



## BAYOU RECOVERY FUND

# IMPACT REPORT





Hurricane Ida Relief August 29, 2021-August 29, 2024

www.BayouCF.org

### **TOGETHER, WE HAVE REBUILT HOMES, LIVES AND OUR COMMUNITY!**

Since Hurricane Ida made landfall here three years ago, Bayou Community Foundation has worked swiftly and strategically to help local residents and nonprofits recover from the Category 4 storm's devastation and to rebuild lives and our communities. Our Bayou Recovery Fund has truly served as the philanthropic engine in Lafourche, Terrebonne and Grand Isle, with \$12 million in charitable gifts invested or committed to date to fund critical relief and recovery services and welcome our people back home.

Thanks to the immense generosity of compassionate donors like you here and throughout the country, our growing community foundation boldly expanded its operations and capacity, created hugely impactful funding and volunteer partnerships, and designed and implemented an innovative housing recovery program to fill the unique needs of some of our most vulnerable residents in this precious but often overlooked coastal Louisiana bayou region.

Beginning with the 26,000 gallons of gasoline we distributed just days after the storm; followed by grants awarded to local nonprofits providing food, supplies and campers to displaced residents; and ultimately through our unprecedented housing recovery programs in Terrebonne, Lafourche and Grand Isle, Bayou Community Foundation's Bayou Recovery Fund has made a transformational impact on Hurricane Ida survivors throughout our community. This work has most importantly elevated the lives of so many neighbors in need. Our housing recovery efforts in Dulac, Grand Isle and South Lafourche alone have provided over 500 new homes and home repairs to under-resourced and under-served households who survived Ida but were left homeless in her wake, families who had lost all hope for any help.

With heavy hearts, we know that hundreds of households still need help and our region's recovery continues, but hearts, hands and hammers have grown lots of good since August 29, 2021. And our work continues with your help.

On behalf of each and every local resident who has been helped in some way by Bayou Recovery Fund grants or our housing recovery programs, thank you for partnering with us and for sharing your gifts with Bayou Community Foundation to rebuild lives and our precious coastal community!

The Armand

Jennifer Armand Executive Director





#### www.BayouCF.org

## **BAYOU RECOVERY FUND FOR HURRICANE IDA RELIEF FINANCIAL REPORT**

#### GIFTS AND GRANTS RECEIVED: \$12,874,503 (August 2021 – December 2023):

#### **Grants and Recovery Program Expenditures:**

Gasoline Distribution: \$127,552 (Sept. 2021)

Nonprofit Grants Awarded to Fund Relief and Recovery Services: \$4,318,066 (August 2021 – December 2023)

Housing Recovery Programs funded: \$ 3,894,961 (January 2022-December 2023)

Housing Recovery Programs funded or committed\*: \$3,844,110 (January – August 2024)

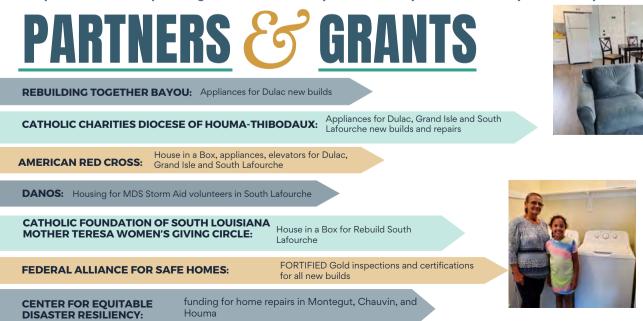
TOTAL Grants and Recovery Programs funded/committed to date\*: \$12,184,689

\*additional expenditures anticipated for Rebuild South Lafourche/Rebuild Grand Isle in 2024

#### **BAYOU RECOVERY FUND DONORS \$100,000+**

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Mary and Al Danos Family Foundation The Ray & Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust Shell Exploration and Production Company Chevron Products Company The Gheens Foundation Blue Cross and Blue Shield of LA Foundation Greater New Orleans Foundation Dick J. Guidry Fund at GNOF Baton Rouge Area Foundation Wal-Mart Foundation Conrad N. Hilton Foundation American Red Cross Center for Disaster Philanthropy Arlen B. Cenac, Jr. bp Amoco Community Foundation of Acadiana United Health Foundation Saints and Pelicans Gulf Coast Renewal Fund Centene Charitable Foundation The Joe W. and Dorothy Dorsett Brown Foundation Boeing Hancock Whitney Bank/Leo W. Seal Jr. Charitable Trust Lafont Descendants Trust Silicon Valley Community Foundation / Emerson Collective, LLC The Frost Foundation The Humana Foundation United Way of Southeast Louisiana

We are grateful to each and every individual, family, corporation and foundation who generously contributed your compassionate and impactful gifts of all sizes to Bayou Community Foundation's Bayou Recovery Fund for Hurricane Ida Relief!







