a career academy next to the auto center, and BRCC will add an allied health training facility. Other parts of Ardendale will include housing, offices and parks.

The East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority is the developer of Ardendale, which started as a project of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation.

The center is named the John W. McKay Jr. Automotive Training Center. It honors McKay, a teacher, coach and principal in the East Baton Rouge Public School System for 30 years.
The Baton Rouge Area Foundation had its most productive year yet, thanks to backing from our members. We completed a master plan for the Baton Rouge Lakes and another for a Health District in the city. The Water Campus is taking shape. So is the Ardendale development. We made a persuasive case for building a mental health treatment center and began a blueprint for better services for people with autism.

**Join the movement.**

Become a member of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation.

225.387.6126 or BRAF.org

Memberships start at $100.
The Baton Rouge Area Foundation’s fund donors make thousands of grants from their charitable accounts. Grants for the second quarter of 2016 are listed below. They total $4.97 million. If you wish to learn more about opening a charitable fund at the Foundation, please call Elizabeth Hutchison at (225) 387-6126. You can open a charitable fund for a minimum of $10,000. The Foundation will manage the fund and make grants on your behalf. Contributions to charitable funds are tax deductible.

An accounting for all the grants from 2015 are included in the annual report section of this magazine.

A.C. Lewis Branch YMCA–$150
Academic Distinction Fund–$45,282
Adaptive Sports Foundation–$100
Alley Theatre–$1,667
Alliance Francaise de la Nouvelle Orleans–$2,500
Alpha Kappa Psi Foundation–$350
ALS Association Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter–$1,000
Alzheimer’s Association of Louisiana–$100
Alzheimer’s Services of the Capital Area–$16,500
American Cancer Society Inc.–$250
American Heart Association Greater Southeast Affiliate–$250
American National Red Cross–$2,500
AMIKids Inc. Georgetown–$2,000
Ann Martin Center–$1,360
Annunciation Orthodox School–$2,000
Arkansas Baptist College–$30,000
Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge Inc.–$9,104
Ascension Community Theatre–$3,000
Associated Marine Institute Inc./AMIKids–$10,000
Auckland Communities Foundation–$30,000
Avodah: The Jewish Service Corps Inc.–$15,000
Baton Rouge Blues Foundation–$150
Baton Rouge Children’s Advocacy Center–$5,548
Baton Rouge Christian Education Foundation/ The Dunham School–$2,782
Baton Rouge Community College Foundation–$18,000
Baton Rouge Crisis Intervention Center–$769
Baton Rouge Gallery Inc.–$250
Baton Rouge Green Association Inc.–$572
Baton Rouge Opera Guild Inc.–$1,500

SAFETY NET  Bobby and Marsha Yarborough’s favorite waitress at their regular restaurant went missing. Hearing that she had run into a rough patch, they helped her. She returned to work and LSU, where she’s earning a degree in social work to help others.

Now the Yarboroughs are assisting others in Baton Rouge, thanks to a charitable fund established by them at the Baton Rouge Area Foundation. The Safety Net Quick Response Fund makes grants so working people who need a little money can overcome unexpected trouble.

“Helping others who are in need at particular times in their lives is the goal of this fund,” said the Yarboroughs. “We learned that there are times when someone just needs a little help to get past a problem or difficult situation. We have seen in our own lives how a small gift can make a meaningful change in a person’s life.”

The Foundation manages the Safety Net fund, accepting and reviewing applications for eligibility and making grants from the fund. People wanting to apply for assistance can learn more at SafetyNetResponseFund.org. You can also donate to the fund at the site.

The Foundation offers a similar program to businesses, which open funds to make grants to employees who are struck by unforeseen problems, such as losses from storms and fire, and some costs related to illnesses that are not covered by insurance.
Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation Inc./The Emerge Center–$35,840
Baton Rouge Youth Coalition–$60,500
Beyond the Badge Inc.–$500
Bishop Ott Works of Mercy Trust/Cath Diocese–$209
Bourgoyne, Todd–$10,000
Boy Scouts of America Istrouma Area Council–$500
Boys and Girls Club of the Mississippi Delta–$1,000
Boys Hope Girls Hope of Baton Rouge–$2,000
BREADA (Big River Economic & Agricultural Development Alliance)–$1,000
Broadmoor United Methodist Church–$10,000
Brusly Elementary–$1,000
Cal Farley's Boys Ranch–$3,000
Cancer Services of Greater Baton Rouge Inc.–$12,500
Capital Area Animal Welfare Society–$304
Capital Area CASA Association–$1,200
Capital Area United Way–$13,813
Cat Haven Inc.–$15,000
Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge/Bishop's Annual Appeal–$1,000
Catholic High School Foundation–$15,620
Cenikor Foundation–$7,500
Center for Planning Excellence Inc.–$17,250
Center for the Arts - Crested Butte–$10,000
Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Baton Rouge Inc./McMains Children's Develo–$25,750
Change Lives Now–$2,000
Children's Cup–$1,200
Chinese Christian Church of Baton Rouge–$284
Christ Episcopal Church–$5,000
Christ School–$10,000
Christ the King Parish and Catholic Center at LSU–$11,124
City Year Baton Rouge–$155,250
City Year Inc.–$6,920
Coleman, Bianca–$1,000
College Foundation of the University of Virginia–$1,500
Community Fund for the Arts–$5,000
Companion Animal Alliance–$60,000
Congregation B'nai Israel of Baton Rouge–$2,200
Crawfish Cookin for a Cause–$500
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School–$1,000
Delta Delta Delta Foundation–$1,000
Douglas Manship Sr. Theatre Complex Holding Inc.–$13,097
Downstream Project–$100
Dream Teachers–$300
Ducks Unlimited Inc.–$25,000
Duke University–$100
Dyslexia Association of Greater Baton Rouge–$599
Education's Next Horizon–$2,500
Ellis Marsalis Center of Music Inc.–$50,000
Episcopal High School of Baton Rouge–$277,000
Fekete Farm–$5,000
Fellowship of Catholic University Students / FOCUS–$2,000
Fellowship of Christian Athletes–$1,000
First Presbyterian Church of Baton Rouge Foundation–$100
First United Methodist Church–$18,300
Fletcher Farms–$12,500
Forum $5–$1,250
Forward Arts Inc.–$15,000
Fosters Home Foundation–$3,000
Foundation for East Baton Rouge School System–$500
Foundation for Historical Louisiana Inc.–$2,784
Foundation for Woman's–$8,000
Friends of Hilltop Arboretum Inc.–$1,700
Friends of Louisiana Public Broadcasting Inc.–$6,620
Friends of Magnolia Mound–$1,600
Friends of the Louisiana State Archives–$100
Friends of the National Zoo–$250
Front Yard Bikes–$1,000
GaitWay Therapeutic Horsemanship–$37,500
General Health Foundation–$2,500
Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank Inc.–$9,250

**HOW WE ISSUE GRANTS**

Philanthropists establish charitable funds at the Foundation and deposit money in those accounts. The Foundation manages the money in these donor-advised funds. Donors recommend grants to nonprofits; the Foundation board reviews and approves the grants. Our staff manages all the paperwork, including issuing checks and sending acknowledgement letters. Contributions to donor advised funds are tax deductible.
Iberville Foundation for Academic Excellence—$5,668
Infirmary Foundation Inc.—$2,500
International Hospitality Foundation LSU—$560
International Rett Syndrome Foundation—$5,000
International Society for Krishna Consciousness of New Orleans—$3,753
International Students Inc.—$6,000
Jewish Federation of Greater Baton Rouge—$6,100
Julius Freyhan Foundation—$1,250
Junior Achievement of Greater Baton Rouge and Acadiana—$2,928
Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas—$1,000
Junior Achievement USA—$1,000
Kemper and Leila Williams Foundation/ Historic New Orleans Collection—$800
King of Kings Ministries Inc—$250
Knock Knock Children's Museum—$255,000
Kudvumisa Foundation USA Inc.—$1,500
LA Sports Academy Basketball—$2,000
Living Word Church of Muskegon—$600
Livingston Parish Public Schools—$500
Loranger United Methodist Church—$1,500
Louisiana Art and Science Museum Inc.—$8,583
Louisiana Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross—$6,804
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Bureau of Health Services Financing—$208,793
Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities—$100
Louisiana Key Academy—$55,500
Louisiana Public Health Institute—$121,028
Louisiana Resource Center for Educators—$8,500
Louisiana State University and A&M College—$1,000
Louisiana Symphony Association/
Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra—$10,169
Louisiana United Methodist Children and Family Services Inc.—$100
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation—$100
Louisiana Wildlife Federation—$100
LSU CxC Outstanding Faculty Award—$1,500
LSU Foundation—$109,350
LSU Foundation - Burden Horticultural Society—$8,333
LSU Foundation - College of Engineering—$10,000
LSU Foundation - Department of Libraries—$150
LSU Foundation - E.J. Ourso College of Business—$2,500
LSU Foundation - LSU Museum of Art—$13,100
LSU Foundation - Paul M. Hebert Law Center—$150
LSU Foundation - School of Art Gallery Support Fund—$15,200
LSU Foundation - School of Coast and Environment—$3,000
LSU Foundation - School of Music—$150
Maison des Ami of Louisiana Inc.—$34,000
Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Texas Gulf Coast and Louisiana Inc.—$500
Manners of the Heart—$250
Map 10 40—$1,500
Marine Toys for Tots Foundation—$3,000
Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center—$115,100
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center—$100
Mercy Corps—$5,000
MetroMorphosis—$25,000
Missionaries of Charity Inc.—$5,000
Morrow Family Farm—$12,500
National Film Preserve Ltd.—$9,000
National World War II Museum Inc.—$8,000
Nature Conservancy of Louisiana—$135,392
New Horizons Ranch and Center Inc.—$3,000
New Orleans Center for Creative Arts Institute—$1,000
New Schools for Baton Rouge—$110,000
NGA Research and Education Foundation—$582,983
O’Brien House Inc.—$3,000
Of Moving Colors Productions—$1,000
Ollie Steele Burden Manor Inc.—$347
Options Inc.—$5,000
Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church—$20,794
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church—$35,069
Our Lady of the Lake Children’s Hospital—$690
Our Lady of the Lake College—$5,300
Our Lady of the Lake Foundation—$31,667
Outdoor Ministry to the Disadvantaged Fund—$10,000
Parkview Baptist School Inc.—$4,728
Particular Council of St. Vincent de Paul of Baton Rouge Louisiana—$8,244
Paula G. Manship YMCA—$1,000
Pennington Biomedical Research Foundation—$87,550
Planned Parenthood of the Gulf Coast—$500
Pointe Coupee Early Childhood Coalition Inc.—$120,000
Pointe Coupee Historical Society Inc.—$100
Pointe Coupee Parish School Board—$230
Port Arthur Higher Education Foundation Inc.—$1,000
Pro Bono Publico Foundation—$1,500
Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana Inc.—$3,100
Ray of Hope Cancer Foundation—$500
Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge—$2,000
Red Shoes Inc.—$200
Rice University—$15,000
Ripples of Hope—$10,000
Roman Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge—$116,479
Rotary Club of Baton Rouge Inc. Foundation—$30,000
Runnels School Inc.—$350
Russell Domingue Ministries Inc.—$750
SSC Progression Corp / St. Stanislaus College—$500
Saint Jean Vianney Catholic Church—$2,453
Saint Joseph’s Abbey—$105,000
Self Storage Association Foundation—$300
Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response Center—$20,000
Sigma Chi Foundation—$1,000
Sigma Epsilon of Kappa Delta Foundation—$15,000
Single Stop USA Inc.—$62,500
Southern Garden Symposium—$500
Southwest Louisiana Alliance Foundation—$5,000
Spring Hill College--$15,000
St. Agnes Catholic Church--$5,000
St. Albans School of Public Service--$5,000
St. Aloysius Church--$100
St. Augustine Church--$874
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church--$3,500
St. Elizabeth Foundation--$236
St. Francisville Area Foundation Inc.--$100
St. Gerard Majella Church--$10,500
St. James Episcopal Day School--$1,000
St. Joseph Cathedral--$56,432
St. Joseph the Worker Church--$5,648
St. Joseph's Academy--$2,500
St. Joseph's Academy Foundation--$1,250
St. Louis Catholic Church--$900
St. Luke's Episcopal Church--$7,500
St. Mary's Church--$100
St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church--$300
St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School--$13,468
Swine Palace Productions Inc.--$200
TankProof--$26,000
Teach for America - South Louisiana--$35,000
The Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund - Tulane Cancer Center--$3,100
The Ascension Fund--$11,433
The Chapel--$4,000
The Cotuit Library--$1,000
The Cultural Landscape Foundation--$500
The Friends of the Rural Life Museum Inc.--$4,125
The Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge--$100
The Lauren Savoy Olinde Foundation--$1,000
The Louisiana Architectural Foundation--$4,500
The Louisiana International Film Festival--$6,000
The Original Richland Library Restoration Society Inc.--$794
The Patrons of the East Baton Rouge Parish Public Library--$100
The Salvation Army--$5,000
THRIVE Baton Rouge--$70,000
Trinity Episcopal Church--$40,000
United In Peace Inc.--$5,000
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/
Sacred Heart Catholic Church--$5,000
Unity Church of Christianity Baton Rouge--$200
University of Florida--$500
University of New Mexico Foundation Inc.--$200
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill--$1,000
University of South Alabama--$145,246
University of Texas Foundation--$1,000
University Presbyterian Church--$21,750
University Presbyterian Church--$250
Unshakeable Ministries--$350
Volunteer Health Corps of Baton Rouge--$100
Volunteers of America Inc.--$12,250
Water Institute of the Gulfs Delta--$311,250

West Baton Rouge Foundation for Academic Excellence--$5,793
West Baton Rouge Parish School Board--$500
West Feliciana Education Foundation--$500
West Texas Boys Ranch--$5,000
Willwoods Community--$1,000
Woodlawn Foundation--$1,000
Woodville Baptist Church--$500
World Connect Inc.--$25,000
WRKF Public Radio Inc.--$2,860
YMCA of the Capital Area--$2,539
Young Leaders' Academy of Baton Rouge Inc.--$100
Young Life Baton Rouge--$5,000
Youth Oasis--$2,600
YWCA of Greater Baton Rouge--$30,542
Zachary Community School Board--$500
BIKE IT

It would seem that few people ride bikes in Baton Rouge. But if you look – really look – you’ll see all types of people pedaling around the parish. Children learning to ride. Commuters rolling to work, even when it’s too hot do so. Packs of cyclists training together for races.

Our CityStats survey offers some real numbers on biking in Baton Rouge. We share some of the data here. The entire report, which annually measures the quality of life in the parish, is available for download at BRCityStats.org.

Why biking? Because Baton Rouge has a traffic problem. Many experts say that adding more lanes for cars won’t reduce congestion by much. Improving the flow can be accomplished by methods that are working elsewhere.

Giving people transportation choices is among those solutions. In cities around the world—and in the U.S. too—bikes have done more than reduce road congestion; their benefits include a healthier population and less pollution.

ANOTHER RESOURCE: We recommend you watch *How the Dutch Got Bike Lanes* on YouTube. In some Netherland cities, more than half of journeys are by bike.

