

25

YEARS



Louisiana  
FOUNDATION



# Dear friends of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation:

In 1992, our company incorporated the Louisiana Child Caring Foundation to pay the insurance premiums of thousands of children who lacked access to healthcare.

When the Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP) launched in 1999, we reconsidered our future and what we hoped to achieve for our state. Since then, the Foundation has invested in the total wellness and well-being of Louisiana and its children through partnerships in health, education and quality of life.

Since our inception 25 years ago, we have been privileged to work with thousands of partners across Louisiana to help achieve incredible results:

- Taught more than 230,000 children the essentials of safety and conflict resolution
- Advanced essential research on the impact of and remedies for childhood obesity
- Funded school-based healthcare for tens of thousands of children and families across Louisiana
- Taught nutrition to 422,000 children through the interactive SmartBodies program

- Invested more than \$30 million in Louisiana nonprofits working in health, education and quality of life
- Brought together communities across Louisiana to make a change in Louisiana's obesity rate through the Challenge for a Healthier Louisiana grant program

We've also honored more than 180 everyday Louisianians doing extraordinary good for the state's children through the Angel Award® program, granting more than \$2 million to their causes.

Many hands and many years of work have brought us to where we are now: Louisiana's educational outcomes are improving steadily, childhood obesity rates are declining for the first time in years and more Louisianians are enjoying a better quality of life.

Change takes time, and the results are often discreet in the moment. There is still more work to do – and as we take time to celebrate the last 25 years, we are planning for the next quarter-century and dreaming about our state's bright future.

Any nonprofit staffer knows Nelson Henderson's saying about planting trees under whose

shade we will never sit – and we're currently planting trees by investing in innovation, scaling up best-in-class projects and collective impact to address our state's most pressing issues.

On behalf of the staff and board of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation, thank you for your support over these last 25 years. We are the most current stewards of this organization, but if you are holding a copy of this book, you have made a lasting contribution to our work, and it has been our most profound privilege to be a part of yours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Michael Tipton'.

**Michael Tipton**

*President, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation*





Louisiana  
FOUNDATION



# PROGRAMS *and* INVESTMENTS



# The Louisiana Child Caring Foundation

The Louisiana Child Caring Foundation was incorporated in 1992, with a mission to provide health insurance for underserved Louisiana children. The program provided 4,000 children with access to lifesaving healthcare.

After the LaCHIP program began in 1999, the Child Caring Foundation re-tooled its mission to promote the wellness and well-being of children with signature programs: The Caring Program for Children and the Angel Award®.

## The Caring Program for Children

In collaboration with the Louisiana Attorney General's Office, the Foundation:

- Conducted statewide training on conflict resolution and emotional health for Louisiana's children, reaching more than 1,800 educators
- Taught safety, anti-bullying and conflict resolution to more than 230,000 children
- Distributed award-winning materials around the state

## The Angel Award

Now in its 23rd year, the Angel Award has recognized more than 180 people working to improve the lives of Louisiana's children in healthcare, education and the arts. The Foundation has granted more than \$2 million to Angel charities.







## Impact Grants

Beginning in 2005, the Foundation shifted focus to grant awards that improved the overall wellness and well-being of Louisiana's children with a focus on childhood obesity.

To date, the Foundation has made significant contributions to nonprofits working in education, healthcare and research, with large grants focused on providing access to care through wellness centers and school-based health clinics. Alongside partners such as Children's Hospital School Kids Immunization Program, Health Centers in Schools' Healthy Student Partnership Initiative and the Second Harvest Food Bank Head Start Nutrition Program, the Foundation has provided health and wellness services to tens of thousands of children across Louisiana.

Over the years, the Foundation also staked a claim in ground-breaking research related to health and obesity with partners like the LSU AgCenter, Pennington Biomedical Research Center and the Department of Health and Hospitals:

- Diagnosing and treating hypertension in school-based settings
- BMI Screening and Correlation to Chronic Disease
- Louisiana's Report Card on Physical Activity and Health for Children

In total, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation invested \$11 million in public health, wellness and other impact grants across the state from 2005-2012.

# SmartBodies

In 2005, the Foundation partnered with the LSU AgCenter to create SmartBodies, a comprehensive, interactive health education program for Louisiana's students.

SmartBodies began with the Body Walk, a walk-through model in which students learned about the human body's inner workings and how they are influenced by nutrition. Beloved by teachers and students alike, the Body Walk toured 1,064 schools over 10 years – or two schools each week.

