

RESILIENCE, COMMITMENT, PROGRESS:

ADVANCING

Louisiana's Future

2024
Annual Report



VOLUNTEER
LOUISIANA

WWW.VOLUNTEERLOUISIANA.GOV



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
BILLY NUNGESSER



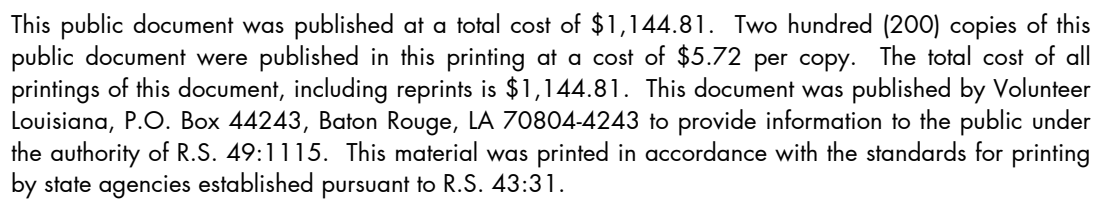

RESILIENCE



COMMITMENT



PROGRESS



This public document was published at a total cost of \$1,144.81. Two hundred (200) copies of this public document were published in this printing at a cost of \$5.72 per copy. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is \$1,144.81. This document was published by Volunteer Louisiana, P.O. Box 44243, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4243 to provide information to the public under the authority of R.S. 49:1115. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 01 Welcome
- 02 Volunteer Louisiana Overview
- 03 Message from Leadership
- 04 National Service in Louisiana
- 05 AmeriCorps Louisiana
- 09 The Power of Resilience: Impact Spotlight
- 10 The Power of Resilience: Shining a Spotlight on Service
- 11 Volunteerism
- 12 The Power of Commitment: 2024 Champions of Service
- 16 Million Meals for MLK
- 17 Disaster Services
- 18 Community Emergency Response Teams
- 19 The Power of Progress: Training & Special Exercises
- 20 The Power of Progress: Presentations and Partnerships
- 21 Community Leadership: Shining a Spotlight on Service
- 22 America's Service Commissions
- 23 Volunteer Louisiana Commissioners
- 24 Volunteer Louisiana Commission Staff

Welcome

It is with great pride that I present to you Volunteer Louisiana's 2024 Annual Report. This year, we are guided by the theme "Resilience, Commitment, Progress: Advancing Louisiana's Future," which reflects the core values that have shaped our work over the past year and continue to drive us forward.

Resilience is the ability to face challenges head-on, adapt, and grow stronger. In 2024, we saw firsthand how communities across our state embraced this resilience in the wake of disasters, social challenges, and economic hurdles. Whether through natural disaster recovery efforts, ongoing food insecurity support, or education programs, our volunteers and partners demonstrated an unwavering commitment to service.

Commitment is what truly powers the work we do. Our volunteers, national service members, and community partners consistently show up, dedicating their time, talents, and passion to make a difference. Their dedication not only strengthens the fabric of our communities but also sets the foundation for lasting change.

Progress is defined by a measurable outcome. This year, Volunteer Louisiana made significant strides in expanding our reach, deepening our partnerships, and increasing our impact. Together, we've fostered initiatives that are advancing Louisiana's future in meaningful ways, from growing our volunteer networks to strengthening communities in the face of challenges.

This report is a reflection of what can be achieved when we come together with purpose and vision. I invite you to explore the stories, data, and highlights within these pages, each one a testament to the power of service and the incredible progress we've made together. Thank you for your continued support, dedication, and belief in the transformative power of volunteerism. Together, we are advancing Louisiana's future one act of service at a time.

