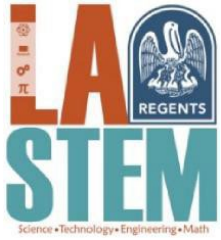




# Third Quarter LaSTEM Advisory Council Meeting

SOWELA

8/18/2022



## Third Quarter LaSTEM Advisory Council Meeting

August 18, 2022 | 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- **10:30 a.m. – Welcome and Roll Call**
  - Dr. Neil Aspinwall, SOWELA Chancellor
- **10:45 a.m. – Approval of Second Quarter Meeting Minutes**
- **10:45-10:55 a.m. – #SummerOfLaSTEM**
- **10:55-11:15 a.m. – FY 2022-23 Appropriations to Regional STEM Centers (Statewide initiatives)**
  - Mark Arseneault - Region 5 Director
  - Dr. Heather Kleiner - Region 7 Director
  - Daphine Barnes - Region 1 Director
- **11:15-11:30 a.m. – Regional STEM Center Renewal Process**
  - New RFA will be prepared for release in January 2023
  - New RFA will be provided to Council prior to Q4 meeting
- **11:30-11:45 a.m. – Directors' Retreat**
  - Determining regional and statewide metrics
- **11:45 a.m.-11:50 a.m. – Quality Science and Mathematics/Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching**
  - LSTA- Jean May-Brett
- **11:50 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Lake Area Industrial Alliance**
  - Greg Gray, Secretary/Treasurer LAIA
- **12:00 p.m. – Adjournment**
- Lunch with Mayor Nic Hunter and Tour of the Chennault Airport Following Meeting

Welcome from Dr. Neil  
Aspinwall, Chancellor, SOWELA





- New Member of the Council
- Roll Call
- Approval of Second Quarter Meeting Minutes



# Welcome to New Council Member, Paul Helton!

---

LED FastStart has been the nationally top-ranked workforce development program for 12 straight years. Recruited to Louisiana as one of the founding team, Paul Helton serves as LED FastStart's Executive Director, providing oversight and direction for all LED FastStart project operations and workforce initiatives.

Paul Helton has over twenty years of targeted workforce development experience. As the leader of the LED FastStart program, he has helped to create a well-qualified and sustainable workforce in Louisiana for over a decade. Prior to LED FastStart, Helton served as the Director of Economic Development for North Metro Technical College in Acworth, GA, leading the Contract Training, Continuing Education, and Workforce Programs divisions. Helton also managed individual company workforce development projects with the successful and highly ranked Georgia Quick Start program. Prior to Georgia Quick Start, Helton was an independent training consultant and a Training Specialist with the US Navy TRIDENT nuclear submarine program.

A graduate of Regents College (now Excelsior College) of the University of the State of New York, Helton also holds a master's degree in adult education from the University of Georgia. Helton is also the Past President and current board member of the National Association of Industry Specific Training Directors (NAISTD) and an active member of Association for Talent Development (ATD), the Louisiana Industrial Development Executives Association (LIDEA), and is an Aspen Institute Economic Opportunity Fellow.





# #SummerOfLaSTEM

- This summer, we continued our successful #SummerOfLaSTEM program with our Regional STEM Centers
- Social media posts with this hashtag were amplified by the BoR Communications Team
- Lots of great programming, from robotics to teacher professional development to workforce exposure programs, occurred throughout the state







## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL COASTAL SCIENCE EDUCATORS



WATER MARKS  
360

Interested in learning more about how to use this resource in your classroom?

**Join us for a training session and receive a free classroom kit!**

## BARRIER ISLAND VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP WITH HANDS-ON KITS



Complete the interest form by following the link or scanning the QR code. Limited seats available per session. Eligible educators will be contacted about their enrollment.

[tinyurl.com/WaterMarks360PDform](http://tinyurl.com/WaterMarks360PDform)

Questions? Email [CW999A@coast@gmail.com](mailto:CW999A@coast@gmail.com)



**Explore one of Louisiana's largest coastal restoration sites from your own classroom!**

**Region 4**  
**Saturday, August 13**  
**8:30AM-12PM @ UL Lafayette**



Engage your students while they discover the critical role that barrier islands play in protecting and preserving our coastal ecosystems.

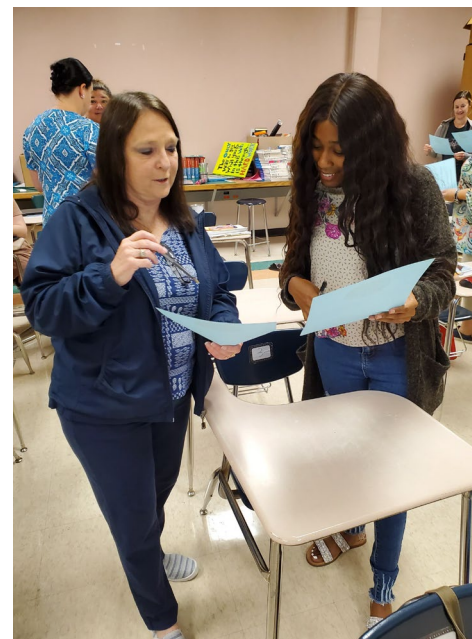
### WHAT'S INCLUDED!

Each classroom kit contains resources for up to 30 students:

- 5 Scientific Investigations
- Full-color Printed Guides
- Interactive Virtual Tour
- Instructional Videos
- Online Resources



This project was funded by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act and created in partnership with Central Creativity, LoSTEM, Fletcher Technical College, and Delta Discovery Tours. For more information, please visit us at [www.LAcoast.gov](http://www.LAcoast.gov).