Students also met the OrganWise guys, puppets who delivered entertaining messages on eating right and exercising – supplemented by Take 10!, a Louisiana initiative to get kids involved in active play 10 minutes at a time.

In total, 422,417 children participated in SmartBodies, along with 28,349 volunteers and educators, with measured increase in nutrition knowledge, physical activity knowledge, self-efficacy and physical activity levels.



During its tenure, SmartBodies was also honored with many national awards including the United States Department of Agriculture's National Program of Distinction award, the Department of Education's School Health Award, the Society of Nutrition's Education Best Practices award and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Southern Region Extension Excellence Award.









# Disaster Relief

When disaster hits, Louisianians stick together – and the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation is a committed partner to the communities we serve, in good times and bad.

In addition to ongoing commitments to disaster response agencies like the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities and others, the Blue Cross Foundation, as well as the Blue Cross corporation, have committed millions of dollars to helping communities recover.





### **Katrina/Rita**

In the days after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Foundation committed \$500,000 to immediate hurricane relief through the American Red Cross. We worked hand in hand with corporate partners to keep healthcare providers functioning through Blue Cross' reserve funds. Since then, we have invested more than \$4.6 million in grants to south Louisiana nonprofits working in health, education and recovery.

### **Coastal Care Fairs**

In the weeks after the BP oil spill, communities expressed a clear need for healthcare agencies to provide on-the-ground resources to families hit hard by the spill's effects. We partnered with Radio Disney to mobilize providers in our network and safety net agencies to meet those needs at Coastal Care Fairs. Our partners provided meals, physical and mental health screenings and case worker support for hundreds of Louisiana families who suffered economically.

### **2016 Flooding**

Like many, our employees were profoundly affected by flooding in north and south Louisiana. Funds from the Foundation routed through the Baton Rouge Area Foundation's Employees 1st Fund helped get our Blue Cross family members back on their feet as soon as possible, and ongoing investments have helped our friends and neighbors rebuild.



# Louisiana 2 Step

Louisiana loves to party. But it's also one of the least healthy states in the nation. Research indicates that up to 70% of chronic disease is preventable with a healthier lifestyle – and with that in mind, we set out to create a program that spoke to Louisiana's unique and vibrant culture with a healthy twist.

The Louisiana 2 Step asked folks to take two simple steps to better health: eat right and move more, and provided digital tools, recipes, and education. We built coalitions of restaurants to provide healthier menu options and helped start thousands of walking teams across Louisiana. At its peak, 8,066 Louisianians were using the tools at Louisiana2Step.com each month.



## 2 Step 4 Kids

To get kids eating right and moving more, we created the 2 Step 4 Kids program, which brought activity and play to hundreds of Louisiana schools, as well as nutrition-based coloring books and activity guides.

In total, more than 18,000 children participated in 2 Step 4 Kids activities, bringing healthy living to a new generation in Louisiana.





**Eat right. Move more.**



# Challenge for a Healthier Louisiana



In 2012, our Board of Directors issued a bold challenge to Louisiana's towns and cities: band together to build entire communities that support healthy living to make a measurable impact on obesity.

And so, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation invested \$10.2 million in 12 public-private partnerships as part of the Challenge for a Healthier Louisiana grant program.

Our partners – from the City of New Orleans (population: 1.1 million) to the Town of Tullos (population: 419) – forged alliances with 180 local agencies and raised an additional \$16.8 million in funding. The results speak for themselves:

- 577,464 pounds of produce distributed
- 107 community, school and home gardens built/improved
- 78 new or improved farmers markets
- 8 incentive programs to increase farmers market purchases
- 34 new or improved sidewalk, trail or crosswalk segments
- 25 miles of new walking/biking paths
- 49 parks, schools or other facilities with new or improved health-focused amenities







Our research partners at Pennington Biomedical Research Center tracked our progress every step of the way – and their reporting indicates public-philanthropic partnerships are the key to turning the tide on obesity. In our Challenge Grant communities, participants are now twice as likely to exercise regularly and 2.5 times as likely to eat more vegetables.

For too long, Louisiana has lingered at the bottom of poverty and obesity trend lines. Through Challenge for a Healthier Louisiana, our partners have laid the groundwork for improving the health of their friends, families and neighbors.