BICYCLING

CityStats survey

Riding bike to work

Would consider biking to work if Baton Rouge had bike paths and dedicated lanes on work routes, up from 37% in the 2015 CityStats survey.

MOST interested in cycling to work

- 47% 18-29-YEAR-OLDS
- 44% WHITES
- 49% DEMOCRATS

LEAST interested

- 31% SOME COLLEGE
- 25% NORTH/ NORTHEAST PART OF PARISH
Bike Sharing
CityStats survey

Bike share systems let people use bikes for an annual fee of $55 to $90 and an hourly fee of $1 to $4. The first hour of each ride is usually free. Members pick up and deposit bikes at hubs. The Baton Rouge Area Foundation and local leaders are attempting to introduce bike share in EBR. Ahead of that, we asked a few questions in the CityStats survey.

How would you use bike share?
- Recreation and exercise: 97%
- Run errands: 55%
- Ride to work: 55%

Where do you want bike share hubs?
- Downtown: 49%
- LSU: 43%
- City Park: 32%
- University Lakes: 30%
- Mid City: 25%
- Southern University: 18%
- Around hospitals in Essen/Bluebonnet corridor: 17%

30%
Would use a bike share system
ne slick slip of the foot, and he was under. What began as a carefree afternoon at a friend’s pool party almost ended in tragedy for a then-8-year-old Thurman Thomas and his family. As a novice swimmer, Thomas ventured too far toward the deep end and found himself gasping and flailing for help beneath the surface.

He was rescued that day by a fast-acting adult, but after being pulled from the water Thomas was embarrassed and anxious. In a blur of blue, and sharp chest pains, the importance of proper swimming techniques, safety in the water and the dangers of drowning had become all too real.

Two children under the age of 14 will die from drowning in the U.S. each day. The Centers for Disease Control lists accidental drowning as the fifth leading cause of death among Americans. And according to a recent study conducted by USA Swimming, 70% of minorities have not been given proper swimming lessons.

Those statistics certainly hold true for the majority African-American population in and around Baton Rouge, and 12 years after Thomas’ near-death experience in a friend’s pool, he and his twin brother, Torrence, launched their own nonprofit organization to fight these alarming drowning statistics by helping underprivileged children receive free swim lessons from skilled and certified instructors with money raised by selling commemorative tank tops.

Thurman and Torrence Thomas work to provide free swim lessons and mentorship with TankProof

By Jeff Roedel | Photos by Tim Mueller
The 26-year-old creatives who work in marketing, branding and photography and also produce and perform music as ASKTHETHOMASBROS wanted a name that was catchy and memorable, forward-thinking and a little unexpected—something that definitely didn’t sound old or like a program at a traditional fitness center. They decided to call it TankProof.

That was five years ago, and now the program has grown to help more than 300 children each summer learn how to swim for free.

The brothers often call swim lessons a “gift for life.”

Funnelling in from a variety of partner organizations and church groups such as Big Buddy, Healing Place Church’s Dream Center, Starhill Baptist Church and others, participating students are given lunch, listen to testimonial talks, receive a free coloring book on water safety and, of course, get two weeks of free swim lessons at Crawfish Aquatics in Baton Rouge—though this year also marks the expansion of the concept into Ascension Parish and the city of Alexandria, where local pools in those areas are replicating the Crawfish-TankProof concept.

“Crawfish has been a perfect partner because they had been wanting to do something like this for a long time and didn’t quite have the bandwidth for it,” says Torrence. “They obviously supply TankProof with a lot—a great pool and environment and the instructors these kids need—and we are the facilitators and organizers.”

This strategic partnership along with key financial backers—2016’s swim lessons are powered largely by Lamar Advertising with additional support from Lululemon and Krew du Optic—has helped the program grow year after year.

“The first time I met with Torrence and Thurman about TankProof I could tell within the hour that their passion was in line with the heart of our owners, Dr. Steve and Jan Ripple, and that is to change lives,” says Nan Fontenot, swim lessons director at Crawfish Aquatics. “When we hire our instructors, we tell them first they are here for one reason: to save a life. And one of the greatest joys is to watch a young swimmer go from fear to confidence, because this confidence and these skills carry over to other parts of their lives.”

Like Fontenot, Torrence and Thurman Thomas view TankProof in holistic terms. Every summer, they want to impact these children in as many areas of their life as possible. Motivational speakers—often professional athletes—are brought in to give talks and answer questions, suppliers like Whole Foods provide healthy snacks and the brothers themselves take every opportunity for one-on-one mentorship with the participants.

“It’s more than just swimming—we fill a lot of gaps,” Thurman says. “We have to ask what these kids are dealing with: identity, health issues and lack of self-confidence. A lot of these are kids from one-parent households, and they have a lot of needs. TankProof has to go beyond swim lessons and be an overall learning opportunity.”

If a child can overcome her worst fear—the water—then social studies suddenly is not such a big problem. Math isn’t a problem. These children walk away from TankProof not only safer in the water, but also knowing they can face challenges and achieve goals.

Fontenot says the testimonies given by successful adults who were once in the same shoes as these inner city children can make the biggest impression on the TankProof swimmers. And this is a model for mentorship that the Thomas brothers see as infinitely replicable. Their eyes are on making TankProof a national nonprofit movement.

“It takes passion, purpose and patience,” Torrence says. “We know it’s not realistic to change the world overnight, but we are thinking big now.”

Expansion of scale remains on the drawing board for TankProof, and the brothers are often on the road making connections in other cities in order to begin swim programs outside of Louisiana and to make TankProof a nationally known nonprofit. But they also know their focus has to remain on the actual experience and the tangible lessons learned by each swimmer that comes through the program.

“No matter what, the purpose behind it supersedes the fundraising and all of that,” says Thurman. “The fundraising will come. This is all about the kids and affecting each one we come across in a positive and life-changing way.”

To donate, purchase a commemorative charity T-shirt or get more information, visit tankproof.org.
Ready for a closeup

*NOLA nonprofit expands to BR, works with HBO nationwide*

By John Wirt | Photos by Tim Mueller

Creative endeavors are often thought to be the make-believe world of impractical dreamers. On the contrary, the New Orleans Video Access Center, aka NOVAC, trains people for real jobs in film, television and other creative fields.

NOVAC opened its Baton Rouge office in 2013 during Louisiana’s boom era for film and television production. The organization largely mirrors its New Orleans programming in Baton Rouge. Recently, though, the Baton Rouge office has emphasized workforce training, while New Orleans focused on youth programs and independent filmmaker training.

Funding from Baton Rouge’s Office of Community Development is helping NOVAC prepare locals for careers in creative-industry jobs, says Darcy McKinnon, executive director. The jobs include positions in the film and TV industries, videography, graphic design, photography and music recording.

Fatih Steward, left, and Keionnah Moore compose a shot during a filmmaking class at the Scotlandville library. New Orleans Video Access Center Baton Rouge partners with the East Baton Rouge Parish Library to provide the summer workshops.
Creative industry skills can be applied to many other kinds of work, says Jillian Hall, NOVAC’s programming manager in Baton Rouge. “Figuring out how to translate those skills to the workplace is important,” she says.

NOVAC in Baton Rouge shares an office with a wedding photographer in Main Street’s art-filled Creative Bloc complex. “The space is great because we are able to use the large studio space for our workshops and classes and events,” Hall says.

Despite Louisiana’s tradition of manufacturing and petroleum processing jobs, McKinnon says, the majority of future jobs will interact with technology. “So people we train for these creative jobs can work at an ad agency, as a TV broadcaster, in various areas of journalism. Even IBM has graphic designers and media production,” she says.

Because NOVAC is an independent entity that exists apart from the state’s higher education system, it can quickly assess what classes are most useful to the community. “It takes time for large institutions to develop course catalogs and programs,” McKinnon says. “We can respond to changing landscapes in a more agile manner and provide real opportunities for people.”

Chasidy Morris, a veteran of NOVAC’s Baton Rouge workforce training classes, has worked on several big film and television productions, including the TV historical series *Underground*.

“With NOVAC, it’s not like you’re sitting in a classroom and they’re telling you ‘This is this’ and ‘This is that,’ ” Morris says. “Everything is hands on. You’re getting the actual experience.”

Pamela Turner also took many of the NOVAC Baton Rouge’s workforce training classes, including production assistant boot camp and introduction to cinematography. Her production credits include *Underground* and the remake of *The Magnificent Seven*.

“As far as educating me and putting me to work once they trained me, NOVAC has been awesome,” Turner says. “I believe that’s the only way I was able to get those jobs.”

Turner’s training also enabled her to become a professional photographer and videographer. But if film and television production doesn’t pick up in Louisiana, she may leave the state. “I’m giving myself 12 months to see what happens,” she says. “If nothing happens here, then I have to follow my dreams.”

For years, Sarah Hunt dreamed about working in the film industry. After she attended one of NOVAC’s especially popular offerings, production assistant boot camp, she quickly found film work. Hunt’s résumé includes the big productions *The Magnificent Seven*, the Celtic Media Centre-shot *Fantastic Four* and the Tom Cruise-starring Barry Seal biopic, *Mena*.

“You just gotta get your foot in the door,” she says. “From there, your name gets passed along to different contacts and they end up calling you.” Like Turner and Morris, Hunt has felt the downturn in production. “I haven’t really seen much work, for instance, like *Fantastic Four*. But when the smaller stuff comes along, I’ll grab it.”

Last year, HBO asked NOVAC to replicate the internship program it developed for a Cinemax pilot that shot in New Orleans. Based on its New Orleans model, NOVAC is helping HBO develop community-based training programs in cities across the country.

**FLASHBACK**

The New Orleans Video Access Center marked its 44th anniversary in July. Founded in 1972, NOVAC was created to help New Orleans communities tell their own stories. Similar grassroots organizations—including the Bay Area Video Coalition in San Francisco and Downtown Community Television Center in New York—were part of a social-media movement.

The movement was made possible in part by the Portapak, a battery-powered videotape system that could be carried and operated by a single operator. Before the portable, accessible video camera machine, videotape was the province of major news outlets and studios.

“These community media organizations popped up,” NOVAC executive director McKinnon says. “They were designed to bring the power of visual storytelling to the people, and say that the...
Local filmmaker and class instructor Clay Achee edits audio and video with student Tyzoria Payne during a recent class.

Six-year-old Jadah Williams uses a clapperboard before she is interviewed by classmates during a filmmaking class.
people themselves are the best people to tell their own stories.”

Over the decades, NOVAC, the longest-running media-arts nonprofit in the Southeast, evolved, struggled and adapted. Its current mission includes fostering a sustainable film community through education, access to industry resources and career development. NOVAC supports independent productions and continues to emphasize local content.

NOVAC’s early projects included Survival Information Television. An extensive series of community-based video workshops, Survival Information Television confronted issues that faced New Orleans’ poor communities. Members of the community served as writers, directors, talent and distributors.

From the 1980s through the mid-’90s, NOVAC trained people to produce public access television programs. By the late ’90s, NOVAC seemed to have lost its way. “It was really a tough time,” McKinnon says. “NOVAC wasn’t sure where it was going.”

A disaster, Hurricane Katrina, and the state’s newly legislated tax credits for film and television production—the most generous in the nation—helped NOVAC focus again. Funds from a federal recovery grant enabled the organization to train locals for Louisiana’s exploding film industry.

“There was immediate need for film crews,” McKinnon says. “They couldn’t fly them in fast enough from Los Angeles and New York. And there were added tax benefits for hiring locals, which was the purpose of the legislation. Somebody had to train local people to work on those shows. That was us.”

NOVAC educated future film and television industry workers in camera and sound equipment operation, set building, scene painting, wardrobe, production accounting and coordination, makeup, and more.

“Each feature film or television show is a little society that’s built for the purpose of creating that content,” McKinnon says.

To help fill the industry positions, NOVAC partnered with local and national government funding sources, film and TV productions, and unions. The goal? Prepare workers to hit the set running on their first day on a job.

NOVAC is also deeply involved in youth education. These programs concentrate on open-enrollment public schools and open community programs.

“Because, in many cases, kids who go to Baton Rouge Magnet High and private schools have the resources to sit in a lab all day and learn Photoshop,” McKinnon says. “But in under-resourced public high schools and under-resourced public community centers, there’s not the expertise, the equipment or the software to build those skills. Because there’s no way a school that concentrates on basic subjects, English as a second language, behavior and poverty issues can focus on creative pathways. So we bring in computers, cameras, instructors and filmmakers.”

In summer 2016, NOVAC in Baton Rouge offered filmmaking camps for teens in libraries; a workforce training class in basic Photoshop for adults; a summer filmmaking camp for English-as-a-second-language students; a live sound workshop; and a workforce training class for adults in interviewing.

On a Friday in mid-June, one of five teen summer filmmaking camps wrapped up at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library. Class members interviewed each other on camera while independent filmmaker and LSU student Zandashe Brown edited the short film the teens wrote, filmed and acted in during the week.

“Filmmaking and the independence that comes with it helps people their age form their own opinions,” Brown says. “It’s super important to give kids a voice and then listen to them when they speak through that voice.”

NOVAC’s first National Endowment for the Humanities grant made another of the organization’s recent initiatives, videotape preservation, possible. NOVAC has 2,200 videotapes in its collection. The tape formats the organization used through the decades included Betamax, three-quarter-inch video, Digibeta and VHS.

In addition to preserving NOVAC’s video legacy, the organization’s New Orleans office recently digitized almost 20 tapes from the collection of Baton Rouge blues artist Kenny Neal. McKinnon hopes to replicate the video preservation program in Baton Rouge.

“So we’ve been inspired to put out a call for other local blues artist performances and interviews,” McKinnon says. “We can add more footage to the collection and make sure it’s here for future generations to enjoy.”

Cooperation between NOVAC and area foundations and arts organizations, she added, can produce digitized tapes that can be donated to libraries and other institutions.

Even as NOVAC’s workforce training continues in Louisiana and is being duplicated throughout the nation, the organization’s original mission remains a priority. NOVAC’s website home page features the line: Cultivating creative and economic opportunities for Louisiana storytellers since 1972.

“Advocating for Southern storytellers and Southern stories is a big part of what we do,” McKinnon says. “The preservation of these Southern stories and the telling of them by Southerners is key.” •
2016 FARM TO TABLE TOPS

Over 30 youth artists created tables this summer that reflect what they learned about Louisiana’s local food system & culture.

Visit Main Street Market and the Saturday Red Stick Farmers Market to see their amazing work.

Visit www.breada.org for more information

The 2013 tables are available now at our Tabletops Auction.
See them and bid at www.tabletopsbr.org

Find recipes and market updates at www.breada.org.
Facebook.com/breada ~ Instagram: @redstickfarmersmarket
market@breada.org ~ 225-267-5060
The long goodbye

A native tribe tries to take their coastal home with them

By C.E. Richard | Photos by Tim Mueller
rom the elevated perch of the lifeguard’s stand, Dominick Naquin keeps a close watch on the water. Across the pool is an identical stand where his 17-year-old twin, Damian, sits for his shift, doing the same job. Located in coastal Terrebonne Parish, the little fishing village of Montegut isn’t large, but the pool at the public recreation center is usually crowded this time of year. Mostly uneventful, the long summer afternoons leave the boys plenty of time to think while the sun bronzes their skin. It’s a pivotal time in their lives, these months between finishing high school and leaving home together to start college this fall. So much is changing so fast.