# FY 2022-23 Appropriations to Centers

- For fiscal year 2022-23, LaSTEM received \$3M in State General Funds
- Dollars were distributed:
  - BoR Admin: \$480,000
  - Regional STEM Centers: \$280,000 per center (up from \$170,000 in FY 2021-22)
- Each director was asked to provide 25% (\$70k) to a statewide initiative
- "Statewide initiative" is loosely defined as an initiative that can be replicated or expanded across multiple regional centers
- Mark Arseneault (Region 5), Heather Kleiner (Region 7), and Daphine Barnes (Region 1) will present their statewide initiatives today

# Voyage Solar System

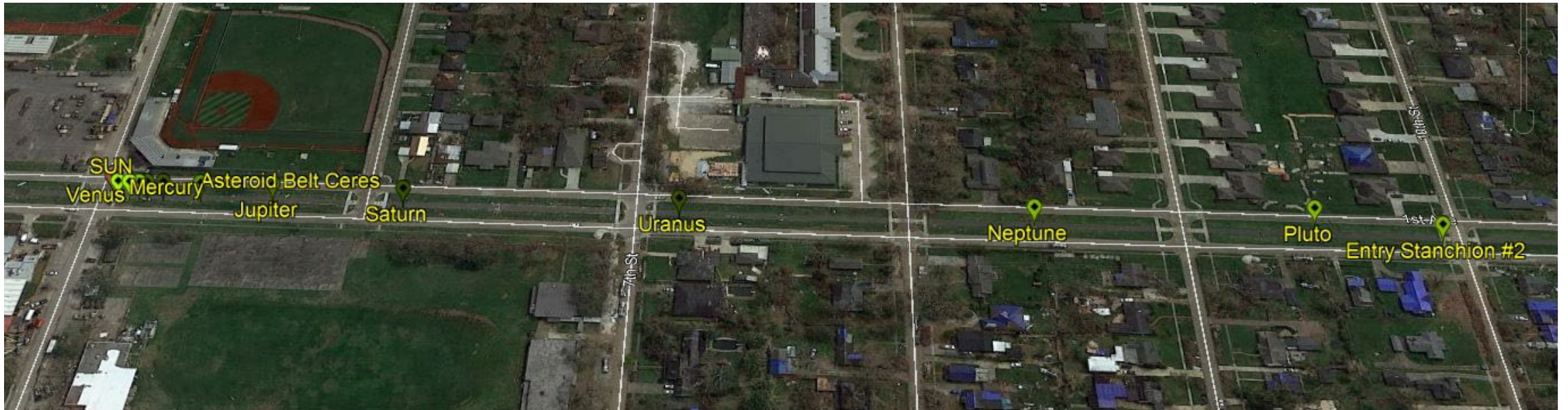
---

- Great field trip opportunity





# Voyage Solar System



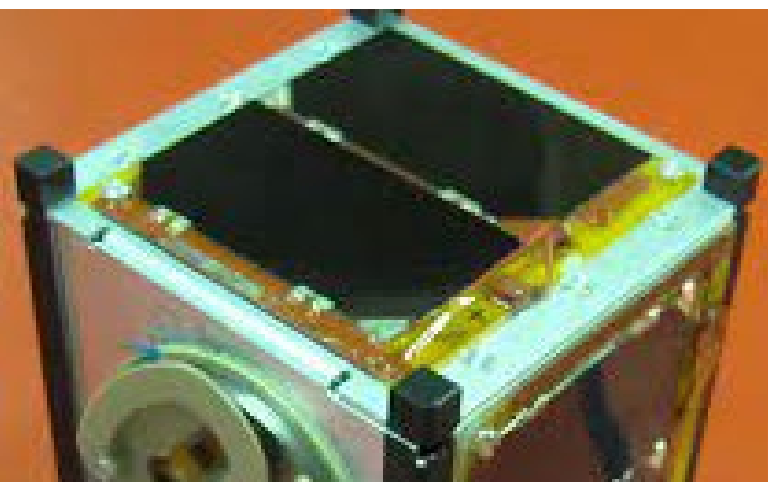
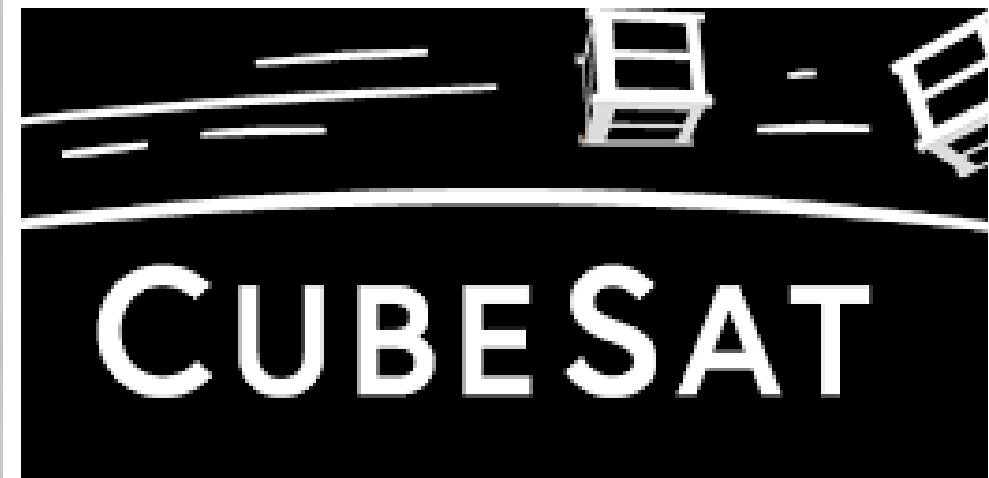
# Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP) Grades 5+



*What physical, chemical, or biological system would I like to explore with gravity seemingly turned off for a period of time, as a means of assessing the role of gravity in that system?*



DANA ISTRE & FK WHITE

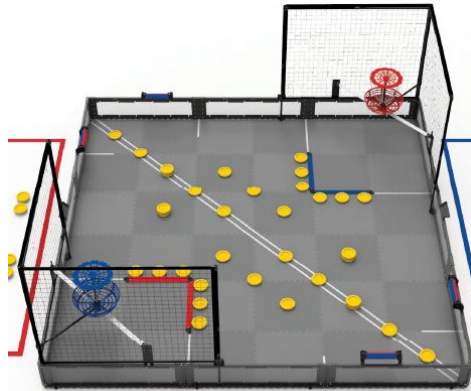






# Robotics

- Competition (Sept.)
  - Elementary IQ
  - MS/HS VRC
- Classroom
  - LSU Pathways / PLTW
  - Roboblocky
  - Vex Go
  - Vex EDR
- Rad-C
- Bell Robotics (Nov.)
- FRC (Jan.)