With gratitude,



Judd Jeansonne
Executive Director



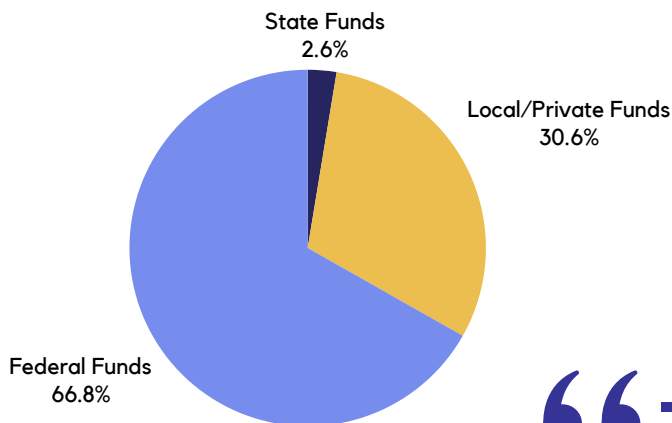
Overview

Volunteer Louisiana (VLA), the state service commission in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, was established in 1993 under the National and Community Service Trust Act.

Volunteer Louisiana's mission is to strengthen Louisiana's communities through volunteerism and national service by focusing on three main goals identified in the 2022-2025 State Service Plan:

Volunteer Louisiana and its programs are supported by grants from the AmeriCorps federal agency and matched with state and local contributions.

Sources of Funding



Other National Service in Louisiana

Federal Funds:

AmeriCorps National Grants/NCCC: \$2,005,718
 AmeriCorps VISTA: \$2,150,992
 AmeriCorps Seniors: \$5,549,887
 Segal Education Awards: \$4,163,812

Local/Private Funds:

AmeriCorps State Program Match: \$17,898,553
 (AmeriCorps National, VISTA, Senior Corps)



GOAL ONE:

Promote national service in Louisiana and develop a portfolio of innovative, high quality AmeriCorps State programs.



GOAL TWO:

Maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of volunteers in times of disaster.



GOAL THREE:

Build a culture of service and volunteerism in Louisiana.



State Funds:

State General Funds: \$208,745
 Lt. Governor Inter-Agency Transfer: \$123,775

Total State Funds: \$332,520

Local/Private Funds:

AmeriCorps State Program Match: \$3,522,565

Federal Funds:

AmeriCorps State Operating Grants: \$5,866,146
 Segal Education Award: \$2,426,848
 Commission Support Grant: \$295,000
 Commission Investment Fund: \$470,644
 Volunteer Generation Fund: \$244,253

Total Federal Funds: \$9,302,891



At Volunteer Louisiana, every dollar we receive is an investment in resilience, commitment, and progress—values that form the foundation of our mission and guide our efforts to advance Louisiana's future.

Through grants and state funding we maximized our impact, ensuring that resources were allocated efficiently and effectively to the communities that needed them most.

Breanna Jenkins
 Fiscal Officer
 Volunteer Louisiana

Message from Leadership



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Billy Nungesser

Louisiana's greatest strength is our people. Our *joie de vivre* is unrivaled, as is our commitment to service and volunteerism. Every day, in all 64 parishes, there are neighbors helping neighbors and people working tirelessly to improve their communities. Volunteer Louisiana helps create those pathways through AmeriCorps, volunteerism, and disaster services.

Thank you to all who served in 2024. Your dedication and passion keep Louisiana resilient and strong!

COMMISSION CHAIR

Kellie Duhan



Serving as Chair of the Volunteer Louisiana Commission this year has been an honor. Our theme, "Resilience, Commitment, Progress: Advancing Louisiana's Future," perfectly reflects what we've achieved and continue to strive for.

This year, we've witnessed remarkable resilience from our communities, volunteers, and partners as they navigated challenges with unwavering strength and dedication. Their commitment has inspired progress in ways that have a lasting impact on Louisiana's future. As a Commission, we remain committed to expanding service, fostering collaboration, and making a lasting impact.

Thank you for your support. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient Louisiana.






Part One: **RESILIENCE**



“

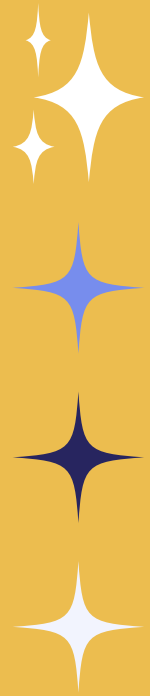
In 2024, AmeriCorps Louisiana programs and members showed their resilience amid the many ongoing, critical challenges for our state and local communities. We are grateful for their leadership and service. They truly get things done for Louisiana!