But summer days are not lazy for the twins. On his first afternoon as a lifeguard, Dominick was assigned to supervise the kiddie pool. No sooner than he’d taken his seat atop the tall stand, he had to jump down to save a life. A young mother, helping her child into the shallow water, slipped at the edge, cracked her head, and began to gush blood.

Damian’s first day on the job wasn’t much better. He remembers the 9-year-old boy who wanted to dive into the deep end. When Damian questioned him, he indignantly assured him that he knew how to swim. The boy was surprised to discover that, in fact, he was wrong. Damian jumped in after the drowning child and swam him to safety.

“You never expect things to go wrong on your first day.”

It’s about as much as either will say if you commend them for their heroics. Both are more than a little modest. Upon meeting them, though, it’s immediately apparent that they’re the kind of clear-headed, disciplined young men you’d want at your side in an emergency.

That’s likely why they were picked by Chief Albert Naquin and Dr. Kristina Peterson to represent their community. Dominick and Damian Naquin (not immediately related to Chief Albert) are members of the Isle de Jean Charles Biloxi-Chitimacha-Chocow Band, a tribe of Native Americans who put down roots in this region during the early part of the 19th century.

But now their tribe is confronting a crisis that could lead to its extinction.

Louisiana’s indigenous population is surprisingly large and largely overlooked. Most of the state’s Native Americans are concentrated in French-speaking communities in the wetlands along the coast. Collectively, they are descendants from a variety of tribes—Houma, Choctaw, Biloxi and Chitimacha, to name a few—but, along with other traditional cultures populating our coastlands, they all face the same existential threat from erosion and rising sea levels.

The danger is especially acute for the Indians of Isle de Jean Charles. Their ancestral homeland, a 22,000-acre island in the Terrebonne marshes, has shrunk to just 350 acres in the last 50 years. Fully 98% percent of their land has disappeared under water within living memory, forcing most of the tribe to scatter inland. Today, only 30 families or so live on the remnants of the island, located outside the region’s hurricane-protection levees. It’s connected to the mainland by a single stretch of road, frequently overtopped by surrounding waters. For many people, the problems of coastal erosion and climate change are uncertain abstractions, situated somewhere in the future. For the Indians of IDJC, catastrophe has already come.

“They chose a smart place to hide out. And coming to this place of refuge, it became a sacred spot. It became home.”

—Dr. Kristina Peterson
However, tribal leaders have proven themselves quite capable in responding to crisis. They know what has to be done. It’s time to leave.

“If we don’t move, then, before long, we’re just going to have this one standing point of land and nothing to connect it with,” Damian explains. Officially acknowledged by the state, the Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Band is again petitioning for federal recognition. Nevertheless, the tribe isn’t waiting around. It’s proceeding with plans to develop a sort of reservation for itself somewhere further inland.

“We want to move the families still on the island first. They’re most in danger. But after we get them settled, we want to start to draw together all the other families that were forced to move off already.”

Survival in any emergency starts with a plan. Working with the nonprofit Lowlander Center, the tribe has proposed a visionary project for not only saving those left on the drowning island, but also for bringing back their scattered kinsmen, reviving the tribe, and reclaiming their lost homeland.

Shepherded by Chief Albert Naquin, the Isle de Jean Charles (IdJC) Resettlement Project is an effort nearly as old as Damian and Dominick themselves. It’s experimental, and many problems must still be worked out. On the other hand, what the tribe is trying is not entirely without precedent. They already have some experience with this sort of thing.

Probably more than anyone else in this country, Native Americans know about forced resettlement. The Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw band are a living testimonial to a painful part of American history, the Trail of Tears.

The Indian Removal Act of 1830 led to a series of forced relocations expelling most of the Native population from the southeastern United States. Nullifying all treaties, the U.S. government rounded up families from established Indian nations and marched them away from their native forests and swamps of the...
American South to be resettled on federal lands designated as “Indian Territory,” present-day Oklahoma. The land they owned in North Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Alabama was confiscated and handed over to white settlers.

The victims included Seminoles, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Muscogee Indians, among others. Nobody really knows how many were forced to relocate, but it’s estimated that more than 10,000 died on the way.

Nevertheless, some managed to escape.

“They had no idea whether they were going to their deaths in Oklahoma,” says Rev. Kristina Peterson, Ph.D. She is the facilitator for the Lowlander Center, which has been assisting and advocating for the tribe. “At some point, passing through northern Mississippi, several Native families got together, probably in the middle of the night, and said, ‘Hey, let’s skedaddle!’”

Choctaws joined with Biloxi Indians and headed south, as far from the forced marches as possible, until they ran out of land in Louisiana at the edge of the Gulf.

“They came looking for someplace safe, hidden away down the bayou,” Peterson says.

At Isle de Jean Charles, they discovered a ridge of high ground above the surrounding marshes. Far enough from the Gulf to provide protection from hurricanes, the island offered rich soil for gardens and small-scale agriculture, prairies for grazing livestock, and wooded groves for hunting and trapping. And, of course, there were ample waters for fishing. They also found other indigenous people living here already, including Chitimacha Indians who’d inhabited coastal Louisiana since prehistoric times. The wandering remnants of these peoples blended and established a shared way of life together on the island.

“They chose a smart place to hide out,” Peterson concludes. “And coming to this place of refuge, it became a sacred spot. It became home.”

Adaptability and resilience are a crucial part of their story, says geographer Scott Hemmerling. He’s the director of people, resources & technology at The Water Institute of the Gulf. Hemmerling is quick to point out that most of the tribe’s ancestors were originally inland peoples, not rooted in a wetland environment. “And yet they adapted to what was here in South Louisiana and developed their traditions around that.”

The experience of these Indians is not unlike that of many other “refugee tribes” who have found sanctuary in coastal Louisiana, Hemmerling says. Other examples include the Acadians after their forced exile from what became Nova Scotia, or the 10,000 plus Creoles who came later, fleeing the Haitian revolution. More recently, large numbers of Vietnamese immigrants, driven from their country, arrived in Louisiana and established communities of fishermen and gardeners reminiscent of those they’d left behind in Asia. These fertile lowlands have always attracted exile groups looking for a new home.

“But we’re not really leaving home as much as we’re trying to take home with us,” Damian Naquin emphasizes. For being so young, the boys have developed no small expertise on a question that sociologists and cultural geographers wrestle with over the course of a career: What makes a place home to people?

In March 2016, the two 17-year-olds were invited to deliver a presentation at CNREP 2016—a weighty academic conference devoted to the “Challenges of Natural Resource Economics & Policy.” The boys wowed the attending crowd of professors with an address entitled “Louisiana Coastal Tribe Resettlement: Through the Eyes of the Younger Generation.”

“The Chief and others asked if we’d be willing to add our voices, kind of representing the tribe’s young people,” Damian says. Dominick adds, “We didn’t really know what we were getting ourselves into, actually.”

It’s not uncommon for high school seniors to take a class trip to Washington, D.C. When Dominick and Damian went, though, it was to meet with congressional leaders, policymakers and other federal officials. The week between finals and graduation, they joined a small delegation from the tribe and the

“But we’re not really leaving home as much as we’re trying to take home with us.”

—Damian Naquin
Twins Damian, left, and Dominick Naquin teach tribal drums during a Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribal Culture Camp at Live Oak Baptist Church in Pointe aux Chenes, La. With the twins as advocates, the tribe won a $48 million grant to move from their vanishing coastal home to a new inland location, where their village will be recreated. The twins are headed to college in fall.

Lowlander Center to advocate for the IDJC Resettlement Project in the nation’s capital.

“This was all out-of-pocket,” says Kristina Peterson. The boys spent their own earnings, and they confide that some of the staff at the Lowlander Center even dipped into their retirement fund to help cover the costs for the delegation’s travel.

Chief Albert and other tribal leaders had been working doggedly for more than 16 years to craft a viable resettlement plan, meeting with failure and frustration along the way. Then, in January 2016, the Isle de Jean Charles Indians made a breakthrough and were awarded a $48 million grant from HUD, part of its National Disaster Resiliency Competition. Very suddenly, it seems, the obscure tribe that once hid itself in the marshes was now front page news in the U.S. and abroad. Publications like The New York Times and The Huffington Post seized on the story, dubbing the IDJC tribe “America’s First Climate Refugees.”

Publicity like that can be helpful, but frustrating sometimes too. The twins feel that, too often, some in the media have used their story to advance agendas that aren’t the project’s real priorities. “Sometimes they miss the whole point of all this,” says Damian, referring to the Resettlement master plan. The whole point?

“Unity,” he replies immediately. “Family. I mean, that’s how the whole thing started off with Chief,” he continues. “We knew we were losing our land and all, but then we also started to realize that a lot of our family connections were starting to go with it. You know, family connections in the tribe are like a web. And they’re slowly starting to dissolve.”

Some families, like their own, have not lived on the island itself in generations. As their land eroded away, more and more people moved inland after each hurricane and scattered throughout the region, looking for opportunity. The once tight-knit tribe was becoming a diaspora. So, to Damian and Dominick, the real story is about the ambitious plan to revive an entire tribe’s cultural identity through resettlement.

“I guess we’d like to take the focus off all the negative parts of
the story,” Damian says. “We’ve got, what, around 700 official tribal members?”

“And another 200 pending on the rolls,” his brother adds. “It’s not just relocating 30 families from the island. It’s much bigger than that.”

“It was never about the island,” Kristina Peterson says of the HUD grant she helped to write. “It was always about the tribe.” Apparently, misunderstanding about the project’s goals extends beyond reporters to some public officials too.

“We’ve heard the term ‘housing project’ I don’t know how many times,” she says. “If they can build them a cheap housing project and save some money, they think then that the rest of the grant can be used for other things.”

But the tribe isn’t looking for housing. They want to move the home they’re losing. Charrettes and public meetings helped ensure everyone had a say. “The people of the tribe designed the master plan themselves,” Damian says, “And I give big props to the team that worked on it because it’s amazing.”

His brother elbows him, afraid of sounding self-important. “We’re part of that team,” Dominick murmurs. “You know that, right?”

“Anyway,” Damian continues. “This ain’t no housing project!”

Far from it. The tribe intends to purchase a 500-acre tract of agricultural land north of Houma and develop it into a carefully designed community that integrates private residential living with shared public spaces in ways that their forebears would likely recognize. Homes will be elevated on pilings, for example, just like the houses where they live now. Some might say it’s unnecessary; after all, the anticipated community is far enough inland as to be safe from storm surge. But, better than anyone, the people of IdjC know that someday this could change. Besides, there are more immediately important reasons.

“It’s the kind of house they’re used to living in,” says Damian. With big wrap-around porches, the elevated homes can better
catch cooling Gulf breezes such as they enjoy now. The master plan calls for carrying inland many of their other traditions of coastal living. In addition to staking out ample public green spaces, canals and waterways will be dug to run behind the rows of houses, allowing for access to water the way that their bayous do now.

“People will be able to go out their back porches, walk a few yards, then sit and fish,” Dominick explains. “Just like here.”

In time, the development will transform the landscape itself, restoring it to conditions not unlike what their ancestors found when they first arrived.

“The area the tribe is looking at for this project is currently all monocultural farmland. Sugarcane fields,” explains Peterson. But the master plan calls for a restoration of the biodiversity that was once native to this part of Louisiana.

With attention to ethno-botanical concerns, some tribe members are collecting a seed bank of plants growing on the island—plants that traditionally provided nutrition, medicines and other necessities. By literally transplanting the familiar flora of the island, they hope to achieve a kind of habitat reclamation. What’s now empty cane fields will one day be restored as a complex coastal prairie ecosystem, which was almost entirely lost with the advent of large-scale farming. The property will also be edged with forest groves of live oaks and other indigenous trees and plants, attracting migratory songbirds once plentiful on the coast, along with other wildlife that would have been commonplace among their ancestors in the 19th century.

Historically, the community on Isle de Jean Charles was highly self-sufficient, due to its isolation. The tribe’s new community aspires to the same kind of self-reliance and resilience, even in its basic infrastructure through self-generated power and water management. Fronting the development will be a public commons and the Community Center, which will feature a commercial kitchen, health clinic, recreational facilities and space for activities like language classes, cultural workshops and even online university classes delivered through the many Tribal Colleges around the country.

The tribe is also considering the kinds of entrepreneurial opportunities the new settlement might afford them. Some of the possibilities being explored are honey preparation, aquaculture and a produce market offering homegrown harvests and seafood—once again, all the kinds of commercial activities that remain consistent with the tribe’s traditions.

“We’ve all had to think creatively about how to bring our way of life with us when we move,” Damian says.

Dominick and Damian concede that there are some in the tribe who have not yet fully embraced the idea of moving inland and resettling together, especially among the older generation. Some are skeptical of promises made by public officials. Others, perhaps, are simply reluctant to let go of what they’ve always known as home, even though it has no future.

The move won’t be easy. The people of Isle de Jean Charles understand that it will take nothing short of heroic efforts to rescue a drowning community. But their successes and failures will undoubtedly offer lessons to other coastal communities that, sooner or later, will have to swim to safety.

“They’re getting down to the really basic question of ‘what is community?’” says Scott Hemmerling. “What are the binding factors? Are they social? Are they environmental? What happens when you take one of those factors away?”

As the land sinks and the seas rise, communities all along Louisiana’s failing coast will have to confront the same questions. Hastened by hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the migration of Louisianaans away from their eroding coast is already underway as historic populations diffuse and families scatter inland to places like Baton Rouge, Lafayette or the Northshore. But much remains to be learned about whether and how entire communities could relocate without sacrificing their distinctive identity.

“It’s really a social experiment,” says Hemmerling, describing the IDJC Resettlement Project. “But I think it’s being done in the right way. I mean, in one sense, it’s not really a forced relocation. It’s the community taking it upon themselves and saying what they need.”

Preparing for their first semester at LSU this fall, the twins have much on their minds. Damian, who hopes to become a pediatrician, considers his upcoming major in microbiology. For Dominick, it’s computer science. But even thinking ahead of their move to Baton Rouge, the concerns of the tribe are never far from their thoughts. Nor is the hope of returning to newly resettled home.

“To keep a community together and whole? It’s a very difficult question,” Damian reflects, falling quiet. “There are so many different things that go into it.”

After a moment, Dominick speaks up.