# Region 7





**GREATER NEW ORLEANS**  
INC  
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# GNOrocs Overview

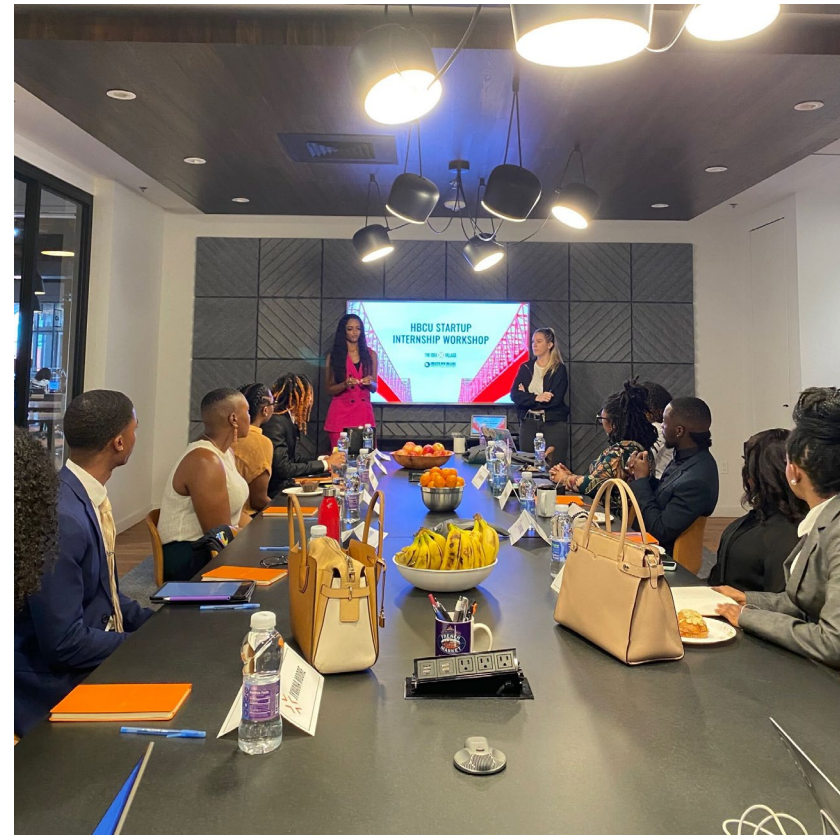
2021-2022

## GNO, INC. HBCU STARTUP INTERNSHIP

The goal of the HBCU Startup Internship is to increase startup activity by HBCU students and graduates in our region by providing real-time, paid internship experience to foster entrepreneurial ideation and development.

### Program Highlights:

- Pairs 12 selected Juniors and Seniors from Xavier University of Louisiana, Southern University at New Orleans, and Dillard University with startup companies in GNO who are seeking qualified, diverse talent.
- The selected interns develop creative capacity and entrepreneurial confidence, receive mentorship, and acquire necessary skills to build scalable startups that solve real problems.
- 2021 Cohort Outcomes:
  - 3 interns offered **internship extensions**
  - 2 interns secured **Venture for America** fellowships
  - 1 intern hired full-time by **Idea Village**
  - 1 intern completed **Black Girl Ventures Next Gen Program**





## Participating Host Startups



LeBLANC + SMITH



# GNO, Inc. HBCU STEM Connect

The HBCU STEM Connect is an internship program designed to connect STEM business and industry leaders in the GNO region with HBCU STEM undergraduates to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in those employment areas where there is traditionally a deficit in underrepresented minority and gender groups.

## Program Highlights:

- 14 students were selected from GNO HBCUs: Dillard University, Southern University at New Orleans, and Xavier University of Louisiana
  - 50% African American men
  - 50% women
  - 100% STEM majors
- Students interned at regional STEM businesses and industries
- 2022 Cohort Outcomes:
  - 5 students offered **internship extensions** with their host companies for the remainder of the summer
  - 1 student offered a 2023 summer internship



## Participating Business/ Industry Partners



### **AOS Interior Environments**

Architecture, CAD , Design



### **Laitram/ Intralox**

Engineering, Green/Sustainable  
Energy, Transportation/Logistics



### **Bootleg Spirits/ Porchjam Distillation**

Distillery  
Engineering, Chemistry



### **Ochsner**

Biomedical Sciences



### **Cornerstone Chemical Co.**

Engineering, Chemistry



### **Universal Data Inc.**

IT, Computer Engineering,  
Cybersecurity



### **Impetus**

Commercial Construction  
Civil engineering



### **Chalmette Refinery**

Engineering, Green Energy,  
Research

## Professional Development

These two regional organizations provide support to the prospective interns throughout the selection process

**1881 Research Institute**

**YouthForce NOLA**



**YouthForce**  
**NOLA**





Cornerstone Chemical Company

2,543 followers

1w •

Meet Asiah Donahue, one of Cornerstone's 2022 summer interns. She is a junior at [Xavier University of Louisiana](#), majoring in chemistry. Asiah is a main lab intern at Cornerstone through our participation in the inaugural HBCU STEM Connect Summer Internship Program, sponsored by [Greater New Orleans, Inc. – GNO, Inc.](#) Region 1 Center for STEM. We hope you find yourself right in your element! [#CornerstoneWaggaman](#) [#STEM](#) [#intern](#) [#HBCU](#)



## INTERN SPOTLIGHT

### Asiah Donahue

Main Lab Intern

Junior at Xavier University  
of Louisiana

“ I have gained insight into career fields and been able to put my hands on instrumentation I would not have been able to in a traditional learning environment. I am grateful for the people here and the experience. ”