*Jacob Brumfield
Director of National Service
Volunteer Louisiana*



AmeriCorps members and volunteers are resilient and compassionate as they address some of the country's most challenging issues. I continue to be inspired and encouraged by the passion and dedication that AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Louisiana staff display daily.

*Stephanie Taylor-Stell
AmeriCorps Program Officer
Volunteer Louisiana*



National Service in Louisiana

Well before the creation of AmeriCorps in 1993, the United States federal government created National Service initiatives such as Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), the Foster Grandparent Program, the Senior Companion Program, and the National Civilian Conservation Corps (NCCC). These initiatives served vital roles to promote civic engagement and community development and to address critical needs across the country and in Louisiana. Their contributions to Louisiana continue today alongside newer programs such as AmeriCorps National, AmeriCorps Louisiana, and Public Health AmeriCorps.

AMERICORPS NATIONAL

180 members
12 service locations
10 projects

AMERICORPS NCCC

62 members
8 service locations
8 projects

AMERICORPS VISTA

147 members
41 service locations
18 projects

PUBLIC HEALTH AMERICORPS

14 members
4 service locations
3 projects



AMERICORPS SENIOR PROGRAMS

RSVP VOLUNTEERS

880 volunteers
85 service locations
6 projects

FOSTER GRANDPARENTS

463 volunteers
132 service locations
9 projects

SENIOR COMPANIONS

187 volunteers
10 service locations
4 projects



2,584

Members & Volunteers



427

Service Locations



\$4.16 Million

Education Awards



\$38.9 Million

Total Investments

AmeriCorps Louisiana

For the 2023–2024 program year, Volunteer Louisiana supported 14 AmeriCorps Louisiana programs with 591 AmeriCorps member positions covering 135 service locations across 39 parishes



1,554 number of individuals who applied to become an AmeriCorps member

2,450 volunteers recruited and managed

41,869 hours served by recruited or managed volunteers

15,353 K-12 students served

7,452 active duty military, veterans, & their families served



AmeriCorps Louisiana PROGRAMS



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF ACADIANA

Boys and Girls Club of Acadiana

AmeriCorps members provide programming and activities to improve academic engagement and social-emotional skills for youth. Members also address childhood obesity through education-based, health-related activities and mentoring during the school year and summer months.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF NORTH LOUISIANA

Boys and Girls Club of North Louisiana

AmeriCorps members improve educational and behavioral outcomes of students in low-achieving elementary and middle schools, during the school year and summer months. Members assist in preparation for success in post-secondary education institutions for economically disadvantaged students.



City Year Baton Rouge

AmeriCorps members provide support to students in Baton Rouge schools. Members help students improve their attendance, lead schoolwide events, provide after-school programming, and lead individual and small group tutoring sessions for students.



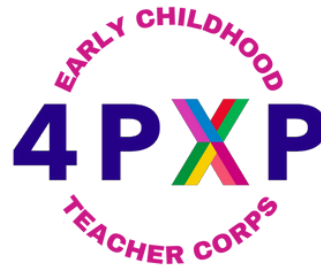
City Year New Orleans

AmeriCorps members partner with teachers in New Orleans schools to: add more instructional support, help create learning environments where all students can build on their strengths and fully engage in their learning, and get more students on track for graduation.



Food Bank of Central Louisiana

AmeriCorps members address food insecurity across nearly 30 communities in 11 Central Louisiana parishes through the Food Bank's Mobile Pantry Program. The team assists with food distribution, Food Bank participant intake, relationship management, and other service referrals for Louisianans needing support.



For Providers by Providers

AmeriCorps members serve in the Early Childhood Teacher Corps to enhance opportunities for youth from birth to 5 years of age. They implement activities to boost readiness, provide classroom support, and address the need for well-prepared early childhood teachers across New Orleans.