“I think one of the most important aspects is that you have to all work together, the way a family does,” he says. “Which means everybody needs to have a voice. That’s when things work smoothly. But if you don’t have it where everybody is working together like a family, that’s when it all falls apart.” •
FALL 2016 SEASON

SEP 11 • 2 PM  ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET
SEP 22 • 7:30 PM  RICH ROBINSON
SEP 29 • 7:30 PM  JAMES HUNTER
OCT 6 • 7:30 PM  PAULA POUNDSTONE
OCT 10 • 7:30 PM  AMANDA SHIERES
OCT 11 • 7:30 PM  JONNY LANG
OCT 31 • 7:30 PM  ANDREW W.K. THE POWER OF PARTYING
NOV 17 • 7:30 PM  OHIO PLAYERS
DEC 1 • 7:30 PM  CAJUN CHRISTMAS WITH STEVE RILEY & MAMOU PLAYBOYS
  WITH PELICAN 212 AND SPECIAL GUESTS
DEC 4 • 4 PM  LIGHTWIRE THEATER- A VERY ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS
DEC 5 & 6 • 7:30 PM  FIFTH ANNUAL HOT JAZZ & COOL NIGHTS WITH BRIAN SHAW
DEC 10 • 7:30 PM  SHANGHAI ACROBATS
DEC 13 • 7 PM  FANCY NANCY SPLENDIFEROUS CHRISTMAS
DEC 21 & 22 • 7:30 PM  A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Supported by a grant from the Louisiana State Arts Council through the Louisiana Division of the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts as administered by the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge.
MANSHIP THEATRE
SPRING 2017 SEASON

JAN 20 • 7:30 PM  CHARLES BRADLEY & HIS EXTRAORDINAIRES
JAN 31 • 7:30 PM  INTERNATIONAL GUITAR NIGHT
FEB 14 • 7:30 PM  TONY DESARE
FEB 17 • 7:30 PM  DALE’S PALE ALE PRESENTS: STEEP CANYON RANGERS
FEB 19 • 2 PM  AQUILA THEATRE- MURDER ON THE NILE
MAR 11 • 7 PM  CLUB CABARET IN HARTLEY/VEY STUDIO THEATRE
MAR 26 • 2PM  A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD
APR 6 • 6:30 PM  GALA- BRUCE HORNSBY AND THE NOISEMAKERS
APR 12 • 7:30 PM  A NIGHT TO REMEMBER  (PRESLEY, PERKINS, LEWIS, CASH TRIBUTE)
MAY 6 • 7:30 PM & MAY 7 • 2 PM  A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING
APR 27 • 7:30 PM  BROADWAY’S NEXT HIT MUSICAL

@MANSHPTHEATRE
Developer selected and plans underway for former Entergy site

By Maggie Heyn Richardson | Photos by Tim Mueller

or years, motorists on Government Street have sped past the trio of faded brick buildings, a chain link and razor wire fence shielding them from view. Broken windows dangle from the upper floors of this former Entergy substation, where the surrounding grounds are lifeless and dull.

But scratch the surface, say planners, and it’s hard to find a parcel of land that holds such rich redevelopment potential. There are about 16,000 average daily trips on Government Street, where the Entergy site is one of the largest remaining contiguous parcels of land. A block to the west of it and stretching to the Mississippi River lie the official boundaries of downtown Baton Rouge, where $2.2 billion has been invested since the mid-90s. Immediately to the east is Mid City, the up and coming area spanning Government Street and now a magnet for funky retail and lively bars and restaurants. The Entergy site effectively binds downtown and Mid City, and it’s long been seen as a powerful engine for reinvestment.

Two years ago, Entergy donated the substation to the East Baton Rouge Parish Redevelopment Authority, starting a project to put the property back into commerce. After a competitive process that ended in May, the RDA announced that Baton Rouge-based firm Weinstein Nelson was selected as the site’s developer.
“We were looking for a respondent who could truly catalyze Government Street and who could demonstrate the financial feasibility to get it done,” says RDA Interim President and CEO Gwen Hamilton. “What Weinstein Nelson has come up with has the potential to make a big impact on the entire area.”

In late 2015, the RDA, with help from Portland, Oregon-based Fregonese Associates, created the Entergy site application process, helping to market the opportunity to nationwide developers. Firm principal John Fregonese, who led the creation of the East Baton Rouge Parish Master Plan, FuturEBR, has been a vocal advocate for redeveloping Government Street, calling for the installation of pedestrian and bike lanes and developing key nodes, including the Entergy site, the former Westmoreland Shopping Center and the former Giamanco’s Restaurant site.

More than 50 people toured the Entergy site this spring and eight firms submitted qualified Requests for Expressions of Interest. The RDA’s five-member selection panel unanimously selected Weinstein Nelson. The firm recently redeveloped the former Capital One building into the 440 on Third complex, which includes modern residences and Matherne’s Supermarket, downtown’s first full-scale grocery store in 50 years.

Functioning under the name Electric Depot LLC, the Weinstein Nelson team includes representatives from CB&I, DNA Workshop, GAS Ventures, HR&A Advisors, Joseph Furr Design Studio, National Housing Consultant Services, the Shiloh Church Foundation and Stantec.

The winning proposal detailed plans to save and convert the three historic brick buildings into a vibrant blend of retail, offices and mixed income residences. That portion of the project serves as Phase I.

Phase II calls for up to 120 new housing units as well as green space and parking. The plan also bears in mind the possibility that the site will one day host an intercity train station linking the Capital City to New Orleans. While the intercity rail is not yet funded, it enjoys widespread support.

Weinstein Nelson principal Dyke Nelson says his firm’s intention was to create a project that supports area needs, inspires new investment and serves the neighborhood’s diverse population. Nelson recently moved his architecture firm, DNA Workshop, one block from the site. He is also the current chair of the Mid City Merchants Association.

“For us, it was really about being here and getting to know the neighborhood and its residents,” says Nelson. “We’ve been listening for a long time to community leaders and others to make sure we achieve a balance that’s appropriate for the neighborhood.”

That balance is likely to look different from any other mixed-use development or lifestyle center currently in Baton Rouge, says Samuel Sanders, executive director of the Mid City Redevelopment Alliance and part of the five-member review committee. It will likely include destination elements like fine dining and entertainment, as well as practical establishments intended to serve the neighborhood, such as a health food store or a wellness center for all ages.

Nelson says the development team studied rule-breaking projects across the country like the artsy Funk Zone in a heavily industrial neighborhood in Santa Barbara, California, and the Pinewood Social Club, a hang-out spot in Nashville that features cafés, bars and recreational activities under one roof. At Pinewood, patrons stop by for coffee, hold events, grab a meal and enjoy a vintage-style bowling alley, outdoor swimming pools, bocce ball courts and a private Karaoke room.

“When you put in something that’s a draw you’re going to see a mushroom effect,” says Sanders. “We were always optimistic that the Entergy site could be a destination.”

Nelson says the plan assigns the entertainment center to Building A, the westernmost brick building, where activities could draw senior citizens who live in the neighborhood, college students from LSU, Southern University and Baton Rouge Community College, and families.

“That’s what we love about Mid City,” says Nelson. “It’s the crossroads of our city and is the heart of Baton Rouge.”

Building B, the brick building to the east, will include retail on the ground floor and residential units upstairs. And Building C,
the smallest of the three original structures, could be the right spot for a healthy foods market, a bike shop or yoga center, says Nelson.

Review committee member Davis Rhorer, executive director of the Downtown Development District, says that the addition of more housing units in Phase II will help create long-term stability for the downtown and Mid City markets.

“Having that many more people in the area, you’re going to see the emergence of new things,” says Rhorer. “The opportunity to create a campus like this is going to have a big ripple effect. It’s like a bookend for downtown.”

Construction and renovation of the three buildings should begin in 2017. The RDA anticipates the entire project will be completed in 2020.

Weinstein Nelson Development’s first take on remaking the Entergy site includes an entertainment center in Building A, retail and residential in Building B and small retail space in Building C. Renovations of the three buildings in a first phase are to begin next year. A second phase is to include more residences and commercial space. Completion of the entire project is set for 2020. (Rendering courtesy of the developer)
Presented by the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge

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LIGHT RIDER  With each iteration, nature has a chance to improve on its own designs. Humans are competing with the natural process, using math, materials and machines to do so. The latest example comes from a division of Airbus, the international airplane manufacturer. With a proprietary material, APWorks has applied a 3-D printer to build the lightest electric motorcycle ever. The complex and hollow frame weighs only 6 kilograms, or 13.2 pounds. Only 50 are being produced and selling for $56,000 apiece.

FLYING CARS  Each generation has dreamed of flying cars, soaring above the traffic, waving to the motorists below. But engineers have, until now, been grounded by the limits of technology. Advances in automotive technology—lighter and more efficient motors and batteries, coupled with lighter materials for electric cars—are being incorporated into prototype flying cars that may actually take to the air. Companies in the segment include Zee.Aero, which is quietly funded by Google founder Larry Page’s investment of more than $100 million. The company is quiet about its efforts, but Mark Moore, an aeronautical engineer who designed advanced aircraft at NASA, told Bloomberg about the industry, “What appears in the next 5 to 10 years will be incredible.”

SWAT EM  Louisiana residents know the most dangerous animal too well. Carrying diseases like malaria and dengue fever, mosquitoes kill more than 1 million people each year around the world. Spread by mosquitos, Zika now is advancing around the globe, threatening babies in the womb. New technologies are entering the battle. The most controversial of them is gene drive. Genetically altered mosquitoes are released to mate and create baby mosquitoes that die before they can replicate. In theory, entire populations of mosquitoes could be wiped out. In one test, 96% were killed off. Another innovation in trials is by Light Science, which is fine-tuning LED lights to attract and repel mosquitoes and other bugs. LED-based traps could be on the market next year. Alternatively, the company could develop light fixtures that repel pests.
FOREVER FLOWERS  Growers use toxic chemicals and anti-aging gas to make sure flowers stand up straight from farm to your table. Monsanto, the firm reviled by anti-GMO advocates, is testing a spray to replace current techniques. Monsanto’s spray hinders the production of ethylene, a gas that speeds up ripening of fruits and flowers. With a spritz, flowers don’t wilt.

THE FINE DETAILS  Autonomous cars will need better maps before they can drive themselves. MapBox may have the solution. The company introduced MapBox Drive, a product that is being sold to auto manufacturers as an alternative to Apple or Google maps, which could be building competing cars. MapBox is embedded in existing mobility apps. From them, it collects anonymized data to improve its maps. More people using Drive improves the maps, which gives Drive more users. MapBox says this beneficial cycle will produce maps so precise that autonomous cars will maneuver like trains on rails. MapBox says one unnamed auto manufacturer will be using its service before year-end.

A SMALL GESTURE  Some businesses in Paris are offering small things that can help people in need. Stickers in windows notify people that the shopkeeper will give, say, water, a first-aid kit or use of a toilet to homeless people or refugees. People in need can charge their cellphones, get free haircuts or free clothes at shops that are part of the Le Carillon project. www.lecarillon.org

CHICKEN RUN  Some poor in Africa have a chance to double their incomes, thanks to a game and Bill Gates. People who played Coop Dreams online learned how chickens could reduce poverty: they are inexpensive, reproduce rapidly and provide eggs for sale, producing $1,000 of income in the first year. In turn for playing, Gates gave away 100,000 chickens through Heifer International on behalf of his Gates Notes Insider Community.
$107 billion

COST OF SPRAWL Extra cost of commuting in the 50 largest metro areas because of sprawl, equal to $1,400 per commuter. Daniel Hertz of City Observatory’s calculation includes time wasted in traffic during commutes, which equals 50 hours per worker. New Orleans had the lowest amount, about seven hours wasted in traffic. Atlanta was the worst at four full days per year.

GIVE A LITTLE Want to give, but don’t have a fat wallet? You can give small amounts to your causes through SpotFund, a micro-donation app to fix injustice at a price point everyone can afford. The app only lets you donate, $1, $2 or $3. You can look through a newsfeed of stories to donate to causes. After the Orlando massacre at Pulse, donations on SpotFund were given directly to the Orlando Health Foundation. Giving causes show up like Twitter hashtags, except with asterisks. The app automatically posts your donations to a social network. “It’s not about the size of your wallet, it’s about the power of your social network,” says Sanford Kunkel, one of the founders. His business gets 5% of donations as a fee with a goal of making the service free with sponsorships.

200 MILLION Number of electric bikes in China. Cyclists are choosing electric-assist bikes because they can be ridden for greater distances. Global e-bike sales are predicted to be $15.7 billion this year and reach $24.3 billion in 2025, according to Navigant Research.
Mental health treatment center

Baton Rouge has a problem: too many mentally ill people are jailed for minor crimes instead of diverted to treatment. In response, the Foundation convened public security officials and behavioral health experts to deliver a business plan for a mental health treatment center last year. The blueprint by Health Management Associates recommends services, governance and funding for the treatment center. With the report as a guide, the Foundation and partners are exploring how to fund the operations of the Bridge Center.

CAA animal shelter

With Companion Animal Alliance, the Foundation began to raise money last year for a new animal shelter on land donated by LSU near the School of Veterinary Medicine. Funding for the $12 million shelter is almost completed now, and construction should begin before the end of the year. More than half the money is from the Foundation and its donors. CAA places 70% of lost animals with families who want them, up from 20% when it took over the shelter about five years ago. The new shelter should let CAA save even more dogs and cats.
City Park/University Lakes master plan

In 2015, the Foundation produced a near-final version of a master plan for the LSU/City Park Lakes System. The plan recommends dredging to improve water quality with the removed materials building up lake edges for paths, parks and promenades. The final version of the plan is due this year.

Baton Rouge Health District

The Foundation responded to a request by the FuturEBR Implementation Team by beginning an area plan for Bluebonnet Boulevard, Essen Lane and Perkins Road, a sector of town where health care companies are concentrated and the traffic is the worst in town. Under contract to the Foundation, Perkins + Will delivered a land use plan that links dead-end streets and adds secondary roads, all integrated with walking paths and green spaces. Consultants also recommended the creation of a Diabetes and Obesity Center to provide central services, and more. A nonprofit Baton Rouge Health District was established in 2016 to implement the plan.

Ardendale

The Foundation supported the East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority as it began to develop Ardendale, a 200-acre project anchored by education institutions in North Baton Rouge. Baton Rouge Community College’s automotive training center began construction in 2015 and is ready for its inaugural class this year. It’s located on North Lobdell.