Cornerstone Chemical Company

2,543 followers

1w •

Meet Kyra McWhorter, one of Cornerstone's 2022 summer interns. She is a senior at [Dillard University](#), majoring in biology, focusing on Pre-Med. Kyra is our medical intern at Cornerstone through our participation in the inaugural HBCU STEM Connect Summer Internship Program, sponsored by [Greater New Orleans, Inc. – GNO, Inc.](#) Region 1 Center for STEM. Thank you for helping keep our plant safe! [#CornerstoneWaggaman](#) [#STEM](#) [#intern](#) [#HBCU](#)



## INTERN SPOTLIGHT

### Kyra McWhorter

Medical Intern

Senior at Dillard University

“ I have gained a better understanding of how plants operate and their importance to the community. I am also gaining a lot of clinical experience here at Cornerstone that will help with my success in medical school. ”



**Universal Data, Inc.**

1,453 followers

5d • Edited •

[+ Follow](#)

We are grateful to be involved with the HBCU STEM Connect Internship program developed by [Greater New Orleans, Inc. – GNO, Inc.](#) We had a great time working with Cortland Nelson who joined Universal Data for an internship opportunity.

Cortland's focus in college is on Computer Science. He has been immersed in our operations and learning how a professional IT organization functions. Thank you Cortland for helping the UDI tech team! We wish you the best on your technology journey!

[#summerintern](#) [#technology](#) [#stemeducation](#)

**Impetus**

4,311 followers

1d •

[+ Follow](#)

Gabe Allen, a computer science student at [Xavier University of Louisiana](#), joined the Impetus Innovation Team through the [Greater New Orleans, Inc. – GNO, Inc.](#)'s HBCU Entrepreneurship Internship Program. This program brings together New Orleans businesses to train the next generation of successful entrepreneurs of color, inspire students to become innovative change makers, and increase the innovation capacity of regional startup firms.

Alongside the analytics team at Impetus, Gabe worked on a data engineering project and structured historical project-cost data in a clean manner to enable future analytical model development. The code Gabe wrote over his internship was successfully run and captured over 280 projects worth of information!

At the conclusion of his internship, Gabe presented his work to Preconstruction Leader [Joe Yenni](#) and Chief Estimator Jeff Kerth, receiving a big thumbs up and sparking numerous ideas on how Impetus may leverage this information.

We are appreciative to Gabe for his efforts and know he will go a long way in his career!

[#innovation](#) [#breaknewground](#) [#STEM](#) [#STEMcareers](#)





## WISE Women NOLA Mentorship Program

### Women in the STEM Economy

W.I.S.E. Women NOLA is a mentorship program designed to **engage** young women in authentic conversations regarding STEM careers, **inspire** them to pursue STEM programming in their schools, and ultimately in their occupations, and **encourage** them to choose STEM pathways, where they are patently underrepresented, to **increase diversity and inclusion** within the **STEM** business ecosystem of the Greater New Orleans region.

#### Program Highlights:

- Received over 200 applications from high-school-aged young women across 7 GNO parishes; 22 young women selected
- Mentees visited 10 STEM workplace sites to gain exposure to STEM occupations accessible at various educational levels
- Partners included: Obatala Sciences, MSY Airport, NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility, NOTEP, Build Strong Academy, AOS Interior Environments, The Ranch Movie Studios, Chalmette Refinery and Cornerstone Chemical



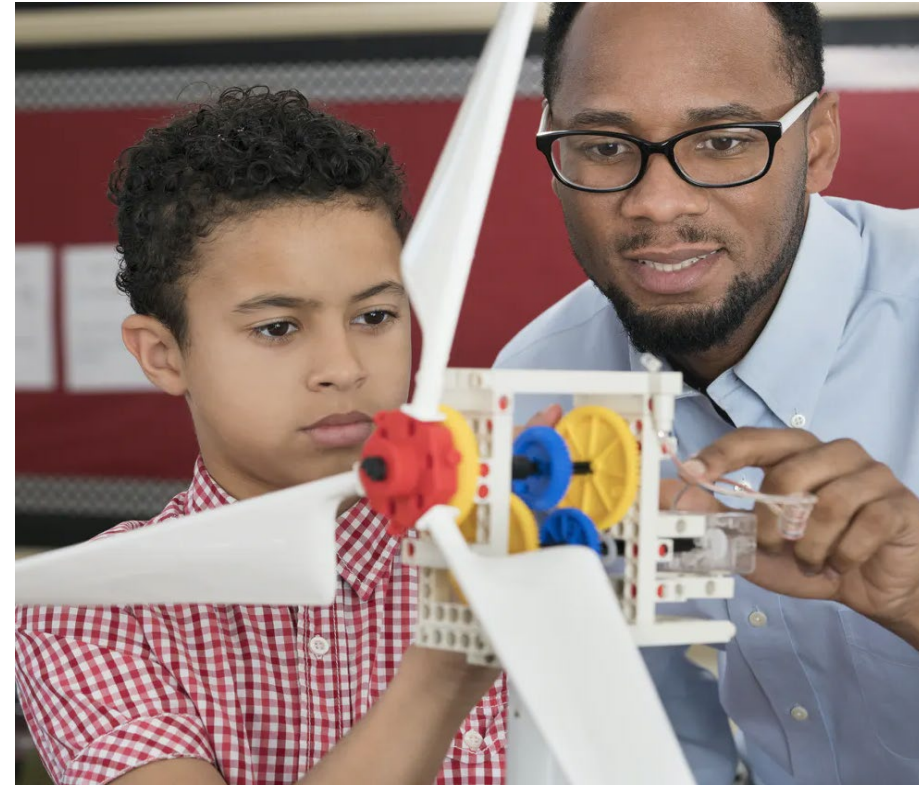
## GNO, Inc. x Son of A Saint STEM Initiative

### GNO, Inc. x Son of A Saint Initiative

The collaboration between GNO, Inc. and Son of A Saint is focused on creating a strong talent pipeline for underserved, minority young men to explore STEM career opportunities and to obtain networking, mentoring, and work-based learning opportunities to successfully pursue a STEM career pathway.