### **Fresh Beginnings**

Baton Rouge

### **Central Louisiana Local Foods Initiative**

Alexandria

### **Live Lively LaSalle!**

LaSalle Parish

### **Healthy, Green and Into the Outdoors**

Shreveport

### **Growing Local NOLA**

New Orleans

### **Capital Area Pathways Project and Mobile Playground**

Baton Rouge

### **Dare to Be Healthy**

Lake Charles

### **Great Resources Wherey'at (GRoW)**

New Orleans

### **FitNOLA**

New Orleans

### **West End Health and Wellness Project**

New Iberia

### **Ouachita Well**

Monroe

### **The Healthy Living Club**

Lafayette





# Angels of Change

In recognition of the 20th Anniversary of the Angel Award program, our Foundation asked 162 past honorees to submit proposals to grow the impact of their exceptional work through the Angels of Change grant program.

In total, we made 20 grant awards of \$50,000 each to past Angel honorees with the most compelling plans for transforming legacy work into new growth.

Lake Charles' St. Nicholas Center for Children received a \$50,000 grant to implement On the SPOT (Students, Parents Observation Training) – a complete video

monitoring system that expands on the center's ability to treat children with autism. Through video monitoring, treatment professionals can review sessions, coach each other and make real time adjustments to intervention plans of participating children.

At any given time, St. Nicholas serves 100 – 150 children and their families. Through On the SPOT, the center's capacity to make a real difference in the behavioral and emotional lives of children has grown exponentially.

A statewide agency, the Louisiana Partnership for Children and

Families received a \$50,000 grant to create the Louisiana Platform for Children advocacy campaign. The platform represents a coalition of youth services agencies that continues to educate candidates seeking statewide and legislative offices (including the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education) about children's issues.

The Platform uses education, advocacy and media activity to offer recommendations for investments in evidence-based practices to improve outcomes of children.





#### ANGELS OF CHANGE GRANTEES

- **A's & Aces**  
New Orleans
- **Big Buddy Program**  
Baton Rouge
- **BR Children's Advocacy Center**  
Baton Rouge
- **Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of NOLA**  
New Orleans
- **Children's Health Fund**  
New Orleans
- **Cultural Crossroads of Minden**  
Minden
- **Healing House**  
Lafayette
- **Hearts of Hope**  
Lafayette
- **Heritage Ranch**  
Baton Rouge
- **The Louisiana Partnership for Families and Children**  
Statewide
- **Louisiana Resource Center for Educators**  
Baton Rouge
- **McMains CDC**  
Baton Rouge
- **NOLA Women's Shelter**  
New Orleans
- **Northwest LA Foodbank**  
Shreveport
- **Our House**  
Baton Rouge
- **Pilots for Patients**  
Monroe
- **St. Nicholas Center for Children**  
Lake Charles
- **VAYLA**  
New Orleans
- **VIPS**  
Baton Rouge
- **VOA-BR**  
Baton Rouge



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*The* ANGEL AWARD

# 1995 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Bertha Lopez Hinojosa**

*Baton Rouge Parish School  
System Teacher / Baton Rouge*



**Norm Thompson**

*Rapides Parish Head Start  
Program / Alexandria*



**Jim Geiser**

*Big Buddy Program  
Baton Rouge*



**Richard C. Thomas**

*Visual Jazz Art Gallery  
New Orleans*



**Joseph Miller**

*South Lake Charles Little League*



**Marlene LeBoeuf**

*Lafayette*



**Eddie Robinson**

*Grambling State University*



**Particia Moore**

*HEER US / New Orleans*



**Stanley J. Schofield, Jr.**

*Westwego*



## **Nancy Roberts**

*Friends of the Environment/Louisiana Resource Center for Educators  
Baton Rouge*

In 1987, Nancy Roberts began Friends of the Environment with the idea of supporting environmental education in kindergarten through 12th grade.

By 1998 it had become apparent that there was a need to support Louisiana's teachers across the academic spectrum; the organization expanded and adopted its current name, Louisiana Resource Center for Educators. Roberts began the nonprofit in her playroom/garage and credits the recognition that the 1995 Angel Award brought for motivation to move the organization forward.

It's now about a 1.3 million dollar operation and Roberts is still executive director, although she announced her retirement in July 2017. LRCE maintains a resource library of more than 110,000 items available to students and educators in public, private, parochial, charter and home schools as well as meeting rooms for organizations and schools.

LCRE also offers an alternative teacher certification program, a summer enrichment camp and a workforce development program for high school sophomores.



