



BAYOU COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Heart of the Bayou



News from the Bayou Community Foundation Fall 2014

Giving Back. Growing Stronger. Together.

Thanks to you and your generous contributions to the Bayou Community Foundation, we have been able to distribute \$351,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations in Lafourche Parish, Terrebonne Parish and Grand Isle in 2013 and 2014. These grants support important work that these organizations are doing to strengthen education, preserve our coast, and meet other critical needs in our communities like mental health and substance abuse treatment, programs for at-risk youth, pre-school education, and care of our elderly. Your contributions are changing people's lives for the better and helping to build a community fund that will be there for all of us when the next natural disaster or crisis happens. **THANK YOU!**

Organizations receiving grants in 2013 and 2014 include:

- **South Central LA Human Services Authority** - Mental health mobile outreach clinic
- **START Corporation** - Family therapy program for at-risk youth
- **Options for Independence** - Tele-medicine child psychiatric program
- **Assisi Bridge House** - Drug testing supplies and automated external defibrillator
- **Terrebonne Foundation for Academic Excellence** - Dolly Parton Imagination Library books for pre-school students
- **Gulf Coast Social Services** - Mentoring program for at-risk youth
- **NSU Foundation** - Construction of a road leading to the farm where plants for coastal restoration are grown; renovations to the Mary M. Danos Theater
- **Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program** - Purchase of a boat for marsh restoration plantings
- **The Nature Conservancy** - Grand Isle conservation, education, and community outreach programs
- **Fletcher Tech-Comm College Foundation** - Early Start dual-enrollment program for high school students
- **South Central Industrial Association** - Work It! high school workforce development program for industrial career paths
- **Hope Extreme** - After-school tutoring and summer reading programs for at-risk youth
- **Lafourche Parish Schools** - Purchase of welding and automotive training equipment for Central Lafourche High School
- **St. Vincent de Paul Tri-Parish Pharmacy** - Distribution of free medication to the poor and elderly
- **South Louisiana Wetlands Discovery Center** - Youth coastal education programs and World Wetlands Day activities
- **Terrebonne Council on Aging** - Purchase of space heaters for needy elderly
- **Terrebonne ARC** - Creative employment opportunities program
- **Lafourche ARC** - Vocational services/supported employment program
- **Restore or Retreat** - Coastal restoration awareness and advocacy

**Your Gifts to BCF Helped Us
Invest Over \$350,000 in Our Community,
Supporting 19 Different NonProfits.
*You are the Heart of the Bayou!***

Grant dollars helped the Terrebonne Foundation for Academic Excellence provide free books each month to 2,500 preschoolers in that parish through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.





**Bayou Community
Foundation
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James J. Buquet, III

Grand Isle to Houma to Thibodaux, there is something so special about our community and the people who live here. The support that the Bayou Community Foundation has received from neighbors like you over the past two years is just one example of the tremendous love and concern we all have for this unique and wonderful place we call home.

It was this passion for our coastal communities that drove the creation of the Bayou Community Foundation in 2012. After watching other metropolitan areas like New Orleans and Baton Rouge receive millions in aid from national and international donors following Hurricane Katrina and then the 2010 Gulf oil spill, a few local residents got together to make sure that Lafourche, Terrebonne and Grand Isle specifically did not get passed over again when a natural disaster or crisis impacts our area. It was time to put the Bayou Region on the philanthropic map, so to speak!

What we lacked during these past disasters was a “bucket” to accept these worldwide donations. This “bucket” most often comes in the form of a community foundation, which most large private, family and corpo-

Chairman’s Message

The Heart of the Bayou

rate foundations around the world require before making a large contribution. So, in 2012, with the critical assistance of the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the Bayou Community Foundation was created with contributions by local residents and a \$500,000-over-five-years challenge grant from the Gheens Foundation.

Since that time, your support has helped to “fill our bucket,” and has allowed BCF to award over \$350,000 in grants to local non-profits for programs such as mental health treatment for young people, prescriptions for the poor, books for pre-school children, and heaters for the elderly, among others.

With your continued help, the BCF bucket will continue to grow and be ready to offer immediate help and attract significant donations from outside of our area the next time tragedy strikes our Bayou Region. Thank you for putting your heart in the Bayou!