#### **Program Highlights:**

- STEM programming began Summer 2022 for young men in grades 5 -12
- Aligned career focus areas with current, research-based regional STEM opportunity areas:
  - Technology
  - Advanced Manufacturing
  - Trade & Logistics
  - Health Sciences
  - Environmental Management
  - Energy
  - Offshore Wind



## GNOu Summit Overview

To meet the evolving workforce needs of the GNO region, it is important to bring together workforce partners and employers to build stronger pipelines from training to employment. In this spirit, GNO, Inc. is thrilled to host the inaugural *GNOu Workforce Summit*!

**This one-day event will accomplish the following:**

- Unite cross-sector partners in workforce development & industry across the state
- Hear industry trends, talent needs, and partnership opportunities
- Learn best practices to developing innovative training programs meeting industry demand.



Learn more at [www.gnousummit.com](http://www.gnousummit.com)

## GNOu Summit Sponsors



*\*As of 08/12/2022*



THANK  
YOU

**Daphne Barnes**

Greater New Orleans, Inc.

Director of STEM and Economic Mobility

[dbarnes@gnoinc.org](mailto:dbarnes@gnoinc.org)



# Regional STEM Center Renewal Process

- The 2022-2023 fiscal year marks the final year of the initial three-year Regional STEM Center agreement
- Plan to update the original Request for Applications (RFA)
  - Incorporate internal and external feedback from first three years
- All recommended changes will be presented to the Council at the Q4 2022 meeting
- Upon approval, the RFA will be published in December 2022
  - Applications will be due by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023
- Selected centers will be presented to the Council at the Q2 2023 meeting



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Directors' Retreat

- The regional directors, LDOE STEM team, and the BoR LaSTEM team will meet tomorrow for the Second Annual Directors' Retreat
- Focused on building a sustainable, cohesive LaSTEM
  - What metrics are important for our centers (regional) and state?
  - Incorporate into centers' quarterly performance reports
- Superintendent Shannon Lafargue (CPSB) will present 'Flippin Arrows'
- Subcommittees announced at Q2 2022 meeting have been delayed until after the retreat
- Deliverables from Directors' Retreat will be presented to the Council at Q4 meeting

# Update from Louisiana Science Teachers Association

- Jean May-Brett, proxy for Christen Timmins
- Quality Science and Mathematics
- Presential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching



# Third Quarter LaSTEM Advisory Council Meeting

August 18, 2022



# Introduction

Greg Gray

Site Manager LyondellBasell Lake Charles Polymers

- 30 years of experience in Petrochemical Manufacturing
- Have worked for LyondellBasell for 21 years
- Career roles include Production Engineer, Process Engineer, Laboratory Manager, Technical Manager and Operations Manager
- Originally from San Antonio, Texas
- Earned a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from Texas A&M University

Participate on:

- \* Lake Area Industry Alliance Executive Board (Secretary/Treasurer)
- \* Louisiana Chemical Association Board of Directors
- \* Louisiana Manufacturers Political Action Committee Board of Directors
- \* Junior Achievement of SWLA Board of Directors







## About LAIA

Formed in 2000 to provide one voice for industries in Southwest Louisiana.

LAIA is a channel of communication between industries and the community, civic leaders, elected officials, educators and non-profit organizations.

23 member and associate member companies.

Member companies represent over 7,500 direct employees and over 3,500 embedded contractors.

LNG growth expected to add over 1,000 additional direct employees.



# Community

Lake Area Industry Alliance member companies are proud to participate and lead the way in many community endeavors including:

- \* Community Advisor Panels
- \* Partners in Education
- \* Paint Recycling
- \* Chem Expo
- \* Environmental and Sustainability Initiatives







## Philanthropy

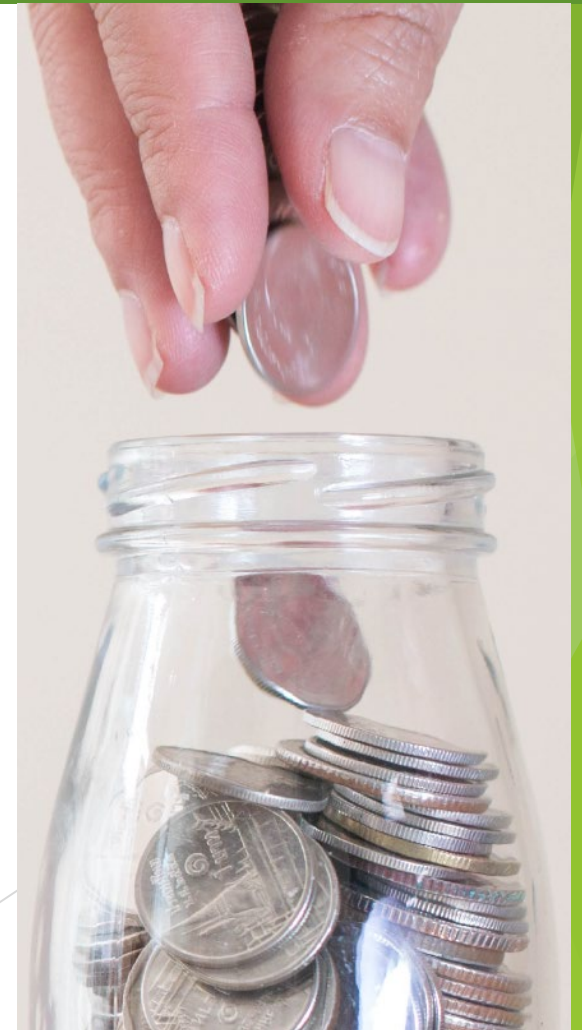
Area industries and their employees are among the most generous corporate citizens in Southwest Louisiana, giving millions in donations.

According to a survey of plant managers in 2018, local industries gave over \$30 million to area organizations in the last five years.

The United Way of Southwest Louisiana reports that Calcasieu Parish industrial employees gave \$13.5 million in the last five years.