# 1996 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Charles J. Aswell III**

*Ville Platte*



**G. Jeane Nichols**

*Caddo Parish School System  
Shreveport*



**Geri Christ Landry**

*Autism Society Southwest  
Louisiana / Lake Charles*



**Mo Leverett**

*Desire Street Ministries  
New Orleans*



**Linda Woodward**

*Positive Action and Positive  
Attitude / Slidell*



**Kay Eppinette**

*The Dixieland Patriots / Bastrop*



**Susan Murrell**

*Children's Program with the  
Battered Women's Program  
Baton Rouge*



## **Simone Hennessee**

*Providence House / Shreveport*

In the 25 years that she worked with Providence House in Shreveport, Simone Hennessee took the fledgling transitional shelter for homeless families from a staff of three serving 25 families with a \$100,000 budget to a 50-employee operation with the capacity to serve 90 families per day. Today the nonprofit's budget tops \$3 million.

The 1996 Angel Award funds, Hennessee said, enabled Providence House, which was struggling to raise funds, to grow and to be able to continue to offer quality programs that made a significant difference.

When families successfully complete the Providence House program, they “graduate” to a completely furnished apartment with the education that will result in employment that pays a living wage.

After accomplishing initiatives that significantly increased the nonprofit's funding as well as an endowment program securing its future, Hennessee retired from Providence House in 2016.

# 1997 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Jana M. Poche**

*Camp Care  
Baton Rouge*



**Robert Pumpelly**

*Lake Charles*



**Anthony DeRouen**

*Gateway Christian Academy  
St. Martinville*



**Elvin Kramer**

*CASA New Orleans  
Terrytown*



**Monica Ponoroff**

*New Orleans*



**Ron Anderson**

*The Lighthouse  
Minden*





## **Dr. Stewart Gordon**

*Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana / Baton Rouge*

Dr. Stewart Gordon was a pediatrician at LSU Medical Center/ Earl K. Long Medical Center in Baton Rouge when he won the Angel Award in 1997 for his work with Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana. For him, the value of the honor was twofold: the award itself focused more attention on the issue of child abuse prevention and the grant that came with it helped the organization to function.

Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana was founded in 1986 and is the only statewide nonprofit organization focused on child abuse prevention. Gordon no longer serves on the Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana board, but throughout the years, he has continued to work in general child advocacy areas, developing a program promoting early brain development at LSU/EKL and a childhood obesity program at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

Gordon was head of the American Academy of Pediatrics for a few years and also became involved with juvenile justice reform.

# 1998 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Sylvia Klumok Goodman**

*Sci Port: Louisiana Science Center  
Shreveport*



**Willie Mae Matthews Christie**

*Volunteer Initiative Serving  
Interest of Norwood (VISION)  
Baton Rouge*



**Reverend Nick Farone**

*New Beginnings / Bastrop*



**Billy Navarre**

*Lake Charles*



**Dolores Henderson**

*Morgan City*



**Alfred Young**

*Upward Community Services  
Covington*



**Tammy Schamerhorn**

*Leesville*



## **Sister Rosario O'Connell**

*Louis Children's Crisis Center / Houma*

When Sister Rosario O'Connell, a native of Limerick, Ireland, and member of the Sisters of the Holy Spirit, arrived in Houma in 1972, she found there was no place of refuge for children who needed to be taken out of their homes because of abuse or neglect. In 1997 she founded the Louis Infant Crisis Center. The following year, she won the Angel Award for her work there.

The grant came in handy when the organization realized siblings of the infants under their care needed help too and expanded to accommodate older children; it's now the Louis Children's Crisis Center, operating three homes with a capacity for 20 beds for children ages 2 to 14.

O'Connell passed away in January 2016 and Carolyn McNabb, an attorney who had done pro bono legal work for the children at the center as well as the nonprofit itself, took over the reins.

O'Connell, says McNabb, devoted all of her time to the Louis Center, designing a "simple but foolproof" program incorporating safety, nurturing, medical and psychological care, structure, support and life skills.