Your contributions supported a grant to buy welding equipment to train future welders at Central Lafourche High School.

About Bayou Community Foundation

Established in 2012, the Bayou Community Foundation (BCF) is a donor-advised fund of the Greater New Orleans Foundation, focused on strengthening our local capacity to create a compassionate and sustainable coastal community for generations to come. We achieve this vision through strategic investments in educational success for children and adults; protection and preservation of our coast; and human services. The BCF service area is Terrebonne Parish, Lafourche Parish, and Grand Isle.

BCF is committed to:

- Supporting community-based leadership to improve the quality of life in the Bayou region
- Leveraging partnerships and investments from outside of the region
- Building a permanent fund as a means for philanthropists to invest in our community

Contributions qualify for the maximum deductions allowed for charitable donations.





A grant to South LA Wetlands Discovery Center helps students learn about the value of wetlands and the need for restoring our coast.

Hope Extreme received a grant to support after-school mentoring and tutoring programs serving 150 at-risk students in East Houma.



“Grants can be leveraged to attract more funds and maximize the impact of your initial donation.

In the case of BCF’s grant for our tele-medicine youth psychiatric program, we have been able to earn \$6 in additional funding for every \$1 received. This really demonstrates the power of our community foundation at work!”

- Barry Chauvin, CEO, Options for Independence



SCIA’s Work It! program helps to address workforce development needs by promoting industrial career tracks to local high school students.

Your Contributions Target Our Community’s Greatest Needs

At Bayou Community Foundation, we want our donors to know that your investment is being used to target the highest needs of our community. That’s why we conducted a first-ever **“Bayou Region Community Needs Assessment”** in January 2013 to hear from civic leaders in Lafourche, Terrebonne, and Grand Isle about what they considered to be the most pressing, unmet needs in our area.

Across the board, **mental health and substance abuse treatment** was identified as our region’s most critical need—impacting students and our school system, health care, the legal system, and our workforce. Also noted were needs for quality early childhood programs, workforce development programs at the junior high and high school levels, services for at-risk youth, rural access to health care, food and transportation programs for the elderly, and coastal restoration projects and education programs. BCF continues to use this assessment to guide our competitive grant-making programs, putting your donations to work overcoming our community’s greatest challenges! BCF’s Community Needs Assessment is available online at www.BayouCF.org.



Helping Our NonProfits Grow

Our local nonprofits provide valuable services to residents and our community at large. **Your donations help us help them succeed!** On October 23, BCF partnered with the Greater New Orleans Foundation to host a free “Fundraising with Individuals” workshop for 35 local nonprofit leaders. More workshops like this are planned for 2015.



Through your contributions, BCF grants in 2013 and 2014 support a SCLHSA mobile outreach program, providing mental health services to 1,086 patients in Lafourche and Terrebonne who are unable to travel to a doctor's office for appointments.

Every Dollar Counts!

All contributions to Bayou Community Foundation are leveraged to attract additional philanthropic investments into our community from outside of the Bayou Region. Each dollar you invest helps us meet a \$1 Million challenge from the Gheens Foundation and deliver even more money to address the greatest needs of our community.



Giving Back. Growing Stronger. Together.

The Bayou Community Foundation is the ONLY community foundation specifically serving Lafourche Parish, Terrebonne Parish, and Grand Isle. BCF provides grants to local nonprofits working to achieve educational success for children and adults, implementing human services initiatives, and promoting coastal preservation in our Bayou Region. Your contributions directly fund these grants and support non-profit organizations addressing the most critical needs in our area.

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I wish to make an enclosed gift of (please circle):

\$10,000 \$5,000 \$1,000 \$500 \$100 Other \$ _____

☐ I give you permission to list me as a donor to Bayou Community Foundation on printed and online materials.

**Please include any specific donation instructions and return to:
Bayou Community Foundation • P.O. Box 582 • Houma, LA 70361**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The Bayou Community Foundation is a donor-advised fund of the Greater New Orleans Foundation with 501c3 status. Your contributions qualify for the maximum deductions allowed for charitable donations.