Consider these statistics:

- \$5.8 million in financial contributions by local industries to the McNeese State University Foundation
- 10 endowed scholarships at McNeese State University
- 11 endowed professorships at McNeese State University
- \$1 million donated for equipment and program support at SOWELA in the last five years
- \$1.4 million for capital projects at SOWELA in the last five years
- \$198,000 for scholarships to SOWELA in the last five years



# Industry Careers

Jobs available at local industries offer great salaries and benefits, giving employees the ability to have a good quality of life and raise their families here in Southwest Louisiana.

Local industries are the area's third largest employment sector, which translates into a big impact on our economy.

Some form of advanced training beyond a high school diploma is usually needed for most industrial jobs. This could be a completion of a skills course, two-year associate's degree, or a four-year college degree.



[Industry Works - Job Descriptions](#)







## Workforce Projections

Industries need a pipeline of new employees and the LaSTEM program and SOWELA are critical to the current and future success of industrial projects.

We have a very successful multi-year long relationship with SOWELA and our P-Tech committee.

We are participants in the newer, but also essential M-Tech program.

We are grateful to have a great partner like SOWELA to help provide the workforce we need.

### Manpower Projections

Type	Present Manpower Level	2020 Actual Hired	2021 Total	2022 Total	2023 Total
MAINTENANCE					
Millwright	99	10	22	23	18
Machinest	191	11	17	10	10
Pipefitter	92	5	0	3	2
Welder	147	6	8	7	5
Electrician	196	19	26	22	23
Instrument Tech	331	27	31	29	30
TOTALS	1052	78	104	90	86
OPERATIONS					
Process Operator	2693	202	270	300	267
Lab Tech	274	22	31	35	28
TOTALS	2960	201	301	297	293
PROFESSIONAL					
Engineers	646	24	40	40	38
Accounting	83	6	7	8	6
Safety	152	7	14	13	12
Environmental	64	5	7	5	16
TOTALS	939	108	68	63	72
GRAND TOTAL	4,951	316	473	450	451



# Adjournment

Enjoy lunch with Lake Charles Mayor Nic Hunter and the tour that follows!

# ***SWLA Strong***

*A Reflection & Path Forward Two Years Post-Hurricane Laura*

**MAYOR NIC HUNTER |  
CITY OF LAKE CHARLES**





# *“The Most Weather-Battered City in America”*



≡ Livestream TV Schedule

Advocating For Your Loved Ones' Best Interest,  
Contact Our Team Of Professionals Now.

OPEN

## Weather Channel calls Lake Charles 'most weather-battered city'



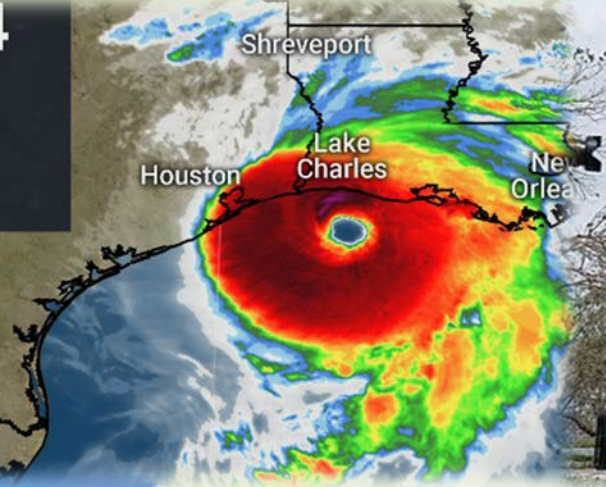
In a video posted to its website Tuesday, the Weather Channel called Lake Charles the “most weather-battered city” in America. (KPLC)

By [Johnathan Manning](#)

Updated: May. 19, 2021 at 4:57 PM CDT



**150** mph Cat **4**  
Pressure **939 mb**  
Moving **NNW** at **15 mph**  
Location  
**75 MI S OF LAKE  
CHARLES LOUISIANA**



## **8.27.20...Hurricane Laura Makes Landfall as a Category 4 Storm with Winds of 150 mph**



**Only Eight other Hurricanes since 1851  
Made Landfall with a Speed of 150+mph**





## HURRICANE LAURA

# Hurricane Laura Ties Record for Strongest Winds at Landfall in Louisiana

Only Texas has seen more major hurricanes make landfall than Louisiana

By **Samantha Davies** • Published August 27, 2020 • Updated on August 27, 2020 at 5:49 am



Hurricane Laura [made landfall early Thursday morning](#) at 1 a.m. as a major Category 4 hurricane with winds of 150 mph in Cameron, LA.

This is the strongest hurricane that residents of Louisiana have seen in their lifetimes, based on wind speeds. Laura is the seventh major Hurricane to hit the state of Louisiana since records began in 1851. A major hurricane is a hurricane of Category 3 strength or higher.

Based on wind speed, Hurricane Laura ties for the strongest hurricane ever to make landfall in Louisiana. In 1856 the Hurricane called ‘Last Island’ made landfall as a Category 4 with 150 mph winds.



***“strongest hurricane residents of Louisiana have seen in their lifetime”***



**Over the Course of Nine Months  
following Hurricane Laura...**

**Hurricane Delta  
(Category 2)  
Made Landfall 43 Days  
after Laura**

**Once in a Generation  
Freeze  
February 2021**

**“One Thousand Year  
Flood Event” in  
May 2021**







**LAKE CHARLES**  
HOUSING REHABILITATION  
RECOVERY PROGRAM

**Small Business  
Stabilization Fund**

**Water Bill Relief Program**

**Mortgage & Rental  
Assistance Program**

**LAKE CHARLES INVESTORS' DAY**  
Recovery Resilience

**JUNE 23**  
GOLDEN NUGGET LAKE CHARLES  
& Online (Hybrid Meeting)

7:30 AM: Registration  
8:30 AM: Welcome  
8:45 AM: Community Overview  
9:45 AM - Noon: Breakout Sessions  
12:15 - 1:45 PM: Lunch with Keynote Speaker  
2:00 PM - 4:15 PM: Breakout Sessions  
5:00 - 6:30 PM: Networking Reception  
**No Cost to Attend**  
[VisitLakeCharles.org/InvestorsDay](http://VisitLakeCharles.org/InvestorsDay)

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
  
**MARK PALIM**  
Vice President & Deputy Chief Economic Development  
Palm Bay

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- ▶ Economic Development Incentives
- ▶ Networking Opportunities
- ▶ Investment Opportunities
- ▶ Low Income Housing Tax Credits

Lake Charles Investors' Day is a business, finance, and thought leadership forum showcasing unique investment opportunities in Lake Charles & Southwest Louisiana. This event encourages collaboration among investors and area community leaders to highlight real investment opportunities and discover innovative avenues to diversify, grow, and redevelop the community.