# 1999 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Joyce Price**

*Student Referral Alternative Center  
Shreveport*



**Thomas Alexander Pressly III**

*Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis  
Clinic at Shriner's Hospital  
Shreveport*



**Una Paul**

*Harrisonburg Elementary School  
Harrisonburg*



**Mary Crawford LeBlanc**

*Woodlawn High School  
Baton Rouge*



**John Wyseman**

*New Orleans*



**Maria Placer**

*Lafayette*



**Addie Bolton**

*Project Excellence / Winnsboro*



**James Morrison**

*Providence High School  
New Orleans*

# ANGEL AWARD WINNERS 2000



**Mary Moss**

*Sidewalks in Bloom  
New Iberia*



**Anita Gilford**

*Angel's Place / Kenner*



**Kirt Bennett**

*Young Leaders' Academy  
Baton Rouge*



**Sr Sharon Rambin**

*Renzi Education and  
Art Center / Bossier City*



**Carol Christopher**

*Our House, Inc. / Monroe*



**Al Andry**

*Special Children Are Privileged  
(SCAP) / Abita Springs*



**Wade Furniss**

*Pineville*



**Sarah Brabant**

*Lafayette*

For his work with the Young Leaders' Academy, a nonprofit created to nurture the development of leadership abilities of young African-American males, the late Kirt Bennett won the Angel Award in 2000.

Bennett drummed up financial support from the business sector and community support from schools, churches and families. He hired three educators and recruited 45 third grade boys from six inner city schools to start the first class of the YLA in June 1994.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Bennett graduated from high school in New Orleans and came to LSU on an athletic scholarship. An African-American Republican political activist and businessman, Bennett ran for office several times but never won an election. (Although he was elected president of LSU's Student Government Association.) However, the work he accomplished as first executive director of the Young Leaders' Academy arguably did more for the state of Louisiana, in particular the African-American community, than any he could have done as a state representative or lieutenant governor.