The Foundation takes on projects with a civic purpose. They are underwritten in big part by our membership, which numbers more than 600 and contributes around $700,000 annually. Because of our members, our civic leadership initiatives department accomplished more last year than in any other before it.
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Governance - third quarter twenty-sixteen

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Ascension Fund – Randy J. Braud Memorial Endowment Fund
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Ascension Fund – Roy Stern Memorial Endowment Fund
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Immaculate Conception Maintenance Fund
Brother John Keplinger Memorial Scholarship Fund
Center for Planning Excellence Fund
LANO: Community Leaders Change Fund
Louisiana School for the Deaf Foundation
RPCC Soloman Acy Endowment Fund
RPCC Soloman Acy Spenddown Fund
The St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery Fund

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Hands That Touch Hearts Fund
Irma Cry Education Scholarship Fund
Mandeville A.R.T Fund
Marsala Cultural Fund
NCF Youth in Philanthropy Fund
Wilbert H. Reisig Scholarship Fund for Parkinson’s Awareness
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Stirling Properties Support Fund
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Jim and Laura Bailey Family Fund (2001)
William and Sandra Balhoff (2013)
Tim and Nan Barfield Fund (2005)
John W. and Scott Duchein Barton Fund (1979)
Adelaide Wisdom Benjamin Family Fund (2012)
Mary Dabney Benjamin and James Scott Williamson Family Fund (2014)
Sherrill and Emanuel V. Benjamin III Family Fund (2012)
Stuart M. Benjamin and Arti K. Rai Family Fund (2014)
Lee Michael and Brenda Berg Fund (1999)
Warren and Mary Nell Berwick Fund (1985)
Helene Kantrow Blitzer and Sidney M. Blitzer Family Fund (1997)
Andrea H. Bollinger Fund (2011)
Bonne Family Foundation Fund (2005)
The Blues Initiative Fund (2008)
Susie and Carl Blyska (2004)
Nancy LeBlanc Bondy and Charles A. Bondy Family Fund (2000)
Robert and Martha Bowlus Family Fund—In Memory of William Morton Bowlus (1998)
James H. Boyce and Jane T. Boyce Fund (1992)
BREADA Small Farm Survival Fund (2005)
Bromley Family Fund (2001)
The Burden Foundation Fund (2000)
Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Campbell Jr. Fund (1997)
Cane’s Cares Disaster Fund (2005)
Carol’s Fund (2001)
Erica and David Carpenter Family Fund (1999)
Children of the Streets Fund (2007)
Darian Chustz Charitable Fund (2012)
Clayton-Royer Family Fund (2008)
Beverly and Dudley W. Coates Family Fund (1986)
Christopher and Amanda Coffin Family Fund (2008)
Mary Charlotte and Lloyd Collette Family Fund (1992)
Community Coffee Fund (1997)
CSRS Annual Giving Fund (2008)
CSRS Community Fund (2008)
Jeanne Curet and David McGuire James Family Fund (1999)
Louis D. and Jean H. Curet Fund (1983)
Omer and Marybeth Davis Fund (2014)
Benjamin A. Dichiara II Fund (2002)
Donna Lyle Dichiara Family Fund (1995)
The Lewis Dill Fund (2011)
Bill and Mary Lee Dixon Fund (1997)
Goodwill Fund (2002)
Courtney Sinclair Gorman Fund (2015)
Paul Stewart and Jan Day Gravel Fund (2006)
Alice and Bob Greer Family Fund (2010)
Mr. and Mrs. G. Lee Griffin Family Fund (1993)
Barry and Andrea Griffith Fund (2015)
Boo Grigsby Fund (2006)
Victoria Guarisco and Tony Boagni Fund (2009)
J.D. and Roberta A. Guillory Fund (1999)
Katherine and Paul E. Haygood Family Fund (1991)
Richard and Holley Galland Haymaker Family Fund (2000)
Carroll Haymon Fund (2006)
Cordell and Ava Haymon Fund (1995)
Houston Haymon Fund (2006)
Victoria Chiles Hearin Family Memorial Fund (1993)
Hickson Family Fund (2008)
Rickey and Debbie Heroman Fund (2000)
Charles Lamar Family Foundation (2005)
Charles and Josephine Lamar
Memorial Fund (1986)
Brent P. LeBlanc Fund (2000)
Clifton D. LeBlanc Fund (2000)
Gordon and Teri LeBlanc Family Fund (2005)
Price LeBlanc Toyota/Lexus Fund (2000)
Levy Family Fund (2007)
Lexus of New Orleans Fund (2000)
Samuel S. Lipscomb and Joseph W. Annison
Family Memorial Fund (1990)
Louisiana Companies Charitable Fund (1999)
Kevin R. Lyle Family Fund (1995)
Rachel E. Lyle Fund (2001)
Ryan E. Lyle Fund (2001)
Tori W. Lyle Family Fund (2005)
Manship Fund (1990)
Paula Garvey Manship Fund (1998)
Mary Jo Mayfield Fund (1995)
Ruth and Charles McCoy Fund (1970)
MCH Fund (2013)
Tom Ed and Betty McHugh Family Fund (2000)
A.K. and Frances McInnis Memorial Fund (1999)
McMains Foundation (2003)
Frank and Ann McMains Fund (2011)
Tim McMains Fund (2005)
Merrill Lynch Employee Philanthropic Fund (2007)
Drew Michaelson Memorial Fund (1991)
Roger A. and Marcia G. Moser Endowment
Fund (1997)
Rosalie G. and Hermann Moyse Family Fund (1992)
Murrill Family Fund (2006)
Neighbors Capital Area Foundation Fund (2011)
Jake and Mary Nell Netterville Fund (1998)
The Nokomis Fund (2014)
Jay and Elizabeth Noland Family Fund (2013)
John and Virginia Noland Fund (1989)
The Pangburn Group Fund (2014)
Janice and Gerald Pellar Charitable
Foundation (2005)
Penniman Family Fund (1996)
The Powell Group Fund (1996)
Stanley J. and Jo Ellen Prutz Fund (1992)
Bob and Jeanette Rackley Family Fund (2005)
Dr. M.J. Rathbone Jr. and Barbara Faures
Rathbone Fund (1992)
Jennifer and Sean Reilly Family Fund (1997)
John Charles Reynolds Family Foundation (2001)
Mike and Jeannette Rolsen Fund (2013)
Vada Reynolds and Ryan Family
Foundation (2001)
River City Jazz Coalition Fund (2007)
Dorothy Fleming Robins and Irvine Ashton
Robins M.D. Memorial Fund (1999)
Ronaldson Field Fund (2005)
Elise and Bob Rosenthal Family Fund (1992)
Al and Anne Rotenberg Family Fund (2005)
SAEC Fund (2001)
Cary Saurage Fund in Honor of Alma Lee and
H.N. Saurage Jr. (1994)
Linda L. Saurage Fund (2001)
Matt and Catherine Saurage Fund (2010)
Roland Saurage Fund (2001)
Garrett and Megan Schram Fund (2001)
Melvin A. and Elaine Kessler Schudmak
Family Fund (1997)
Chuck and Jerry Schwing Family Fund (1999)
Patricia A. Day and Joseph G. Simmons
Fund (2013)
Betty Moyse and Joseph Sternberger Simmons
Fund (1999)
William S. and Christel C. Slaughter
Family Fund (1997)
Son Legacy Fund (2007)
Alfred Temple and Sandra Wood Spain
SSA Consultants Fund (2007)
Josef Sternberg Memorial Fund (1992)
Anne R. and Robert N. Stout Fund in Memory
of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Record and
Mr. and Mrs. Ross N. Stout (2000)
Tiffany S. Taulbee Fund (2001)
The Dr. Harold Jack Legacy and
Mary Nesbit Tausend Legacy Fund (2011)
Team Automotive Group Fund (2014)
Julie Nicole Theriot Memorial Fund (2007)
Thomas Family Fund (2014)
The Newton B. Thomas Family/
The Ben and Pat Thompson Fund (2004)
Thomas and Sari Turner Family Fund (1997)
Turner Industries Fund (2001)
Nancy and Charles Valluzzo Family Fund (2005)
Daisy M. VanDenburgh Fund (2011)
Shannon Veal Finish the Dream Fund (2008)
Rick Hartley and David Vey Fund (1994)
Wall Outdoor Ministries I (2012)
Wall Outdoor Ministries II (2012)
David Todd Waguespack Fund (2014)
Margaret Champagne Womack Fund (2000)
Candace Wright Fund (2013)
Donna Wright Fund (2014)

DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY FUNDS

Academic Distinction Fund (1989)
Albemarle Corporation Endowment
All Star Automotive Endowment
Allied Signal Foundation Endowment
Bank One Endowment
Baton Rouge Coca-Cola Endowment
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana Endowment
Community Coffee Company Foundation Endowment
Credit Bureau of Baton Rouge Endowment
Dow Chemical USA Endowment
Exxon Endowment
Freeport-McMoRan Endowment
Hibernia Bank Endowment
Junior League of Baton Rouge Endowment
Kleinpeter Farms Dairy Endowment
Lamar Corporation Endowment
Louisiana Public Facilities Authority Endowment
Manda Packing Company Inc. Endowment
Manship Family Endowment
Paula Garvey Manship Endowment
McDonald’s of Baton Rouge/The Valluzzo
Family Endowment
Noland Investments Endowment
Irene W. & C.B. Pennington Foundation Endowment
Shell Oil Company
Foundation Endowment
United Companies Financial Corp. Endowment
Woman’s Hospital Foundation Endowment
J.B. and Katherine Arbour Fund to Benefit
Bishop Ott Works of Mercy Trust (1993)
Ascension Fund for Academic Excellence (1990)
Air Products and Chemicals
All Star Automotive Endowment
Ascension Health and Nutrition Alliance
Endowment
Mrs. Anona C. Banker Memorial Endowment
BASF Corporation Endowment
Borden Chemicals and Plastics Endowment
Capital One Bank Endowment
CF Industries Inc. Endowment
Chester Jr. and Penny Diez Endowment
Freeport-McMoRan Foundation Endowment
Honeywell Endowment
Infiniti Software Endowed Fund
Lion Copolymer Geismar Endowment
Neese Industries Inc. Endowment
Occidental Chemical Corporation Endowed Fund
Philippe Family Memorial Endowment in Memory of Raymon Philippe Sr., A.S. “Blue” Philippe and David “Wolfie” Philippe
Viola B. Philippe Endowment in memory of Ed and Virginia Braud Jr.
Regions Bank Endowment
Rotary Club of East Ascension in Memory of Sqt. Ray-Ryan Gautreaux
Rotary Club of Gonzales Memorial Endowment
Rubicon Inc. Endowment
Art and Ruth Scanlan Memorial Endowment
St. Elizabeth Hospital Endowment
Shell Companies Louisiana Endowment
Southwest Computer Bureau Endowment
The Claude and Carolyn Songy Endowed Fund
Triad Nitrogen Endowment
Turner Industries Endowed Fund
United Companies Financial Corp. Endowment
Vulcan Materials Endowment
Buddy and Martha Wells Endowment
Whitney National Bank Endowment
Williams-Geismar Olefins Plant Endowment
Baton Rouge Crisis Intervention Center Fund in Memory of Alan S. Applebaum (2010)
Baton Rouge Opera Guild Fund in Honor of Pauline Bondy Hernandez (1999)
Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation Patient Activity Fund (2000)
Big River Economic and Agricultural Development Alliance (BREADA) Fund (2001)
Chi Omega Community Fund 100th Anniversary (2006)
Juliet S. Dougherty Fund (1997)
Katharine O. Dunham Fund (1986)
Katharine O. Dunham Opera Scholarship Fund (2004)
East Baton Rouge First Responders Fund (1988)
East Feliciana Academic Fund (1995)
Dr. and Mrs. W.R. Edson Fund (2006)
Elan Vitale Montessori School Fund (2006)
Foundation For A Better Louisiana Fund (1999)
The Fund for LSU Press (2014)
Greater Baton Rouge Hope Academy Fund (2007)
Iberville Foundation for Academic Excellence Fund (1992)
Allied Signal Endowment
Citizens Bank and Trust Co. Endowment
Dow Chemical Endowment
Flopamo Foundation Endowment
Georgia Gulf Corp. Endowment
Iberville Trust and Savings Endowment
J.J. LaPlace Jr. Memorial Endowment
Syngenta Crop Protection Inc. Endowment
Union Pacific Foundation Endowment
Shirley LeBlanc Fund for Catholic Charities (2013)
Shirley LeBlanc Fund for St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church (2013)
Dr. J.H. Lee Memorial Fund (1993)
Edgar and Belle Levy Fund (1985)
Louisiana Art & Science Museum Endowment Fund for Science Education (1996)
LSU School of Art Auto Hotel Fund (2000)
Metro Morphosis Fund (2013)
Mongolian Heart Fund (2008)
W. Henson Moore Endowment for the U.S. Kidd Fund (2012)
Ada C. Pollock-Blundon Association Fund for Boys Hope Girls Hope (2014)
Patrons of the Public Library Endowment (2007)
Stephen C. Prudhomme and Peggy Polk Memorial Fund (2013)
Rayner Learning Center Legacy Fund (2014)
Milton and Paula Shepard Fund for the Benefit of the American Red Cross (1997)
St. Francisville Area Fund (2012)
West Baton Rouge Foundation for Academic Excellence Fund (2000)
American Gateway Bank
Baton Rouge Fractionator LLC and Baton Rouge Propylene Concentrator LLC
Cargill Inc.
Community Coffee Company
Foundation Endowment
The Dow Chemical Company
DSM Elastomers Endowment
Edgen Murray Corporation
Eighteenth Judicial District Fund
ExxonMobil
Paul Fouquier Memorial Fund by the Rawlston Phillips Family
The Ray Marchand Family Fund
Placid Refining Company LLC
Union Pacific Railroad
West Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce
Mr. and Mrs. J. Carter Wilkinson

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Amede Ardoin Fund (2014)
Baton Rouge Area Foundation Hurricane Relief and Recovery Fund (2008)
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Employees Fund (2014)
BREADA Emergency Fund (2015)
Bringing Something Back Fund (2008)
Center for Energy Studies (2012)
Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Francophonie Fund (2008)
Adelaide Chapman Memorial Fund for the Arts (2002)
Charles Fund (2006)
Schumann Chiang Memorial Fund (2006)
Chihuyl Reeds Public Art Fund (2014)
Helen Johnson Cremeens Memorial Fund (1998)
Jean H. Curet Fund for Medical Research (2000)
Every Kid a King Fund (2010)
False River Restoration Fund (2013)
Farrnbacher Memorial Fund Eye Care for the Indigent (1988)
The Brandon and Katie Fields Youth Fitness Fund (2010)
For the Future of the Gulf Fund (2010)
For the People of the Gulf Fund (2010)
Foundation for Woman’s Fund (1995)
Ernest J. Gaines Literature Award (2005)
Gates Education Reform Fund (2011)
Terry Goudeau Media Center Fund (2004)
The Greene Team Charitable Fund (2011)
Ann Maxwell Greer Education Initiative Fund (1993)
Groundwater Awareness Fund (2012)
Julia R. Hamilton Fund (1990)
Elmira Harelson Harrison Fund (1994)
Hope for Positive Youth Fund (2014)
Ingram Settlement Fund (2008)
Jubilee Pioneers Fund (2013)
Marcia Kaplan Kantrow Community Lecture Series Fund (1996)
Marcia Kaplan Kantrow Conference Center Endowment (2005)
Kean, Miller, Hawthorne, D’Armond, McCowan and Jarman Fund (1989)
Law Enforcement Support Fund (2013)
Leadership for Change (2012)
Louisiana Governor’s Mansion Foundation Inc. (2011)
Louisiana Lemonade Day Fund (2012)
Louisiana Runs Fund (2012)
LSU Internal Medicine Residency in Baton Rouge Fund (1998)
Charles McVea Family Fund (1988)
Denis and Carolyn Murrell Field of Interest Fund (2005)
MAPP Charitable Fund (2013)
Myer/Comfort Keepers’ Restore Hope Fund (2009)
Noranda Disaster Relief Fund (2012)
David J. O’Quin Memorial Fund (2014)
Pennington Disaster Resilience Fund (2010)
Pennington Women and Girls Fund (2011)
Poinciana Early Education Fund (2010)
PoliticiCraft Fund (2013)
The Red Stick Project Fund (2014)
The South Louisiana Art Fund (2008)
Aqib Talib Fund (2009)
Margaret Powers Townsend Fund (1999)
Henrietta Colley Yoder Fund (1994)
Young Women’s Christian Organization Fund (1997)
WINIt Fund (2014)