Louisiana Vet Corps

AmeriCorps members serve as peer mentors to veterans and military-affiliated students at colleges and universities across Louisiana. Members connect veterans to the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs veterans' assistance programs, training faculty, and LDVA staff and community members.



Rebuilding Together New Orleans

AmeriCorps members engage in home repair projects in the New Orleans area. These projects improve the quality of life for area homeowners, including building projects to allow mobility and independence such as wheelchair ramps or exterior weatherization repairs to lower utility costs.



Serve Louisiana

AmeriCorps members provide capacity building services to increase the efficiency, effectiveness and scope and reach of partner organizations that serve local children, families, and communities in the Baton Rouge and New Orleans areas.



ShreveCorps

AmeriCorps members improve area native biodiversity by cleaning and remediating unused lots in low-income zip codes of Caddo Parish. Members also assist with the Urban Farm Build a Farmer Program; build pocket parks, create native habitat refuges, and, improve public lands.

SEE West Monroe

AmeriCorps members provide after-school homework assistance and enrichment activities to students in grades 1-3 during the school year. Members also implement a summer youth program and host financial literacy programs for adults at the West Monroe Community Center.

Teach For America



LAFAYETTE AmeriCorps

Teach For America - Louisiana

AmeriCorps members serve for two years as full-time teachers who promote academic growth for students, engage as volunteer leaders within their schools and communities, and engage parents and community members as volunteers in low-income and under-resources schools.

University of Louisiana at Lafayette AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps members serve with several initiatives, including: building homes with Habitat for Humanity; providing academic support at two elementary schools in Lafayette; and engaging in community and university-based environmental stewardship projects to promote environmental sustainability.



Up2Us Sports

AmeriCorps members serve as coach-mentors and provide sports-based youth development mentoring for economically disadvantaged young people in New Orleans schools. Members' ultimate goal is to leverage physical fitness and social dexterity to better outcomes for participating youth and their communities.

THE POWER OF RESILIENCE:

Impact Spotlight

As AmeriCorps continued its 30th Anniversary celebrations into late summer, CEO Michael D. Smith, members of the AmeriCorps Board of Directors, and AmeriCorps agency staff visited southeast Louisiana. At the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana's (CRCL) Restoration Headquarters in Violet (St. Bernard Parish), the delegation learned about CRCL's Oyster Shell Recycling and Native Plants programs. The AmeriCorps delegation and Volunteer Louisiana are pictured above celebrating the members and programs' successes on an oyster shell drying bed at Restoration Headquarters.

AmeriCorps members serving with CRCL from the Louisiana Delta Service Corps' Serve Louisiana program hosted the delegation for a hands-on tour. Members shared insights about their AmeriCorps service contributing to the long-term resilience of the state's coastal communities and ecosystems.

The Volunteer Louisiana's Disaster Services team and the NOLA Ready team presented to the AmeriCorps delegation about Volunteer Louisiana's portfolio of Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) initiatives. These statewide efforts improve Louisiana communities' disaster preparation, train local residents how to engage with disaster recovery efforts, and improve communication and coordination among Louisiana's Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOADs).

THE POWER OF RESILIENCE:

Shining a Spotlight on Service



ANN-MARIE O. BOURGEOIS 2 TERMS

Returning for a second term meant that Anne-Marie and the team would embark on a new service mission. She shared, "The J.W. Faulk Viking Venture program exemplifies UL Lafayette AmeriCorps' resilience. With this new site as a focus, our members have embraced hardships, refined processes, and tackled every obstacle with determination and positivity this semester."



ASHE BURKE

2 TERMS

Following the AmeriCorps Board of Directors' July visit, Ashe noted "To be from St. Bernard Parish is to inherit resilience. Resilience is to remain at home within the coastal wetlands while witnessing them wash away - a football field every 100 minutes. The honor is mine to serve with an organization committed to restoring and protecting coastal wetlands like my home parish."