# 2001 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Mary "Betty" Braun**  
*Des Allemands*



**Bobbie Blanchard**  
*Donaldsonville*



**Nikki Armand Brignac**  
*Abita Springs*





**Gloria Millender**

*Shreveport*



**Arianne Ellerbe**

*Baton Rouge*



**Arthur Lathan**

*Gibbsland Youth Community  
Resource Center / Gibbsland*



**Dorothy "Dot" Brown**

*Monroe*

# 2002 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Barry Rills, M.D.**

*McMain's Children Developmental  
Center / Baton Rouge*



**Monica Johnson**

*HEROES / Columbia*



**Betty Coleman Clement**

*LaPlace*



**Robert "Bob" Moss**

*Louisiana Lions League  
Leesville*



**Molly Clark Hartrick**

*King's Camp / Bastrop*



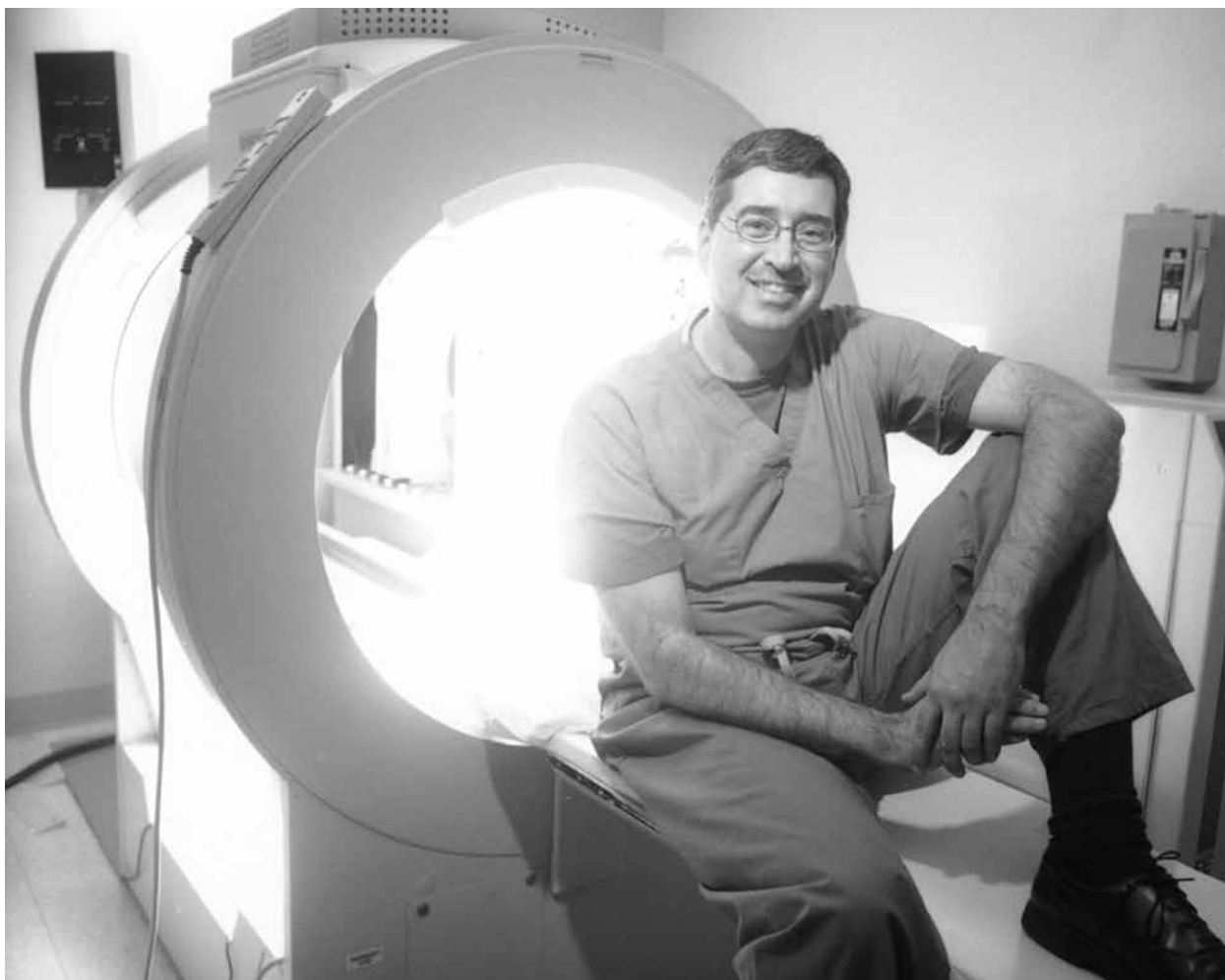
**Ginger Hunt**

*Clinton*



**Virginia Plessner Pearson**

*Baton Rouge Child Advocacy  
Center / Baton Rouge*



## **Dr. Phillip Rozeman**

*Alliance for Education / Shreveport*

In the years since Shreveport cardiologist Dr. Phillip Rozeman won the Angel Award for his work with the Alliance for Education, the organization's scope and mission evolved, keeping up with the latest advances in education reform and improvement in Louisiana.

The Alliance "took a big jump" with the Angel Award in 2002, according to Rozeman, as much for the concept that somebody recognized that the work was valid and useful as for the grant money itself. The Blue Cross Foundation, he says, put the Alliance for Education on the map, helping to raise funds and awareness.

Rozeman was the Alliance's first board president and has now come back full circle to serve on its board again. As part of the organization's current initiative to work smaller and deeper, the Alliance is teaming with two area nonprofits. Step Forward concentrates on early childhood education while their work with JumpStart focuses on the opposite end of the spectrum, getting children college and career ready.



# 2003 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Jesse Cavalier**

*Zachary*



**Frances and Charles Bennett**

*Dreams Come True, Inc.  
Baton Rouge*

For years, Frances and Charles Bennett were an unstoppable duo when it came to volunteering in Baton Rouge. It would be quicker to list area nonprofit organizations to whom they didn't devote their time and energy.

Charles Bennett passed away in December 2016, but Frances' solo volunteer act continues. She stays busy greeting visitors who alight from the riverboats docking at Baton Rouge every week, manning the Visit Baton Rouge information booth at the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport, and presiding over the Inter-Civic Council, where she represents Families Helping Families, one of her latest passions.

Nonprofits whose focus is children and families have been one of the mainstays of the Bennetts' volunteer repertoire and it was for their work with one of those - Dreams Come True of Louisiana, that they won the Angel Award in 2003. Dreams Come True fulfills the wishes of 50 to 60 children in Louisiana with life-threatening illnesses every year.



**Ben Johnson**

*Natchitoches*



**Pat Andrus**

*Healing House / Lafayette*



**Elaine Spivy**

*Bossier City*



**Tyrone Black**

*Boy Scouts / Baton Rouge*

# ANGEL AWARD WINNERS 2004



## **Mandi Sills Hart**

*Camp Quality Louisiana  
Minden*

2004 Angel Award winner Mandi Sills Hart isn't as active in the volunteer community as she used to be - having triplets will do that to you.

She does, however, coach t-ball, volunteer at her church and serve as vice president of the Minden Junior Service League, all while continuing her job as nurse manager of the labor and delivery unit in the local hospital. She also keeps up with the children (many now grown) who benefited from her Angel Award-winning work at Camp Quality, a year-round support program and a week-long summer camp for children with cancer.