ORGANIZATION FUNDS

Baton Rouge Green Fund/The Kennon Memorial Endowment (1991)
The Baton Rouge High School Foundation Fund (2012)
Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation Fund (1991)
Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra—Funds for Excellence (2011)
Baton Rouge YMCA Fund (1997)
Adalié Brent Memorial Fund To Benefit the Louisiana Arts & Science Museum (1993)
Ollie Steele Burden Fund (1996)
Ann Arbour Fund for Catholic Charities
Catholic Life Television Fund
Catholic Seminary Scholarship Fund
Catholic Special Education Endowment Fund for the Diocese of Baton Rouge
CEEF – Catholic Schools Fund
CEEF – Religious Education Fund
Christ the King-General Operating Expense Fund
The Evangelization Fund
Peggy and Jim Fields Fund for the Catholic Foundation
Paul B. Landry Jr. Trust for Holy Family Church and School Fund
Fr. Patrick Mascarella Emergency Assistance Fund
Bishop Stanley Joseph Ott Works of Mercy Trust Fund
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church Fund
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church—Perpetual Care Fund
Our Lady of Peace Parish, Vacherie—Perpetual Care Fund
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Fund
Redemptorist Diocesan Regional Catholic High School Fund
Patrick B. Kennedy Scholarship Fund
Joe and Paula O’Neill Melancon Scholarship Fund
John and Janice Bueche Priest’s Scholarship Fund (2014)
Phyllis Maberley Risponde Memorial Fund
Catherine Romero Scholarship Fund
The Carl S. & Ruth P. Vorhoff Memorial Scholarship Fund
Barbara Womack Fund
Wayne E. Reulet Fund
St. Albert Chapel and Catholic Student Center
St. Aloysius Catholic Church
St. Anne Church (Napoleonville) Maintenance Fund
St. Augustine Church—Perpetual Care Fund
St. George Church—Perpetual Care Fund
St. George Parish Fund
St. George School Fund
St. Gerard Majella Church Fund
St. Jean Vianney Catholic Fund
St. John Interparochial School, Plaquemine—Ann Bryant Wilbert Arbour Scholarship Fund
St. John the Baptst, Brusly—Perpetual Care Fund
St. Joseph’s Cathedral Building Fund (2012)
St. Joseph Dedicated Fund
St. Joseph Parish, Paulina—Perpetual Care Fund
St. Joseph the Worker Church, Pierre Part—Perpetual Care Fund
St. Jude School-Reulet Scholarship Fund
St. Louis King of France—Father Maynard “Tippy” Hurst Jr. Fund
St. Mark Parish Memorial Endowment Fund
St. Mary Cemetery, Union—Perpetual Care Fund
St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Convent—Perpetual Care Fund
St. Philip Parish—Perpetual Care Fund
St. Thomas Aquinas School—Dominican Endowment Fund
Santa Apolonia Fund
Mary and Edward Steimel Fund
Father Than Vu Theological Education Fund
Catholic High School Fund—Catholic High School Endowed Scholarship (1990)
Catholic High School Fund—Bishop Stanley J. Ott Memorial Endowed Scholarship (1991)
Congregation B’Nai Israel of Baton Rouge Foundation Fund (2011)
Congregation B’Nai Israel of Baton Rouge Perpetual Care Fund (2011)
Congregation B’Nai Israel of Baton Rouge Foundation Billy Quine Fund (2011)
Companion Animal Alliance Fund (2009)
Covenant House New Orleans Fund (2005)
J. Hubert “Red” Dumesnil Endowment for Junior Achievement Education in Acadia (2000)
East Baton Rouge Lions Charities Fund (2008)
EBRPSS Foundation Fund (2006)
Dennis Edmon Scholarship Endowment Fund (2012)
Farnbacher-Kahn Fund (2013)
Fletcher Foundation Operating Fund (2010)
Forum 35 Endowment Fund (2009)
Foundation for Historical Louisiana Fund (1989)
Friends of Magnolia Mound Plantation Fund (1993)
Friends of New Orleans Fund (2006)
Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank Fund (1997)
Herzog Fund for Lifetime Learning (2013)
Hospice Foundation of Greater Baton Rouge Fund (1993)
International Hospitality Foundation Fund (1989)
International Phycological Congress Endowment Fund (2013)
International Phycological Society—Christensen Prize Fund (2011)
International Phycological Society—The Feldmann Fund (2011)
International Phycological Society—Papenfuss Poster Award Fund (2011)
International Phycological Society—The Students Grants Fund (2011)
Junior League of Baton Rouge Fund (1999)
LCTCS Foundation (2009)
Walter Gayle Bumphus Endowment
Dwight Wesson Memorial Scholarship Fund
LCTCS Foundation—Joe D. May Endowment (2014)
Louisiana Architectural Foundation (2010)
Louisiana Construction Education Foundation (2010)
The Louisiana Endowment for Francophonie Fund (2005)
Louisiana Public Broadcasting Fund (1994)
Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation (1991)
Mayor’s Healthy City Initiative (2010)
Leah Hipple McKay Memorial Fund (2006)
George Owens Music Scholarship Fund (2012)
David Piper Mills and Marguerite Harrell Mills Memorial Fund (2003)
Hemby Morgan General Endowment Fund (2012)
Patrons of the Public Library Fund (1984)
Pitts Scholarship Endowment Fund (2012)
Pointe Coupee Community Foundation Early Childhood Education Program (2005)
Pointe Coupee Community Foundation—Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund (2005)
Brent Poor Memorial Scholarship Fund (2011)
Bishop Pope Scholarship Endowment Fund (2012)
Project Purr BR Fund (2010)
Rocketkidz Foundation (2007)
River Parishes Community College Foundation (2010)
Searles Scholarship Endowment Fund (2012)
St. Elizabeth Adoption Endowment Fund (2011)
St. James Episcopal Church Fund (2000)
Volunteers of America Family Fund (2002)
Volunteers of America Fund (1989)
West Baton Rouge Historical Association Future Growth Fund (2008)
Women’s Club Foundation Inc. Fund (2014)
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
Sidney Vincent Arbour Sr. and Warren David Farr Scholarship Fund (2000)
Asparagus Club Scholarship Fund (2002)
Associated Grocers—Sam S. Politz Scholarship Fund (1995)
The Sidney M. Blitzer Awards in Violin Performance Fund (2007)
Twyler, Marie and Bringer Barker Scholarship Fund (1999)
Paul F. Brown Scholarship Fund (2012)
Roger J. Cloutre Memorial Scholarship Fund (2001)
Alan Collier Memorial Scholarship Fund (2012)
Claude L. Cockerham III Charitable Fund (2014)
Cheryl D. Conkling Memorial Scholarship Fund (2014)
Ruby J. Darenbourg-Cook Memorial Scholarship Fund (1992)
Mary and Jim Douglas Memorial Scholarship Fund (2014)
Foundation for Culinary Excellence Scholarship Fund (2005)
Grocery Manufacturers Representatives Association Scholarship Fund (1996)
M. Paul and Janice LeBlanc Memorial Scholarship Fund (2001)
Harriet Babin Miller Scholarship Fund (2005)
Aaron Bernard Murray and Fay Tyler Murray Education Encouragement Fund (1998)
Phi Gamma of Chi Omega House Corporation Fund (1990)
The David and Jeannie Price Scholarship (2007)
Bertrand H. Roussel Memorial Scholarship Fund (1991)
Team Automotive Group Scholarship Fund (2014)
Newton B. Thomas Merit Scholarship Fund (2008)
Justin Westbrook Memorial Scholarship Fund (2008)
WRKF Scholarship Fund (1993)
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS
All Star Automotive Fund (2008)
Bill and Jane Kean Anderson Fund (1993)
Joseph H. Baynard Fund (1966)
Heidel and Imo Brown Fund (1992)
Paul Francis Brown Endowment Fund (2012)
Richard C. and Mary P. Cadwallader Family Fund (1991)
Cecil, Margaret, Eloise and J.C. Dabadie Fund (2001)
Myron and Roberta Falk Fund (1982)
Eleanor and Albert Fraenkel Fund (1994)
Freeport-McMoRan Inc. Fund (1982)
Don Gerald/Hibernia Bank Memorial Fund (1997)
James Monroe Gill Memorial Fund (1998)
Margaret L. Hogan Fund (1973)
Will and Leona Huff Family Fund (1993)
Donald L. and Norine O. Johnson Memorial Fund (2002)
The George "Pretty" Wallace Jones and Thomas W. Jones Fund (1999)
Magnolia Development Fund (2005)
Frank D. McArthur II Fund (1986)
Rosalind and Leslie McKenzie Fund (1983)
Elbert E. Moore Family Fund (1986)
Parnell Family Fund (1995)
James A. Poirrier Fund (2001)
Reymond H. Pope Memorial Fund (1993)
Harvey H. Posner and Mary S. Posner Fund (1984)
Marjorie H. Sanders Endowment Fund (2009)
Shobe and Associates Fund (1993)
Ernest and Margaret Wilson Fund (1989)

FUNDS OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

The St. Anthony Fund (2012)
Autism Services of Southwest Louisiana (2011)
Bridge Builders for Life Fund (2014)
Kyle Broussard Memorial Fund (2008)
Staci and David Brucha Fund (2012)
City of Sulphur Enrichment Fund (2013)
Chambers-Bokros Medical Fund (2010)
Coastal Plain Conservancy Fund (2014)
Community Foundation of Southwest Louisiana Endowment Fund (2008)
Community Support for Southwest Louisiana (2014)
First Lieutenant Douglas B. Fournet Memorial Fund (2012)
Free Swim Fund (2014)
The Emma Dee Gray Foundation Fund (2010)
Juliet Hardtner Fund (2009)
Heckhavens Wildlife Rehabilitation Fund (2014)
The LaGrange Athletic and Educational Fund (2013)
Lena and Bill Henning Memorial Endowment Fund (2010)
Lena and Bill Henning United Methodist Church Fund (2010)
Thomas G. and Shirley M. Henning Family Foundation Endowment Fund (2010)
Thomas G. and Shirley M. Henning Family Foundation Spenddown Fund (2010)
The Industrial Development Board of the Parish of Calcasieu Inc. Fund (2010)
JPMorgan Chase SWLA Fund (2010)
Lake Charles Memorial Hospital Foundation Fund (2011)
The Fritz Lang Foundation Fund (2009)
Make A Difference Fund (2011)
Mendelson Family Fund in Honor of Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Bishop (2010)
Millennium Park Restoration Fund (2011)
Hector San Miguel Memorial Fund (2010)
Wayne Simmons Memorial Fund (2014)
Southwest Louisiana Law Center Fund (2008)
The Stables of Le Bocage Fund (2010)
St. Nicholas Center for Children Fund (2014)
St. Nicholas Center for Children Endowment (2014)
SWLA Firefighters Fund (2009)
The Bishop Jude Speyer Fund in Honor of Monsignor Gouaux (2008)

FUNDS OF THE NORTHSHORE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The 1906 Founders Endowment Fund (2001)
ACCESS Fund (2014)
Active Partnership Fund (2014)
The Bill and Susan Baker Fund (2013)
Fund for Bogalusa (1999)
Bogalusa Scholarship Fund (2006)
Fay and Phelan Bright Endowment Fund (2010)
Dan and Monique Casey Fund (2013)
Carpenter Family Fund (2007)
Center of Philanthropy (2008)
J. Scott Chotin Northshore Family Community Fund (2012)
Christwood Fund (2007)
Christwood Foundation Fund (2007)
Doyle Coatney Foundation (2010)
Donahue Favret Contractors Fund (2007)
Jack and Maura Donahue Fund (2007)
EWE LLC Fund (2010)
Family Promise Development Fund (2014)
Founders Forum Fund (2007)
Larry and Connie Galloway Fund (2013)
Catherine Farnsworth Gensler Foundation Fund (2012)
GKS Fund (2013)
Charles and Elizabeth Goodyear Fund (2012)
Gulf Relief Foundation Fund (2013)
Grant’s Gift Foundation Support Fund (2010)
The Hayden Fund for Addiction Recovery (2012)
Heavenly Foundation Fund (2014)
Hoops for Kids Fund (2011)
HOYST Fund (2011)
JAA Foundation Fund (2011)
Kickin Parkinson’s Fund (2015)
Kids in Need During Disasters (KINDD) Fund (2010)
Krewe of AWE/Krewe of Tusk and Horn Fund (2014)
KIT Fund (2010)
Lake Ponchartrain Basin Foundation (2007)
Tom and Sue Lavin Fund (2014)
Legislators Charity Fund (2012)
Dale and Sharon Mahnke Charitable Gift Fund (2009)
Mandeville Recreation Fund (2008)
MILNE Fund (2012)
Robin and Pamela Mingo Fund (2008)
Northshore Community Planning Fund (2008)
Northshore Displaced Residents Fund (2007)
Public Art for Covington Fund (2014)
The Richard Family Fund (2012)
Rotary Club of Slidell Northshore Endowment Fund (2011)
Fennelly Sanchez Fund (2012)
Sibley Family Fund (2012)
Danny and Susan Shaw Fund (2011)
Skipper Fund (2013)
South Slidell Swimming Scholarship Fund (2009)
Songy Foundation Fund (2014)
STCF General Fund (2014)
St. Tammany Cancer Fund (2014)
We Lift You Up Fund (2013)
The Wilson Family Fund
World of Wonder (WOW Fund) (2011)
The Skipper Award in Memory of Ivan Zenon (2012)
The Baton Rouge Area Foundation helps our fund donors make grants to nonprofits. Donors open and deposit money in charitable funds. We manage the money, offer guidance about local issues and nonprofits, make grants upon their recommendation and handle the paperwork required by the government. The Foundation also makes grants from an unrestricted pool of assets. Each grant from 2014 is listed in this section.

**COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT—$1,909,550**

100 Black Men of Metropolitan BR Ltd.–$1,250
ACTIVE Partnership of Louisiana–$3,236
Audubon Nature Institute Inc.–$1,650
Baton Rouge Amateur Athletic Association–$2,500
Baton Rouge Sponsoring Committee–$2,250
Be the Change Inc.–$50,000
Best Friends Animal Society–$400
BREADA (Big River Economic & Agricultural Development Alliance)–$15,550
Capital Area Animal Welfare Society–$1,286
Cat Haven Inc.–$2,000
Center for Planning Excellence Inc.–$172,000
CLIMB Community Development Corporation–$50,000
Coalition for Louisiana Progress Inc.–$2,000
Community Foundation of Jackson Hole–$10,000
Community Initiatives Foundation–$1,000
Companion Animal Alliance–$208,291
Covington Youth Soccer Association–$1,500
Cumberland Center Inc.–$500,000
East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority–$40,000
Forum 35–$1,250
Foundation for a Better Louisiana–$12,850
Good Work Network–$15,000
Great Plains Conservation Foundation–$2,000
Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership Inc.–$205,400
Greater Kansas City Community Foundation–$10,000
Hargrove Foundation–$1,000
Humane Society of the United States–$300
International Center for Journalists Inc.–$5,000
International Hospitality Foundation LSU–$2,500
Isaiais Stump–$10,000
Jack and Jill of America Foundation Inc.–$5,000
Junior League of Baton Rouge Inc.–$1,000
Junior League of Lake Charles, Inc.–$100
LANO (Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations)–$8,000
Louisiana Bar Foundation–$450
Louisiana Mortgage Lenders Foundation–$112,401
Louisiana Success–$7,500
Louisiana Symphony Association/Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra–$750
MetroMorphosis–$134,000
Mid City Redevelopment Alliance Inc.–$11,350
Millennium Relief and Development Services Inc.–$1,000
National Center for Disaster Preparedness–$263,061
NOLA Labrador Retriever Rescue–$400
Omicron Delta Kappa Foundation Inc.–$100
One Voice–$1,500
Partnership for Philanthropic Planning Inc.–$500
Pin Oak Charity Horse Show Association–$4,580
Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury–$1,000
Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana Inc.–$6,200
Red Shoes Inc.–$2,500
Rotary Club of Baton Rouge Inc. Foundation–$43,740
Southeastern Development Foundation Inc.–$250
Spay Baton Rouge–$2,854
St. Francis Animal Sanctuary Inc.–$100
St. Francisville Area Foundation Inc.–$200
The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina–$1,500
The Greater New Orleans Foundation–$2,000
The International Council of Shopping Centers Foundation Inc.–$5,000
The Suffolk Community Foundation–$3,801
Yelp! BR–$3,500

**CULTURE AND ARTS—$1,863,762**

AFS Intercultural Programs Inc.–$250
Alley Theatre–$1,667
Arkansas Hard at Work Kids Foundation Inc.–$2,000
Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge Inc.–$53,936
Arts Council of New Orleans–$35,000
Ascension Festivals and Cultural Council Inc.–$1,000
Aubin Pictures Inc.–$25,000
Backstreet Cultural Museum–$1,000
Ballet Acadiana Inc.–$5,000
Baton Rouge Ballet Theatre Inc.–$12,500
Baton Rouge Blues Foundation–$5,000
Baton Rouge Cardinals Youth Organization–$1,500
Baton Rouge Gallery Inc.–$11,250
Baton Rouge Opera Guild Inc.–$10,049
Baton Rouge Progressive Network–$2,000
Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation Inc.–$372
BREC Foundation–$250
Brimestone Historical Society–$5,000
Center for the Arts – Crested Butte–$9,000
Centre for the Arts–$2,000
Collegiate Players Tour–$2,500
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation–$100
Community Fund for the Arts–$45,500
Contemporary Arts Center–$10,000
Cool Cooperative Inc.–$25,000
Douglas Manship Sr. Theatre Complex Holding Inc.–$127,045
East Baton Rouge Parish Library–$1,287
Ernest J. Gaines Literature Award–$15,000
Forward Arts Inc.–$15,000
Foundation for Excellence in Louisiana Public Broadcasting–$2,000
Foundation for Historical Louisiana Inc.–$40,788
French Heritage Society–$150
Friends of City Park–$15,000
Friends of Louisiana Public Broadcasting Inc.–$39,125
Friends of Magnolia Mound–$12,950
Friends of Rosedown Inc.–$1,000
Friends of the Baton Rouge Zoo–$16,000
Friends of the Dew Drop Inn Jazz Hall–$100
Friends of the Louisiana State Archives–$100
Friends of the Oakley Plantation–$100
Goodwill of the Great Plains–$10,000
Greater New Orleans Educational Television Foundation–$2,500
Hattiesburg Civic Chorus and Concert Association Inc.–$5,000
Houston Chamber Choir–$2,000
Houston Symphony Society–$2,000
Imperial Calcasieu Museum Inc.–$3,000
Inner-City Arts–$2,500
International Hospitality Foundation LSU–$300
The Foundation and our fund donors grant money to nonprofits and causes. Together with our donors, the Foundation has granted more than $400 million since it began in 1964. The variety of our grants reflects the diverse causes of our donors. You can look over our total grants to nonprofits in 2015 in this annual review.

**$24.1 million**
TOTAL GRANTS IN 2015, DOWN $1 MILLION FROM 2013.

**$400 million+**
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED BY THE FOUNDATION SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1964.
Southern Rep–$140,000
St. Tammany Art Association–$1,500
Sulphur Christian Community Coalition–$5,000
Swine Palace Productions Inc.–$6,200
The Baddour Center Inc.–$1,000
The Bascom Corporation–$5,000
The Cahoon Museum of American Art Inc.–$1,000
The Foundation for Outdoor Advertising Research and Education–$5,000
The Friends of the Rural Life Museum Inc.–$13,100
The Fund for LSU Press–$900
The James Beard Foundation Inc.–$10,000
The Louisiana Architectural Foundation–$5,000
The Louisiana International Film Festival–$113,000
The Ogden Museum of Southern Art–$18,000
The Patrons of the East Baton Rouge Parish Public Library–$100
The Walls Project–$250
US Biennial Inc.–$35,000
West Feliciana Historical Society–$225
WRKF Public Radio Inc.–$28,596
Young Aspirations/Young Artists Inc.–$60,000

**EDUCATION—$7,959,327**

Academic Distinction Fund–$212,180
Academy of the Sacred Heart New Orleans Foundation Inc.–$12,000
Adult Literacy Advocates of Greater Baton Rouge–$5,120
Agenda for Children - New Orleans–$500
Alfred M. Barbe High School–$125
Alice Boucher School–$1,200
Amfikids–$255,916
Annunciation Orthodox School–$5,000
Arkansas Baptist College–$38,000
Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana–$2,500
Baton Rouge Christian Education Foundation–$300
Baton Rouge Parish Public Library–$100
The Dunham School–$93,627
Baton Rouge College Preparatory–$10,000
Baton Rouge High School Foundation–$350
Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation Inc.–$21,400
Baton Rouge University Preparatory Charter School Inc.–$10,000
Baton Rouge Youth Coalition–$178,000
Benilde-St. Margaret’s High School–$2,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana Inc.–$8,500
Birmingham-Southern College–$1,800
Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School–$1,000
Boys Hope Girls Hope of Baton Rouge–$5,000
Breakthrough New Orleans–$1,000
Building Excellent Schools Inc.–$20,000
Calcasieu Parish School Board - Ralph Wilson Elementary–$200
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans–$15,000
Catholic High School Foundation–$42,429
Catholic of Pointe Coupee–$750
Chatfield College–$1,000
Christ Episcopal School–$2,000
Christ School–$10,000
City Year Baton Rouge–$210,375
City Year Inc.–$10,000
College Foundation of the University of Virginia–$2,500
Communities in Schools New Orleans Inc.–$18,000
David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies–$10,000
Dawson School–$1,000
Democracy Prep Public Schools Inc.–$6,000
Deutsche Samstagsschule Houston Inc.–$2,500
Dillard University–$2,500
Dream Teachers–$24,500
Dyslexia Association of Greater Baton Rouge–$2,532
East Baton Rouge Parish Library–$1,136
Educate Now–$225,000
Education’s Next Horizon–$2,500
Episcopal High School of Baton Rouge–$2,616,431
Foreign Language Academic PTO Inc.–$500
Foundation for a Better Louisiana–$250
Foundation for East Baton Rouge School System–$6,500
French Camp Academy–$1,000
Friends of Beauregard Keys House Inc.–$5,000
Friends of Cantera Inc.–$2,500
Friendship Louisiana–$600
Gardere Community Christian School–$3,000
Gonzales Middle School–$1,200
Greater Baton Rouge Hope Academy–$88,100
Greater Baton Rouge Literacy Coalition Inc./UP Alliance–$10,000
Greater Educational Opportunities Foundation–$5,000
Greenville Superintendent Academy–$600
Groton School–$125,000
Groves Academy–$2,000
Hampden-Sydney College–$1,250
Hampshire Country School–$1,000
Harding Academy–$5,000
Harvard University–$375,000
Hathaway Brown School–$1,000
Howard School Inc.–$1,000
Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership - Louisiana–$2,450
Iberville Foundation for Academic Excellence–$23,972
International Students Inc.–$5,000

James Dick Foundation for the Performing Arts–$1,000
Jewish Federation of Greater Baton Rouge–$2,000
Julius Freyhan Foundation–$100
Kemper and Leila Williams Foundation/Historic New Orleans Collection–$800
Kids’ Orchestra Inc.–$12,600
Knock Knock Children’s Museum–$121,870
Lake Charles Civic Ballet Company–$2,000
Lake Charles Community Band Inc.–$500
Louisiana Americana and Folk Society–$2,500
Louisiana Art and Science Museum Inc.–$163,297
Louisiana Children’s Museum–$5,000
Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities–$3,100
Louisiana Landmarks Society Inc.–$100
Louisiana Museum Foundation–$1,000
Louisiana Navy War Memorial Commission–$33,338
Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra–$10,600
Louisiana Symphony Association/Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra–$82,437
Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation–$51,000
LSU Foundation–$2,000
LSU Foundation - LSU Museum of Art–$82,150
LSU Foundation - School of Art Gallery Support Fund–$16,000
LSU Foundation/Centre Pluridisciplinaire–$18,000
Mighty Bluebirds Inc.–$1,980
Museum of Arts and Design–$1,500
Museum of Fine Arts Houston–$1,000
National Hurricane Museum and Science Center–$300
National Trust for Historic Preservation–$3,000
National World War II Museum Inc.–$77,350
New Orleans Center for Creative Arts Institute–$1,000
New Orleans Film and Video Festival Inc.–$2,500
New Orleans Museum of Art–$20,000
New Orleans Musicians Assistance Foundation–$25,000
New Orleans Opera Association–$6,500
New Orleans Photo Alliance–$100
New Orleans South African Connection–$25,000
New Orleans Video Access Center Inc. (NOVAC)–$10,000
Of Moving Colors Productions–$5,700
Old State Capitol Associates–$100
Old State Capitol Foundation Inc.–$150
Opera Louisiane Inc.–$6,450
Playmakers of Baton Rouge Inc.–$500
Pointe Coupee Historical Society Inc.–$100
Pointe Coupee Parish Police Jury–$250
Preservation Alliance of New Orleans–$100
Press Street–$5,000
Pyramid Atlantic Inc.–$100
River City Jazz Coalition Fund–$5,000
Roots of Music Inc.–$25,000

Baton Rouge Area Foundation . braf.org
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**HEALTH TOTAL—$3,066,295**

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**HUMAN SERVICES TOTAL—$4,172,780**

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<td>The Lauren Savoy Olinde Foundation</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulane Cancer Center</td>
<td>$3,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults Inc.</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of South Alabama</td>
<td>$562,943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas Foundation</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Health Corps of Baton Rouge</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woman’s Hospital Foundation</td>
<td>$49,749</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Baton Rouge Children’s Advocacy Center—$13,800
Baton Rouge Crime Stoppers Inc.—$25,000
Baton Rouge Crisis Intervention Center—$86,379
Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation Inc.—$114,652
Bess, Felicia—$1,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana Inc.—$1,500
Big Buddy Program—$20,100
Blindness-Learning in New Dimensions Inc.—$5,000
Bogalusa Help Center Inc.—$2,300
Boy Scouts of America—$1,000
Boy Scouts of America - Southeast Louisiana Council, Cypress District—$500
Boy Scouts of America Council - Calcasieu Area Council—$250
Boy Scouts of America Istrouma Area Council—$19,750
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Baton Rouge Inc.—$6,500
Boys and Girls Club of Southeast Louisiana—$700
Boys Hope Girls Hope of Baton Rouge—$11,000
Boys Hope Girls Hope of New Orleans—$2,500
BREDA (Big River Economic & Agricultural Development Alliance)—$10,000
BRECA Foundation—$3,500
Bridge Over Troubled Waters—$1,500
Broadway Cares—Equity Fights AIDS Inc.—$2,500
Brothers of the Sacred Heart Foundation of the New Orleans Province—$10,000
Buckley, Lynelle—$1,000
Cancer Association of Greater New Orleans—$1,200
Cancer Services of Greater Baton Rouge Inc.—$1,000
Cinderella Project of Baton Rouge—$1,000
CLIMB Community Development Corporation—$100,000
Community Foundation of South Alabama—$500
Covenant House New Orleans—$3,800
Covington Rotary Foundation—$500
Crawfish Cookin’ for a Cause—$1,000
Crippled Children Foundation—$500
Crisis Pregnancy Help Center of Slidell, Inc.—$16,093
Criss, Ashleigh—$1,000
Cure JM Foundation—$250
Denham Springs Project Graduation—$500
Desire Street Ministries and Academy—$10,000
Dream Day Foundation—$5,000
Dress for Success Charity—$1,250
East Baton Rouge Parish Council on Aging Inc.—$2,650
East Baton Rouge Parish Library—$500
East St. Tammany Rainbow Childcare Center—$220
Eden House—$1,000
Education and Treatment Council Inc.—$750
Evacueer.org—$14,641
Evergreen Foundation—$350
Families Helping Families of Southwest Louisiana, Inc.—$250
Family And Youth Counseling Agency Inc.—$178,483
Family Foundation of Southwest Louisiana—$200
Family Promise of St. Tammany Parish—$17,363
Family Service of Greater Baton Rouge—$100
Father Flanagan's Boys Home—$300
First Baptist Church Covington—$21,348
Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano—$250
Food4Kidz, Inc.—$5,000
Foreman-Reynaud YMCA—$560
Friends of Louisiana Public Broadcasting Inc.—$300
Front Yard Bikes—$5,300
GaitWay Therapeutic Horsemanship—$13,000
Girl Scouts Louisiana East—$8,325
Girl Scouts-Audubon Council Inc.—$150
Girls on the Run of Greater Baton Rouge—$1,700
Gladyce Center for Adoption—$500
Good Fellows - Good Samaritans Inc.—$200
Grant’s Gift Foundation Support Fund—$500
Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank Inc.—$67,500
Greater Baton Rouge Literacy Coalition Inc./UP Alliance—$3,500
Habitat for Humanity International Inc.—$500
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Baton Rouge—$5,800
Habitat for Humanity of Orange County—$15,000
Hand to Hold—$5,000
Heritage Ranch—$34,400
Hope Landing—$1,000
Hope House of Louisiana—$7,500
Hope Landing—$1,000
HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge—$7,300
HOPE Ministry of Pointe Coupee Inc.—$4,100
Hospice Foundation of Greater Baton Rouge—$39,894
International Center for Journalists Inc.—$28,750
International Hospitality Foundation LSU—$2,359
International Rescue Committee—$1,000
Jess’ Bra Closet Incorporated—$3,000
Just Cause LA Inc.—$5,500
Karnival Krewe de Louisiane—$2,000
Knock Knock Children’s Museum—$10,000
LANO (Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations)—$500
Legislators Charity Fund—$1,000
Leukemia and Lymphoma Society—$700
Lifechamps Inc.—$15,000
Lighthouse for the Blind in New Orleans Inc.—$16,500
Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network (LATAN)—$500
Louisiana Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross—$4,386
Louisiana Industries for the Disabled Inc.—$250
Louisiana United Methodist Children and Family Services Inc.—$600
Magnolia School Inc.—$1,000
Maison des Ami of Louisiana Inc.—$25,000
Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Texas Gulf Coast and Louisiana Inc.—$500
Mandeville Soccer Club—$20,000
Marriage Today—$51,000
Mary Payton’s Miracle Foundation—$250
McLindon Family Foundation—$1,500
Memorial Assistance Ministries Inc.—$1,200
Mental Health Association of Greater Baton Rouge—$5,250
Miami Suns Youth Development Inc.—$26,976
Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research—$267,000
Mighty Moms—$1,000
Miracle League of Louisiana—$300
Mobile Rescue Mission Inc.—$250
Muscular Dystrophy Association—$250
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill—$100
National Federation of the Blind Inc.—$5,000
National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana Inc.—$5,000
New Heights Therapy Center Inc.—$540
New Life Counseling Inc.—$2,500
New Orleans Bayou Steppers Social Aid and Pleasure Club—$10,000