MELISA DORSEY

4 TERMS

Melisa is serving a fourth, full-year term as an AmeriCorps member at the Food Bank of Central Louisiana, a special place that inspires her. "It's the joy of seeing others being happy – just to see the smiles when people are being served. You're putting food on people's tables. And at the end of the day, you know you're doing something good."



MITCHELL GATEWOOD

4 TERMS

Mitchell has served with ShreveCorps since summer 2023. Through program changes, new leadership, and new team members, he has remained a bright spot for the team. Mitchell shared that he often faced challenges being a North Carolina transplant to Louisiana, but said, "ShreveCorps has helped me find new opportunities, new passions, and my tribe."



Part Two: **COMMITMENT**

“

Volunteer Louisiana partners with organizations to train and recognize thousands of volunteers across Louisiana. This year, we launched a new training course that teaches best practices in volunteer engagement. This training is a free resource to maximize the use of volunteer time and retain skilled volunteer talents. With over 300 Louisianans trained in the first year, we plan to expand the curriculum to serve broader audiences in the future. We are committed to using our agency resources to develop organizational capacity, build our state's volunteerism sector, and promote a service culture across Louisiana.

*Lori Pilley
Director of Volunteer & Disaster Services
Volunteer Louisiana*



Volunteerism

The Louisiana Volunteer Service Award honors individuals for their exceptional contributions to volunteerism. This free service helps organizations promote a culture of recognition for volunteers' contributions to the state of Louisiana. The award includes a certificate signed by Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser and is available to anyone serving in Louisiana. Many organizations use it to celebrate outstanding volunteers at special events or ceremonies, often pairing it with lapel pins for added recognition. To request awards or pins, email volunteerlouisiana@crt.la.gov.



1,096
issued in 2024

689
issued in 2023

59%
increase in program use



THE POWER OF COMMITMENT:

The annual Champions of Service Awards recognizes outstanding volunteers who go above and beyond through a competitive award process.



Award recipients are selected from seven geographic regions across the state, along with an outstanding AmeriCorps member and volunteer group.

This year's selection process for Champions of Service was highly competitive with Volunteer Louisiana receiving over 280 nominations from across the state.



Northwest
Champion *Jalynn Pickens*

Jalynn founded Jalynn's Locker to assist homeless youth in Caddo Parish with emergency clothing. Her leadership fills a critical gap, inspiring peers and showing how service transforms communities for the better.



Northeast
Champion *Evelyn Blakeney*

Evelyn leads Sew Happy Ladies, creating essential items for global and local causes. She fosters community among retirees, enriching lives through service, and building connections that inspire fellowship and purpose.



Central
Champion *Lilly Harvey*

After losing her daughter, Lilly founded Millie Mattered and expanded addiction advocacy to 16 cities. Hosting walks and memorials, she has spearheaded initiatives like "Millie's Law" to reduce overdose deaths, offering hope and recovery to many.



Capital Area
Champion *Landis Manchester*

A working father of four, Landis' tireless efforts embody community service and inclusion by supporting special needs athletes. As Ambassador for Ainsley's Angels, Landis has expanded inclusive events, recruiting 57 participants in 2023.



Southwest
Champion *Danny Duhan*

Danny volunteered more than 1,000 hours at Hospice of Acadiana in 2023, spreading joy to patients and families. From providing rosaries to uplifting staff, his boundless compassion makes him a cherished member of the team.



Southeast
Champion *Mark Michaud*

Mark leads Southeast Louisiana Underwater Search and Rescue's (SELAUSAR) and has conducted more 50 recoveries, including several high-profile cases. Despite challenges, his dedication to training and aiding families in crisis exemplifies the impact of selfless service.





New Orleans
Champion

Dr. Elyse Stevens

Dr. Stevens leads LSUHSC clinics providing free care to underserved communities. Her volunteerism and leadership have expanded care access, inspiring future healthcare providers and advancing equitable, compassionate healthcare.



AmeriCorps
Champion

Bridget Glassman

Bridget serves as Marketing Coordinator for Northshore Robotics, doubling class sizes and empowering youth. She also founded Market Munchkins, a nonprofit supporting over 50 young vendors, exemplifying her dedication to inclusion.