## BAYOU COMMUNITY FOUNDATION RESPONDED QUICKLY TO FUND CRITICAL NONPROFIT RELIEF SERVICES

As Category 4 Hurricane Ida approached our coast, Bayou Community Foundation (BCF) opened its **Bayou Recovery Fund for Hurricane Ida Relief** and, within hours of her landfall when the extent of the devastation emerged, the Foundation was accepting generous donations from around the country. Within one week, with power still out through most of our region, BCF launched a massive gasoline distribution program in Golden Meadow, Grand Caillou and Montegut to help the most impacted residents fuel generators and automobiles; many had only their cars for shelter for weeks.

With our knowledge and experience of local nonprofits, BCF began funding disaster relief grants to local organizations who had boots on the ground, distributing food, water and emergency supplies. Later, we would also fund grants for campers and other temporary housing for those left homeless, roof repairs and demolitions, classroom supplies and classroom equipment to help students and teachers return to school, and repairs and equipment for nonprofits that suffered significant storm damage to ensure they could resume their critical work. Today, BCF continues to fund nonprofit programs that serve ongoing hurricane recovery needs such as food insecurity, homelessness and behavioral health with through our Annual Nonprofit Grants Program.

Thanks to the tremendous contributions of donors, BCF has awarded a total of **132 grants** to **local nonprofits for critical relief and recovery services like these totaling \$4,318,066** from the **Bayou Recovery Fund** since August 29, 2021.



"It was deeply important for our family to contribute to rebuilding the community that shaped us. The people of Lafourche and Terrebonne are among the kindest, most hardworking, and loving in the world, and we are honored to have played a part in supporting them. Witnessing the dedication and commitment of the Bayou Community Foundation in restoring and bringing people back home has truly been a blessing."

-Bayou Recovery Fund donor René Danos David, Mary and Al Danos Family Foundation

## HEARTS, HANDS AND HAMMERS HOUSING RECOVERY PROGRAMS BRING PEOPLE HOME

Building houses may not be common work for a community foundation, but Bayou Community Foundation values its ability to respond, pivot and act boldy to address the needs of our community. BCF leaders recognized the tremendous need for housing weeks after the storm as we saw hundreds of families living in tents, in cars and in severely damaged buildings with nowhere to turn. Our Recovery Needs Assessment also identified housing as the most urgent need. Blessed with donors, partners and amazing volunteers from across the country, BCF simply did what needed to be done. We embraced the tremendous opportunities and resources available to us to repair and build storm-tough homes for residents of limited means, successfully launching and managing **Rebuild Dulac, Rebuild South Lafourche and Rebuild Grand Isle** and rebuilding lives one home at a time through the power of volunteers and philanthropy. Our people deserved nothing less!



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

**New Homes &** 

**Repairs Completed** 

Our local volunteers are the hearts of our housing recovery programs. These selfless and compassionate women and men have assisted applicants through the process, coordinated supplies, managed building teams, and so much more, simply out of love for their neighbors in need.











#### 2023 VOLUNTEER GROUP CHAMPION OF SERVICE AWARD

Contributed.

Valued at more than \$3 million



Volunteer Louisiana recognized the work of Bayou Community Foundation's rebuilding volunteers with its 2023 Volunteer Group Champion of Service Award.

## **PROGRAM PARTNERS**





This is where our rebuilding began.

Volunteer Building Partners: MDS Storm Aid, Good Servants of Holy Family Catholic Church

In the fall of 2021, Bayou Community Foundation provided a grant to Good Servants, a volunteer group at **Holy Family Catholic Church in Dulac**, for building supplies and other materials to repair homes for Hurricane Ida survivors in this hugely impacted Terrebonne Parish bayou community. Their work provided safe shelter to many vulnerable residents who were otherwise living in homes severely damaged by Hurricane Ida, or in cars or tents.

Representatives of volunteer disaster rebuilding group **Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) Storm Aid** from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, arrived in Dulac as well to offer their assistance. With the incredibly valuable partnership of Holy Family Catholic Church and other nonprofit partners, funding from generous Bayou Recovery Fund donors, and the assistance of a cadre of devoted local program volunteers, BCF launched the impactful **Rebuild Dulac** Hurricane Ida Housing Recovery Program in January 2022.

Over two building seasons through June 2023, BCF funded \$2.25 million in construction materials used by MDS Storm Aid volunteers and Good Servants to **build 24 new, FORTIFIED Gold storm-resilient homes and complete 347 repairs and demos** for hurricane survivors of limited means in the Dulac area. BCF volunteers and staff also managed the program's application process and facilitated the permitting and construction efforts.