CURREN...
New Orleans Mission Inc.–$200
Northern Star Council - Boy Scouts of America–$3,500
Nutrition Assisted Detox Inc.–$1,000
O’Brien House Inc.–$42,588
Ollie Steele Burden Manor Inc.–$1,093
Operation Homefront–$2,250
Options Inc.–$3,500
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church–$25,440
Oxfam-America–$1,000
Particular Council of St. Vincent de Paul of Baton Rouge Louisiana–$46,081
Pat’s Coats for Kids–$5,147
Paula G. Manship YMCA–$1,000
Peggy Crosby Community Service Center–$800
Pitcher, Darquarius–$1,000
Poydras Home–$6,500
Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana Inc.–$4,000
Pro Bono Publico Foundation–$1,500
Ravens Outreach Center Inc.–$8,905
Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge–$23,150
Ricard, Christie–$1,000
Richard Murphy Hospice House Inc.–$1,000
Ripples of Hope–$5,000
Rocketkidz Foundation–$3,000
Rocketkidz Foundation Incorporated–$10,000
Rockwall Youth Sports Association–$8,700
Rotary Foundation of Rotary International–$300
Salvation Army of Southwest Louisiana–$1,000
Savannah Smiles, Inc.–$80,000
Sceptre Foundation Inc.–$5,000
SEEDS Inc.–$6,000
Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response Center–$17,000
Seymour, Donna–$1,000
Share Our Strength–$25,000
Shepherd Center Foundation Inc.–$5,000
Single Stop USA Inc.–$900,000
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Foundation–$1,000
Southwest Louisiana Hospital Association Foundation Inc.–$50,000
Special Olympics Inc.–$5,000
Special Olympics Louisiana Inc.–$5,450
St. Elizabeth Foundation–$4,000
St. James Place of Baton Rouge Foundation Inc.–$250
St. Nicholas Center for Children–$10,350
St. Paul Adult Learning Center–$2,500
St. Tammany Children’s Advocacy Center–$2,000
St. Tammany Parish School Board–$1,000
St. Tammany Pearls Fund–$100
Stand for Children Louisiana–$300
Star and Crescent Foundation of Louisiana, Inc.–$10,000
STCF General Fund–$3,000
Stirling Stewardship Fund–$1,500
TankProof–$15,000
The Big Brown Reaching Back Fund–$500
The Caturano and Company Foundation–$200
The Christian Outreach Center of Baton Rouge, Inc.–$1,287
The Food Bank of Covington Louisiana, Inc.–$14,400
The Glen Big Baby Davis Foundation–$1,000
The Greater New Orleans Foundation–$1,000
The Idea Village–$10,000
The JF Foundation–$28,500
The Life of a Single Mom–$15,000
The Miracle League of Sioux City–$7,500
The Salvation Army–$34,850
The Salvation Army Lake Charles–$5,641
Tourism of the Stars Inc–$200
Trafficking Hope Inc.–$2,000
Triumph Kitchen–$10,000
Tyrone Glover Foundation–$1,200
United Southern Express Track Club–$700
United States Fund for UNICEF–$5,000
United States Naval Sea Cadet Corp Region 086 Louisiana–$5,000
United Way of Beaumont and North Jefferson County–$10,000
United Way of Greater Houston–$15,000
United Way of Greater Houston–$15,000
United Way of Morgan County–$7,500
United Way of Southeast Louisiana–$41,000
United Way of the Coastal Bend–$7,500
Upward Community Services Inc.–$19,000
Vet Launch–$12,000
Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation–$300
Volunteers of America Inc.–$18,100
Volunteers of America of Greater New Orleans–$10,000
We Lift You Up Fund–$2,500
Williams, Lora–$1,000
Willowoods Community–$1,000
Winf–$2,945
Women’s Center For Healing and Transformation–$5,000
Wounded Warrior Project Inc.–$7,400
YMCA of the Capital Area–$3,650
Young Life New Orleans–$25,000
Young Mens Christian Association of New Orleans Metropolitan–$51,050
Youth Oasis–$20,300
YWCA of Greater Baton Rouge–$3,000

RECEPTION–$2,721,113
Aldersgate United Methodist Church
(AUMC)–$6,786
Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church–$7,500
Baton Rouge First Church of the Nazarene–$350
Beth Shalom Synagogue–$1,600
Bishop Ott Works of Mercy Trust/Catholic Diocese–$784
Broadmoor United Methodist Church–$5,000
Brothers of the Sacred Heart Foundation of the New Orleans Province–$1,000
Campus Crusade for Christ Inc. / Family Life–$5,000
Catholic Archdiocese of New Orleans–$30,000
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans–$25,000
Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge/Bishop’s Annual Appeal–$3,400
Catholic High School Foundation–$500
Catholic Youth Organization of Baton Rouge–$500
Chapel on the Campus–$700
Chinese Christian Church of Baton Rouge–$1,199
Christ Episcopal Church–$19,200
Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church–$5,000
Christ the King Parish and Catholic Center at LSU–$53,292
Church of the Good Shepherd–$6,000
Church of the Incarnation–$2,500
Closer Walk Ministries Inc.–$1,000
Congregation B’nai Israel of Baton Rouge–$36,550
Congregation B’nai Israel of Baton Rouge Foundation–$4,100
Congregation B’nai Israel of Baton Rouge Perpetual Care Fund–$2,250
Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph Inc.–$1,100
Cross Way Christian Center–$1,200
Dermott Baptist Church–$500
Destiny International Church–$850
Diocese of Little Rock–$2,000
Dominicans Province of St. Albert the Great–$5,000
Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion–$6,000
Episcopal Church of the Incarnation–$3,600
Episcopal High School of Baton Rouge–$1,000
Episcopal Order of the Holy Sepulchre–$1,200
Explore Ministries Inc.–$15,000
Fellowship Church–$11,000
Fellowship Church of Christian Athletes–$2,950
First Baptist Church Covington–$6,000
First Baptist Church of Baton Rouge–$500
First Presbyterian Church of Baton Rouge–$18,787
First Presbyterian Church of Baton Rouge Foundation–$500
First United Methodist Church–$34,100
First United Methodist Church of Leesville–$100
Friends of St. Paul Church Inc.–$21,100
God’s Light Shining Ministries Inc.–$6,000
Grace Episcopal Church–$500
Greater Mount Canaan Baptist Church–$400
Greater Starlight Baptist Church–$250
GW Catholics–$500

Baton Rouge Area Foundation . braf.org
Harmony Church of Bartlett–$250,000
Healing Place Church–$4,000
Holy Comforter Episcopal Church–$500
Holy Family Catholic Church–$48,429
Hope and Healing Center at St. Martin’s Episcopal Church Houston–$500
International Society for Krishna Consciousness of New Orleans–$6,255
Isaiah’s Stump–$25,000
Jewish Federation of Greater Baton Rouge–$8,100
Jubilee Community Inc.–$2,000
Jubilee Pioneers Fund–$4,000
Lamb of God Lutheran Church–$11,000
Loranger United Methodist Church–$3,000
Louisiana Baptist Children’s Home–$4,041
Louisiana Baptist Convention–$75,000
Loranger United Methodist Church–$3,000
Lamb of God Lutheran Church–$11,000
Outdoor Ministry to the Disadvantaged Fund–$10,000
Pastoral Center–$33,410
Poplar Grove Chapel Missionary Baptist Church–$2,200
Port Allen Educational Broadcasting Foundation–$300
Prison Fellowship Ministries–$100
Protestant Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd of Lake Charles–$1,200
Redemptorist High School–$2,313
Roman Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge–$718,422
Sacred Heart Saint Katherine Drexel School–$2,000
Saint Jean Vianney Catholic Church–$9,986
Saint Joseph’s Abbey–$202,500
Saint Joseph’s Abbey–$2,000
Sister Dulce Foundation–$1,450
Sisters of the Holy Family Motherhouse & Novitiate–$20,000
St. Martins Episcopal Church–$4,000
St. Agnes Catholic Church–$5,000
St. Aloysius Church–$10,650
St. Luke Simpson United Methodist Church–$1,300
St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church–$4,000
St. Mary African Methodist Episcopal Church–$1,500
St. Mary’s Church–$100
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church–$500
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church and Cemetery Association Inc.–$200
St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church–$1,000
St. Paul’s Holy Trinity Episcopal Church–$15,864
St. Philip Parish–$7,485
St. Sharbel Makhlouf Foundation Inc.–$10,000
St. Thomas by the Sea Catholic Church–$750
St. Timothy’s On The Northshore United Methodist Church–$11,300
Summerville Baptist Church–$20,000
Texas Baptist Men–$5,000
The Food Bank of Covington Louisiana, Inc.–$1,000
The Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge–$350
Trinity Baptist Church–$9,740
Trinity Episcopal Church–$79,336
Union of Councils for Jews in the Former Soviet Union (UCSJ)–$250
Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge–$2,100
United Conference of Catholic Bishops/Manresa House of Retreats–$5,000
United Methodist Church–$5,000
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Sacred Heart Catholic Church–$1,500
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/ St. Aloysius Catholic Church–$1,000
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/ St. Anselm Catholic Church–$1,000
University Baptist Church–$15,200
University Presbyterian Church–$188,000
Young Life Baton Rouge–$3,000
Young Life New Orleans–$25,000

SCHOLARSHIPS–$339,364

Alcorn State University
Torria Powell–$500

Baton Rouge Community College
Mackenzie Paige Rivet–$250
Asia Serviana Victorian–$500

Bevill State Community College
Emily Blaylock–$500
Reanna Galloway–$1,500
Blanca Garcia–$500
Collin Huggins–$500
Amanda Moore–$1,500
Parker Smothers–$500
Torey Williams–$1,000

Catholic High School Foundation–$2,015

Colorado State University
Gabriella Cuebas–$4,000

Delgado Community College
Jason Butler–$1,000

Delta College Inc.
Kathleen Bolton–$1,000
Marci Conrad–$1,000
Christine Corailes–$1,000
Nicole Oubre–$1,000
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Lindesay Williams–$1,000

Delta State University
Damian Mercier–$1,000
Jacob Mercier–$1,000

East Central Community College
Taylor R. Lott–$500

East Mississippi Community College
Ryan Ahrens–$500
Alexis Jones–$500
Cacovia Millsap–$500
Andrew Moore–$500
Morgan Efferson–$3,000

Harvard College
Allyssa N. Moore–$2,000

Hinds Community College
Dustin Mitchell–$500

Houston Community College
Raynesha Maiden–$2,000
Johns Hopkins University
Adam Strickland–$1,000

Jones County Junior College
William Boutwell–$1,000
Austin Jackson–$500
Jeremy Newsom–$500
Diamonté Venson–$2,000

Leland Stanford Junior University
Jessica Hagan–$500

Louisiana Construction Education Foundation–$3,020

Louisiana Culinary Institute
Tia Dehon–$1,500
Nicole Washington–$131

Louisiana State University and A&M College
Mark Abshire–$2,000
Ashley Alexander–$2,000
Catherine Bollich–$1,000
Amy Coward–$2,000
Brandon Deshotels–$1,000
Hunter Dugas–$500
Logan Dugas–$2,000
Marlene Elizabeth Fechter–$800
Cierra Fountain–$3,000
Laura Garcia–$2,000
Erik Gudiel–$1,500
Jasmine D. Jones–$500
Albert J. Hane–$1,500
Hira Hasan–$2,000
Alyssa Leigh Henke–$1,350
Caroline E. Holloway–$1,350
Regan Higgins-Lang–$2,500
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Haleigh Nicole Wells–$800
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Louisiana State University in Shreveport
Emily Christie–$1,000

Mississippi State University
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Nicholls State University
Rebecca Cazes–$500
Ashley Cotton–$500
Caitlin C. McFarlain–$4,000
Amber Simoneaux–$500
Jake L. Thibodaux–$1,500

Northshore Technical Community College
Ryan M. Bel–$1,000

Our Lady of the Lake College
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Tiara George–$500
Whitney LeBlanc–$500
William LeBlanc–$500
Andrea Ramirez–$500

Pearl River Community College
Phillip Bedwell–$500
Phillip Layton Carlisle–$1,500
Bryan Jett–$500
Tracey Powe–$500
Hunter Prach–$500

River Parishes Community College
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Saint Joseph’s University
Maria Campbell–$2,000
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Megan Kavanagh–$2,000
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Savannah College of Art and Design
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Southern University and A&M College
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SOWELA Technical Community College–$103,148

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Philip James McMahon–$2,000
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Michael Wayne Sanders–$1,000

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Laykin Hair–$1,000
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Ti’Quaisha Virgil–$500

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Laykin Hair–$1,000
University of Minnesota
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Joel McKay—$500
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Aaden H. Aaden—$3,000
Jason Blincow—$3,000
Devon Kaveler—$3,000
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Trevor Tune—$3,000
Tanya Turnbough—$3,000

University of New Orleans
Mitchell Noel Mejia—$1,000

University of North Carolina at Wilmington
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Lauren Booth—$500
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Jessica Ehret—$1,000
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Elizabeth S. Bruser  
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J. Michael Burdine  
Capital Study Club  
Kenneth M. Carter  
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Citizens Bank & Trust  
Drs. Harold Clausen and Robin Kilpatrick  
Cornerstone Government Affairs  
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William G. and Debra W. Lockwood  
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Raymond Allmon/Boys Prep Catalyst  
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Madison and Amelie Mann  
Matthew Mann  
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Joseph A. Polack  
Rittenberg Family Foundation  
Linda, Joyce and all the staff at Rayner Learning Center  
Buster and Phoebe Kantrow  
Terrance and Cynthia Simien  
Eugene J. Anderson  
Carol Postell Spurlock  
Harriet and Mike Maher  
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18 Programs Presented by the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge
Funds Re-granted $435,000
42 Free Performances
200+ Arts Market Artists
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SUMMER IS FOR ALL CHILDREN

Two reasons drive Dr. Karen Williams in the hard work of treating children with infectious diseases. First, their illnesses are a puzzle begging to be solved. Second, the children themselves possess astounding recuperative powers. And, in this, she finds hope.

During the summers, she accompanies some of her patients to an exclusive summer camp for low-income children with HIV. She pays for their travel through her donor advised fund at the Baton Rouge Area Foundation.

At the camp, she’s reminded of what her work is really all about: children who climb rocks, swim, fish, and cook s’mores together on an open fire.

The camp’s counselors also teach the kids to take their daily medicines—a big responsibility these little ones will carry all their lives or until, Dr. Williams hopes, there’s a cure for the disease. They learn how to live with their illness and with the social stigma it still carries. For her part, Dr. Williams learns, too, by observing them so that she can improve treatment strategies for her patients back in Baton Rouge—her hometown, where her father was a doctor too.

See Dr. Williams’ story and some other donor stories in the giving section at BRAF.org.
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3,500+ grants.

$24.1 million to nonprofits in 2015.

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