Volunteer Group
Champion

Dads & Kids

Dads & Kids is a community-focused organization led by Clarence Lazard, Quitin Doyle, Baron Richard, Caleb Aguillard, Gary Mitchell, Chad Lemelle, and Ryan LeDay Williams. Together, they have built a network of volunteers spanning four parishes. The group's core mission is to encourage men to show up for the kids in their community by making a positive impact in their local schools and neighborhoods.

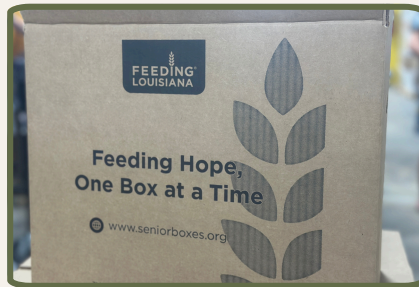


MILLION MEALS FOR MLK

SERVE • SHARE • SUPPORT

Volunteer Louisiana and the Office of the Lt. Governor, in collaboration with Feeding Louisiana, launched the Million Meals for MLK initiative. In celebration of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service, this statewide campaign addresses the critical issue of food insecurity in Louisiana by mobilizing volunteers and contributors to make a lasting impact.

The launch event, held at the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, brought together participants for hands-on activities, including meal-packing stations where volunteers worked side by side to pack nutritious meals for immediate distribution to families in need. Key corporate sponsors, such as Louisiana Blue, shared their support for the initiative, highlighting the importance of addressing hunger across the state. The campaign goal is to distribute one million meals to vulnerable populations throughout Louisiana in January 2025.





Part Three: **PROGRESS**

“
Volunteer Louisiana has been a progressive leader in fostering a culture of preparedness and connectivity across our state. I'm so proud to be part of this movement to build stronger, more resilient communities in Louisiana.

Amanda Smith
Disaster Services Specialist
Volunteer Louisiana

In 2024, the addition of a new CERT team at Fletcher Technical Community College and expanded partnerships within Terrebonne Parish are game changers for disaster preparedness in Louisiana. These creative partnerships enhance training and education and foster new opportunities to build resilience across the region.

Heather Mazeitis-Fontenot
Disaster Services Specialist
Volunteer Louisiana



Disaster Services



Volunteer Louisiana is charged in Louisiana's Emergency Operations Plan, Emergency Support Function (ESF-7), with the coordination of spontaneous unaffiliated volunteers. Volunteer Louisiana is the recipient of a competitive Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) grant from the AmeriCorps agency. This grant award is applied to increase volunteer capacity for Louisiana's disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts with an emphasis on Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trainings.

2024 Accomplishments

910

volunteers trained

34

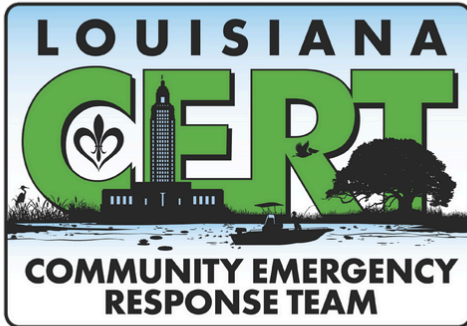
total days of training

8,079

total hours of training



Community Emergency Response Teams



CERT TEAMS

Ascension Parish
 Denham Springs/Livingston Parish
 East Baton Rouge Parish
 East Feliciana Parish
 Iberia Parish
 Louisiana Commission for the Deaf
 NOLA Ready Volunteer Corps
 University of Louisiana Monroe CERT
 Union Parish
 Union Parish Teen CERT
 West Feliciana Parish
 West Monroe CERT

Volunteer Louisiana and the West Feliciana Parish CERT team hosted a multi-parish Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) shelter training with the American Red Cross of Louisiana

The training took place in St. Francisville where approximately 50 attendees were trained representing more than 7 parishes.