Rebuild Dulac set the bar for BCF's efficient and effective housing recovery programs fueled simply by philanthropy and volunteers, and forged a tremendous partnership between BCF and MDS that would take us beyond Dulac to Grand Isle and South Lafourche.

| FUNDING CHAMPIONS                                  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| The Ray & Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust            | Walmart Foundation                    |
| Greater New Orleans Foundation                     | Conrad N. Hilton Foundation           |
| Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation | Arlen B. Cenac, Jr.                   |
| Baton Rouge Area Foundation                        | Capital One                           |
| The Center for Disaster Philanthropy               | All donors to the Bayou Recovery Fund |
|  |                                       |

"Volunteering with the housing program and seeing so many other people with needs greater than my own have made me realize what God wants me to do. He wants me to help others. Bayou Community Foundation and Storm Aid did all of their work so graciously and generously. They have truly been beautiful, wonderful blessings for all of us and we won't ever forget what they've done for us."

- Kathy Verdin, Rebuild Dulac volunteer and Hurricane Ida survivor whose home was repaired by the program



"I walk through this new house and can't believe that it's mine!" – Elaine Soley, Hurricane Ida Survivor and owner of a new BCF tiny home in Galliano built through BCF's Rebuild South Lafourche housing recovery program. Elaine is a South Lafourche native whose camper she called home was destroyed in the storm.



In January 2023, Bayou Community Foundation partnered with Pennsylvania disaster rebuilding nonprofit **Community Aid Relief Effort (CARE)** and local **Bless Your Heart Nonprofit** to fund building materials for home repairs and new builds that the CARE Amish and Mennonite volunteers would complete for underresourced storm survivors in southern Lafourche Parish and in Grand Isle.

Then, on the heels of two completed seasons working with BCF on the successful **Rebuild Dulac** program, **MDS Storm Aid** moved with us to Larose in October 2023 to expand our **Rebuild South Lafourche** housing recovery program in the communities of Larose, Cut Off, Galliano and Golden Meadow, and on Grand Isle. Program partner **Danos** provided a bunkhouse to house Storm Aid volunteers, and CARE volunteers made their home away from home at a base camp on the aptly-titled Miracle Road in Galliano.

Through two building seasons concluding in September 2024, BCF's **Rebuild South Lafourche** program completed **93 home repairs and built 15 FORTIFIED Gold homes** for asset-limited Hurricane Ida survivors in this under-served community, including the first two new homes ever built by CARE.

In addition, BCF launched a new innovative, cost-effective housing solution with **Rebuild South Lafourche**- the tiny house. Through **Rebuild South Lafourche**, BCF managed the **construction of six "Amish Cottage" tiny houses** for single senior citizens who lost their homes in the storm and had no other means to rebuild on their own, allowing us to help even more residents in need.

#### **FUNDING CHAMPIONS**

Catholic Charities Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux The Ray & Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust Shell Exploration & Production Company Mary & Al Danos Family Foundation Dick J. Guidry Fund at GNOF

Callais Family Fund Capital One Chevron Products Company All donors to the Bayou Recovery Fund









**B** FORTIFIED Gold Homes Built

**5** Repairs Completed

Volunteer Building Partners: Nomads Mission Volunteers, MDS RV Group, CARE, MDS Storm Aid, Hands of Hope Omaha, Praying Pelicans





 "Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux (CCHT) is proud to partner with BCF for the Rebuild Grand Isle project, as well as their rebuild initiatives in South Lafourche and Dulac. Having the opportunity to collaborate with a first-class organization like BCF in solving challenges in these communities we call home is significant to our CCHT team."
- CCHT Executive Director Dr. Benjamin Duet, Program Partner

Hurricane Ida came ashore on Grand Isle, Louisiana's only inhabited barrier island, on August 29, 2021, with 200 mph winds battering the island for over three hours. Fifty percent of homes and buildings on the island were damaged or destroyed, with an impact of over \$200 million. It was the island's people who suffered the most, including hundreds of lifelong residents and families with limited means, many of whom worked in roles essential to the island's sustainability, or who were elderly or disabled.

In partnership with **Our Lady of the Isle Catholic Church**, Bayou Community Foundation launched its **Rebuild Grand Isle** housing recovery program to rebuild homes, lives and this island community in October 2022. Disaster rebuilding volunteers from **Nomads Mission Volunteers, Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) RV Group, CARE, Hands of Hope Omaha and Praying Pelicans** worked with us to repair 20 homes that first season. Through the generous support of our donors, BCF provided nearly \$1 million to fund building materials for these repairs as well as three new homes built for residents who had lost all they had in the storm.

Our second season of **Rebuild Grand Isle** resumed in October 2023 with the addition of MDS Storm Aid volunteers working with us on the island and another \$1 million funded by BCF for building materials. By July 2024, our impactful Hurricane Ida housing recovery program here completed **45 repairs and demos and built 8 new FORTIFIED Gold homes, bringing over 50 households back home to Grand Isle.** 

#### **FUNDING CHAMPIONS**

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Creating a vibrant and diverse coastal community where ALL can thrive! www.BayouCF.org

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