Part of the Angel Award grant money went to fund lifetime memories for campers in the form of a prom, complete with tuxes, prom dresses, red carpet, photographer and fancy tables.

Work at Camp Quality had always been a family affair for Hart, who grew up watching her mother's participation in the philanthropy supported by her uncle, a successful entrepreneur.



## **Wayne Gaupp**

*Luling*



## **Sue Cheveallier**

*New Heights Therapy  
Center / Folsom*



## **Sue Bernie**

*Children's Advocacy  
Center / Baton Rouge*



## **Albert Edward Hindrichs**

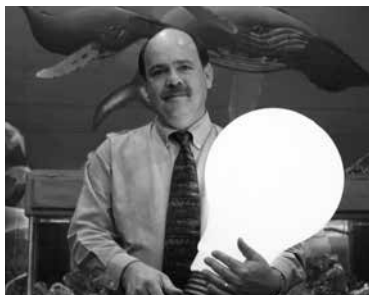
*Baton Rouge*

# 2005 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Dorothy R. Thibodeaux**

*Grandparents Raising  
Grandchildren / Zachary*



**Glenn Beer**

*SciTEC at Louisiana Tech  
University / Ruston*



**Mark Firmin**

*Angel's Place NOLA  
Metairie*



**Kimberly Dilosa**

*YOUTHanasia Foundation  
Harvey*



**Lynda Huggins**

*Autism Society / Monroe*



**Helen Brown**

*New Orleans*



**James Joseph**

*James Joseph School of Boxing  
Baton Rouge*





## **Renee Chatelain**

*Mid-City Dance Project / Baton Rouge*

When the Leo S. Butler Community Center in Baton Rouge requested a ballet teacher to be a part of its afterschool programs in 1995, Renee Chatelain, then an undergraduate at LSU headed to law school, answered the call and the Mid-City Dance Project was born.

Through the years of her involvement with Mid-City Dance Project before becoming executive director of the Manship Theatre in 2010, Chatelain practiced law, then founded the dance programs and taught history at two independent schools. By the time she moved to the Manship, the Mid-City Dance Project was in eight schools and the program expanded to include afterschool homework and tutoring.

The Angel Award grant money was used in part to fund "The Fading Line: A Commemoration of the 1953 Baton Rouge Bus Boycott," a multimedia dance interpretation which Chatelain created.

Chatelain is now in her third year as president and CEO of the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge

# 2006 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Mack McCarter**

*Shreveport-Bossier Community  
Renewal*



**Karen Duhon**

*Autism Society of America  
Lake Charles*



**J.L. NeSmith**

*Dreams Come True, Inc.  
Denham Springs*



**Rick Emerson**

*Ruston*



**Roy Martinez**

*Hope Youth Ranch / Minden*



**Kay Marcel**

*New Iberia*



**Dr. Karen Gordon**

*Right to Play / Shreveport*



## Cory Howat

*Boys Hope Girls Hope  
New Orleans*

Cory Howat has spent his career working for nonprofits. In 2006 when he received an Angel Award, he was the executive director of the New Orleans chapter of Boys Hope Girls Hope.

Howat oversaw the removal of multiple at-risk children from troubled and broken homes and placed them in a safe environment to prosper and mature into successful high-school and college graduates. He used the Angel Award grant to rebuild the nonprofits' homes that were lost in Hurricane Katrina.

Howat is currently the director of the Catholic Foundation of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.



# 2007 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Barry Guillot**

*LaBranche Wetland Watchers  
Luling*



**Catherine Tridico**

*New Orleans*



**Michelle Crouch**

*Jacob Crouch Foundation  
Lafayette*



**Don O'Toole**

*Wish I Could / Monroe*



**Carolyn Stewart**

*Bossier City*



**Stephanie Bernard**

*Lafayette*



**Dicie Gray**

*Desoto Multicultural Community  
Center / Mansfield*



## Cory Hebert

*Stuller Place  
Youngsville*

Cory Hebert is a veteran of the Lafayette Police Department and received an Angel Award in 2007 for his work with Hearts of Hope, a nonprofit that offers support services for sexually abused children.

As a detective, he assists with many juvenile cases in Lafayette Parish and has played a vital role in fundraising efforts for the organization, formerly known as Stuller Place.

Hearts of Hope used the grant to help renovate their building and expand into an adjacent building.