Volunteer Louisiana manages Louisiana's Community Emergency Response Team program, which is designated by FEMA Region 6 in partnership with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP). The Louisiana CERT Program is designed to train and organize community volunteer members to 1) be a response asset during times of emergency or disaster; and 2) to be an extension of first responder services until professional responders arrive.



THE POWER OF PROGRESS: TRAININGS & SPECIAL EXERCISES



CAMPUS PARTNERSHIPS

Volunteer Louisiana partnered with campuses across the state to strengthen community resilience and preparedness. The University of Louisiana at Monroe's CERT team, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine in Monroe's rural medical integration, Grambling State University's HBCU leadership, and Fletcher Technical Community College in Schriever's "Fletcher Strong" resiliency hub are standout initiatives showcasing innovation and collaboration for a stronger Louisiana.



ANIMAL RESPONSE

Volunteer Louisiana and the Louisiana State Animal Response Team (LSART) partnered to enhance animal emergency preparedness through hands-on training. At LSU's Veterinary College, a responder boot camp equipped volunteers with essential skills in pet evacuation, large animal sheltering, and decontamination, ensuring readiness for disaster response. At the Louisiana National Guard Child and Youth Camps in Pineville, they trained 160 youth in pet emergency kits, sheltering in place, and evacuation planning. These efforts fostered a culture of preparedness and awareness among the next generation.

THE POWER OF PROGRESS: PRESENTATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS



PRESENTATIONS

Volunteer Louisiana showcased its expertise through key presentations this fall. At the Louisiana Emergency Management Conference, the Disaster & Volunteer Services Team hosted a panel featuring nonprofits, faith-based organizations, VOADs, and CERT experts, highlighting their roles in building resilient communities, and closed with a plenary on VCOM's impact on rural preparedness. At the FEMA Region 6 Higher Education Summit, the team presented on higher education's role as disaster response force multipliers, identified new Campus CERT trainers, and earned a place on the 2025 summit planning committee.



PARTNERSHIPS

This year, Volunteer Louisiana partnered with Niagara University and the Red Cross to train emergency managers and volunteers across Louisiana to assist individuals with disabilities during disasters. Volunteer Louisiana continues to also partner with the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf to conduct CERT trainings across Louisiana.

Volunteer Louisiana also supported a two-day MCI exercise in New Orleans with more than 200 participants, featuring a mass casualty bomb simulation with more than 100 volunteers, followed by after-action learning to improve response strategies for emergency managers and first responders.



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP:*Shining a Spotlight on Service***JIM ADDISON**

WEST MONROE
CERT TEAM VOLUNTEER

Jim Addison, a dedicated community volunteer and leader of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in West Monroe, exemplifies the core values of Volunteer Louisiana. His steadfast commitment to disaster preparedness and community resilience has positioned him as a cornerstone of volunteerism in Ouachita and Union Parishes, providing critical support in times of need.

Jim Addison's leadership within the CERT program has been transformative for West Monroe. A graduate of the University of Louisiana at Monroe's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Addison embodies the program's mission to empower older adults to make meaningful contributions to their communities. Under his guidance, trained CERT members collaborate with police, firefighters, and emergency responders to strengthen neighborhood preparedness and safety.

Beyond CERT, Addison's commitment to community service extends to his work with West Monroe's Community Police Programs. He mobilizes volunteers for initiatives like Coffee with a Cop, Youth Camps, Shop with a Cop, Are You Okay for Seniors, and the West Monroe Citizen's Police Academy. These programs build trust between the community and law enforcement while contributing thousands of volunteer hours annually.

Jim's dedication also shines through his involvement with the American Red Cross, where he trains for Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) operations. The ERV, a signature Red Cross asset, delivers food, emergency supplies, and medical care to disaster survivors. In Ouachita Parish, Jim and his CERT team assist families affected by house fires, providing comfort and support during their most challenging times.