On June 24, local elected officials and ambassadors will make themselves available to provide personal tours and meet with investors. Please schedule your tour on the event.

**Occupational License  
Fee Reduction**



#SpringCleanLC  
**MARCH 2021**  
**SPRING CLEAN LC**

**TAKE PRIDE IN LAKE CHARLES BY  
HOSTING A VOLUNTEER LITTER  
PICKUP EVENT IN MARCH.**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

The City of Lake Charles is coordinating a series of litter pickups, and your organization's help is needed. All civic and church groups, neighborhood associations, school organizations, businesses, and families are invited to help.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
or to register your group, please call 491-9147 or email [matt.young@cityoflc.us](mailto:matt.young@cityoflc.us) and specify your desired pickup date and location.

The City of Lake Charles fully endorses the City of the United States of America's motto and the City of Lake Charles motto, "We are the City of the Future." The City of Lake Charles is committed to the City's Action Plan at 2017-2021, to ensure the City's future is a better one.

**ARE YOU #LCSTRONG?**

  
**LAKE CHARLES  
STRONG**

We're kicking off the new year with a pledge to use our individual talents to rebuild our community better and stronger than ever.

In January 2021, we are asking citizens of Lake Charles to boldly and publicly take the 2021 Lake Charles Strong Pledge and commit the following by posting it on social media with the #LCSTRONGPLEDGE hash tag:

"I'm staying in Lake Charles. I will use my talents, time, energy and resources to help my City recover to the best of my ability and I believe we will emerge a stronger and more resilient community."

**#LCSTRONGPLEDGE**

**Mental Health  
Partnership**

**PPDR**

**Help SWLA Now**





# Building Back More Resilient & a Sample of Funding Sources

**Multi-Agency  
Drainage Partnership**



**Updated  
Drainage  
Ordinance**

**Resiliency**

**Updated  
Water Meter  
Technology**



**Resiliency**

**New LCFD Campus  
New Public Works Campus  
New Water Plant  
Wind Design Load Increased on City Assets  
Eliminating Rooftop HVAC on City-Owned Buildings  
Elevating Key Wastewater Lift Stations  
Enhancing Generators at Water Plants  
Updated Building Codes**

**Funding**

**ARP  
State TIF  
FEMA  
FEMA 428  
FEMA BRIC  
Federal Infrastructure Bill  
HMGP  
Water Sector  
State Capital Outlay  
HRRP Partnership  
CDBG-DR**



VOICES ACROSS AMERICA

**Opinion** | Americans in Lake Charles, La., are frustrated. We need aid now.

By Nic Hunter

August 2, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. EDT



An aerial photo shows flooding near Lake Charles, La., in the aftermath of Hurricane Laura, on Aug. 27, 2020.

# The Long Road to Supplemental Disaster Aid

Help Southwest Louisiana's Voice be Heard in Washington D.C.



Rebuildingswla.com

Disaster	Funding Received
Hurricane Katrina . . .	10 days
Hurricane Gustav . . .	17 days
Hurricane Ike . . . . .	17 days
Hurricane Andrew . . .	34 days
Hurricane Sandy . . . .	74 days
Hurricane Rita . . . . .	98 days
Hurricane Michael . . .	233 days



## Hurricane Laura... 500+ Days



What about those who still need help?



**RESTORE.LA.GOV**





# Unique Aspects Have Returned









# Reinvestment





BOAT & KAYAK RENTALS + TOURS  
COMMUNITY EVENTS / LIVE MUSIC / +MORE



LAK  
CHARL  
LAKEFRONT

KEAREAADVENTURES.COM

American Press  
Thursday, April 21, 2022

Lake Charles, Louisiana

50 Cent

## Downtown development



Newly elected Lake Charles City Councilman Ronnie Harvey Jr. and Mayor Nic Hunter join Tom Leonard, CEO of HRI Properties, in announcing a planned 130-unit mixed income housing development in downtown Lake Charles.

## \$35M housing unit to be built

By John Guidroz  
American Press  
Local officials and a New Orleans-based real estate company announced on Wednesday plans for Woodbridge Apartments, a 130-unit mixed income housing development in downtown Lake Charles. The project, which includes 70 units, is set to break ground by the end of this year, with construction expected to be completed by late 2023. The development is part of a larger revitalization effort in downtown Lake Charles, which includes the renovation of historic buildings and the creation of new public spaces. The project is being developed by HRI Properties, a national real estate company. The development is expected to provide affordable housing for the community and create jobs during the construction phase. The project is also expected to increase the tax base and improve the overall quality of life in downtown Lake Charles.





# New Investment Abounds

**KPLC News**

Livestream TV Schedule

DDMS, LLC  
DDMSLLC.com

New regional STEM center  
to open at Lake Charles  
Boston Academy

Region 5 STEM Center

**343 ARCHITECTS**

OPEN

**ARSTOOL SPORTSBOOK**

GROUNDBREAKING: Thursday, April 1, 2021





# New Investment Abounds

HOTWORK  
Lake Charles







# New Investment Abounds



# New Investment Abounds

## Lake Area wins bids to continue hosting four HSAA state championship events

Ochsner LHSAA Ochsner  
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Golden Nugget  
**LAKE CHARLES**  
August 23-25