America's Service Commissions

Volunteer Louisiana is an active member of the America's Service Commissions (ASC) network. Volunteer Louisiana staff attended the annual ASC Leadership Convening in Washington D.C. in February, the ASC National Service Training in Minneapolis in April, and hosted ASC colleagues in Baton Rouge for the Strengths Accelerator in December.

In 2024, Judd Jeanson began his third term as ASC Board Chair. In that capacity, he participated in a bicameral Congressional briefing on the work of state commissions coordinated by the National Service Caucus and briefed the new administration's transition team on state commission policy priorities. Volunteer Louisiana is proud to support ASC and elevate the work of state commissions.



VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA

Commissioners

Kellie Duhon, Chair
Crowley

Dr. Agnieszka Nance
New Orleans

Matthew LaBorde, Vice-Chair
Alexandria

Micah Nicholas
New Iberia

Dr. Suzanne Harris, Secretary
Gonzales

Paul Pratt
Shreveport

Karen Burks, Treasurer
St. Francisville

Africa Price
Shreveport

Stefanny Alecon
New Orleans

Patricia Prudhomme
Lake Charles

Dr. Heather Carpenter
Shreveport

DeRon L. Talley
Monroe

Brian Davis
Denham Springs

Travis Tharp
Denham Springs

Matthew Fairbrother
Baton Rouge

Tinicia Turner
Baton Rouge

Scott Green
Shreveport

Dr. Kyle Wedberg
New Orleans

Dr. Leigh Hersey
Monroe

Ex- Officio Members

Billy Nungesser
Lieutenant Governor

Jeffrey Wale
Governor Jeff Landry Designee

Katherine Krehbiel
Senior Portfolio Manager
South Central Region, AmeriCorps

VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA

Commission Staff



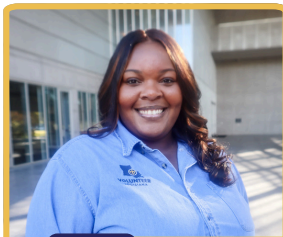
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JUDD JEANSONNE



DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

DARREN SMITH, JR.



FISCAL OFFICER

BREANNA JENKINS



DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL SERVICE

JACOB BRUMFIELD



AMERICORPS PROGRAM OFFICER

STEPHANIE TAYLOR-STELL



DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEER & DISASTER SERVICES

LORI PILLEY



DISASTER SERVICES SPECIALIST

AMANDA SMITH



DISASTER SERVICES SPECIALIST

HEATHER MAZEITIS-FONTENOT



“

This year's theme — Resilience, Commitment, Progress: Advancing Louisiana's Future — has shaped our vision, but it's just the beginning. With every challenge we overcome, every partnership we build, and every volunteer who steps forward, we are reminded that the strength of our communities comes from the dedication of those willing to serve. Let us carry forward the spirit of service and continue making progress, one act of kindness at a time.

DJ Smith
Communications Director
Volunteer Louisiana



WWW.VOLUNTEERLOUISIANA.GOV

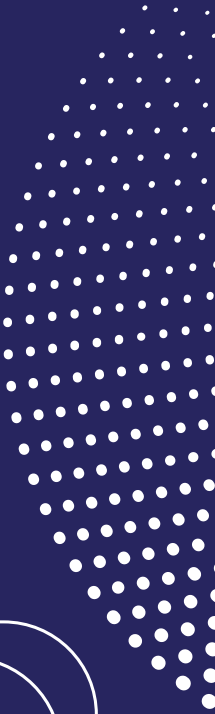
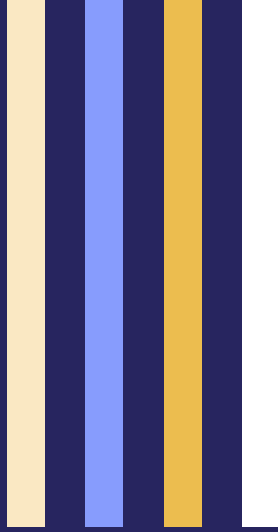


@VOLUNTEERLA



@VOLUNTEER_LA





**Volunteer Louisiana Mission:
Strengthening Louisiana communities
through volunteerism and national service**