**OPEN** **WORLD LNG & GAS SERIES**  
**AMERICAS SUMMIT & EXHIBITION**

2 - 4 NOVEMBER 2021  
DEN NUGGET HOTEL, LAKE CHARLES - LOUISIANA

# AIR CARGO FACILITY

CHENNAULT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

14  
MAY  
22

14  
MAY  
22



**dp**  
**Dunham Price** MAIN STAGE  
 12:00 Red Dirt Revue  
 1:00 Bad Bongo  
 2:00 Deuce Jacko & Xydeslo  
 3:00 Ron Fruge' & Basin St.  
 4:00 Snyderley Whiplash  
 5:00 Julian Primeaux  
 6:00 Amanda Shaw  
 8:00 Suzanne Santo

**THE FUTURE STARS SERIES**

**UNDERCLASS**

**GRAD CLASSES**

**2022 - 2023**

**POWERED BY**

**PROGRAM 15**

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION





**Vexus Fiber**



LAKE CHARLES

LAKE CHARLES HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT

TELLURIAN



PORT OF  
LAKE CHARLES

LAKE CHARLES HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT

TE

PORT OF  
LAKE CHARLES

LAKE CHARLES HARBOR & TERMINAL DISTRICT



***Tellurian LNG***

American Press  
**BUSINESS**



Source: Kudla Architecture

An architectural rendering of what the front of the new LNG Center of Excellence will look like.



**Jason French:** New training facility to help establish area as liquefied natural gas industry thought leader

by Rita LeBlau  
American Press

The rising demand for natural gas and Southwest Louisiana's place as top exporter sets the stage to highlight this area — not Houston — as the epicenter for expertise, education, training and other LNG best practice resources, according



of new facilities.

The three LNG companies operational today have invested about \$34 billion, he said.

"Imagine if we built a superdome here," he said. "That would be a point of pride, a front-page story, a point of civic pride. The investments by the three companies represent 37 superdomes, and, yes, I ad-

of "brilliant" people, French said. "The head of the federal reserve said that for the U.S. to keep going, massive amounts of natural gas would have to be brought in.

Millions of dollars in debt, Souki proposed going the other way, exporting natural gas.

"In the early days of Cheniere planning, it was not

# McNeese LNG Center of Excellence



**MCNEESE**  
STATE UNIVERSITY





***Caesar's Entertainment Horseshoe Casino***





***Port Wonder, Crying Eagle & Parking Garage***



## Downtown development



Rick Hickman / American Press

Newly elected Lake Charles City Councilman Ronnie Harvey Jr. and Mayor Nic Hunter join Tom Leonard, CEO of HRI Properties, in announcing a planned 130-unit mixed income housing development in downtown Lake Charles.

### \$35M housing unit to be built

By John Guidroz  
American Press

Local officials and a New Orleans-based real estate company announced on Wednesday plans for Woodring Apartments, a 130-unit mixed income housing development in downtown Lake Charles.

The \$35 million project, located on the 600 block of Bilbo Street, will provide more affordable and sustain-

able housing, an issue the city has continued to deal with since Hurricane Laura's Category 4 landfall in August 2020. The first phase, which includes 70 units, is set to break ground by the end of this year, with construction taking 14 months.

Tom Leonard, CEO of HRI Properties, said the project is being funded by a combination of low income housing tax credits awarded by the

Louisiana Housing Corporation, Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funds administered by the state, and private dollars. He said this allows for a higher quality development that will offer much needed housing in the area.

"We've been looking to do a project in the city and just haven't found the right opportunity," he said. "This will allow people to live here and

experience downtown and be part of the renaissance of downtown Lake Charles."

Rent for a one-bedroom apartment could cost roughly \$600 per month, Leonard said.

"That's the beauty of the (tax) credits," he said. "They make it affordable and a nice place to live."

Mayor Nic Hunter said the development will benefit the city.

See HOUSING



# HRI Woodring Apartments





## City plans to build new senior housing development in North LC

Published 2:52 pm Tuesday, July 5, 2022

By Crystal Stevenson



Lake Charles Mayor Nic Hunter and Calcasieu Council on Aging Chief Executive Officer Jacqueline Green announce their partnership for a new senior living facility in North Lake Charles. (Special to the American Press)

By Emily Burleigh

The city of Lake Charles announced Tuesday its plan to build a new senior housing development

CALCASIEU COUNCIL ON AGING  
WHISPERING HOPE II SENIOR LIVING COMPLEX  
LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA



**WILLIAMS**  
ARCHITECTURE  
ASK - 03

# North LC CCOA Housing Development





***LA National Guard Readiness Center at Chennault***





***CANFOR Lumber Mill***





# ***INTERFOR Reopening Lumber Mill***







# ***New Rice Mill in Lacassine***



# What's to Come? The Continued Path to Recovery



FEMA Process is Slow but Essential.  
City is Utilizing FEMA Funds with an  
Eye to the Future



Continue Investments in Resiliency &  
Pursue Grant Opportunities.  
Avoid Complacency



**Choice Neighborhood Grant  
Application**



**Master Plan for Recreation**



**City Bond  
Proposal**



**RESTORE**



**Housing Recovery**



**LAKE CHARLES**  
HOUSING REHABILITATION  
RECOVERY PROGRAM

Money Should be Hitting the Streets Before End of this Year



**Housing Recovery**

**Louisiana Housing**  
Corporation

Continued Advocacy for Housing Tax Credits for SWLA



**RESTORE**



**Economic Revitalization**



**Economic Revitalization**  
Economic Development Districts &  
Incentives to Attract New & Diverse Businesses



**Additional Support for Arts & Culture**

***What's Our Greatest  
Asset?***



# Our People...and their Resiliency, Tenacity, Grit & Compassion



SAMARITAN'S PURSE  
U.S. DISASTER RELIEF

VOLUNTEER  
> AND PRAY

LAKE CHARLES  
FLOOD RESPONSE

GLAD TIDINGS CH  
3501 TEXAS ST  
LAKE CHARLES, LA 70601

TO VOLUNTEER

Fuller Center  
Disaster ReBuilders  
www.disaster-rebuilders.org





SWLA  
STRONG

Just Price

apricotstudio  
artists:  
Jeremy Price &  
Hannah Price

**Mural at L'auBerge Painted by  
Local Artists Jeremy & Hannah Price**