# 2008 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Christine Broussard**  
*Cultural Crossroads of Minden*



**Ella Rein Wheeler**  
*Buchanan Elementary School - EBR  
School System / Baton Rouge*



**Deedee Suthon**  
*Safe Harbor Domestic Violence  
Program / Covington*



**Cherry Seal**  
*Glenmora*



**Raymond Hicks**  
*Alliance for Community Development  
Shreveport*



**Dee Robinson**  
*Brave Heart Children In Need, Inc  
Baton Rouge*



**Shirley Porter**  
*The Sunshine Foundation  
Baton Rouge*





## **Carolyn Carnahan**

*Volunteers in Public Schools  
Baton Rouge*

Carolyn Carnahan founded Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) in 1981. The organization is based on the belief that it takes more than teachers and principals to educate children - it takes a community.

VIPS provides schools with trained volunteers to help children who are struggling in math and reading. The nonprofit also helps schools build community partnerships to help fund programs, such as art and music.

Carnahan still volunteers at schools when she is able.

# 2009 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Janet Leslie**

*JL Foundation / Maurepas*



**Lynn Hobbs-Green**

*The Eyes Have It / New Orleans*



**Betsey Baldwin**

*Ascension Parish Inclusion League  
Gonzales*



**Philip Thomas**

*Pilots for Patients / Monroe*



**Minh Nguyen**

*VAYLA / New Orleans*



**Jean McManus**

*Imagination Library / Eunice*



**Vicki Ellis**

*Heritage Ranch / Baton Rouge*



**Pinkie Windsor**

*Excel Dance Company  
Baton Rouge*



### **Jill Garner**

*Manners of the Heart*  
*Baton Rouge*

Jill Garner has dedicated her life to teaching children around the country about respect.

In 2009, Garner was recognized for the program she founded, Manners of the Heart. It works to restore respect and civility in our communities by teaching children to be self-giving instead of self-serving.

After receiving the Angel Award grant, Manners of the Heart was able to expand their one curriculum for grades kindergarten to third grade to the sixth grade and individual curricula for grades kindergarten to fifth. Now, they also have lessons for high schools, and have expanded to schools in 10 different states.

Now in development for Manners of the Heart is an animated series that includes stories and characters from the lessons.



# 2010 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Carolyn Myer**

*Key Foundations / Baton Rouge*



**Jane Wholey**

*Kids Rethink New Orleans Schools  
New Orleans*



**Shelton Jones**

*The Cinderella Project  
Baton Rouge*



**Christy Papania-Jones**

*St. Nicholas Center for Early  
Intervention / Lake Charles*



**Robin Mayhall**

*Arthritis Association of LA  
Baton Rouge*



**Sal Miletello**

*Fully Devoted Developer of Children  
(FDDOC) Winners' Circle, Inc.  
Shreveport*



**Dee Scallan**

*The Arts Council of North  
Louisiana / West Monroe*



**Anna Monhartova**

*A's and Aces / New Orleans*



## **Stacey Debevec**

*CHRISTUS Cabrini Foundation / Woodworth*

Twenty years ago, Stacey Debevec was co-founder of the Pediatric Therapy Center, the Alexandria area's first center-based facility for developmental, speech, hearing and physical therapies.

In 2010, the Angel Award grant allowed the center to buy much needed new equipment. Since then, the number of patients seen at the center has grown from about 300 a week to 550.

While Debevec no longer oversees the day-to-day work at the center, she is still using her passion to provide patients with the best medical services for their individual needs in her job as a program developer at Christus St. Frances Cabrini Hospital.

# 2011 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Dana Taylor**

*Food Bank of Northeast Louisiana  
Monroe*



**Deidra B. Decay**

*Awesome Ladies of Distinction  
Mentoring Program / Harvey*



**Lloyd Henry Benson II**

*Melrose East Interfaith  
Corporation / Baton Rouge*



**Carter Boyd**

*BAGS (Be A Good Sport) Inc.  
Shreveport*



**Janet Andrews**

*New Orleans Dance Collective  
New Orleans*



**Thomas E. Groves**

*Open Air Bike Repair  
Baton Rouge*





## Derrick Tabb

*Roots of Music*

*New Orleans*

Derrick Tabb created the Roots of Music program to teach middle school-aged students from low-income households music, discipline and education through a marching band.

The Roots of Music is the only city-wide program in New Orleans offering free, year-round music education and academic tutoring. The program provides over 2,500 hours of tutoring, over 30,400 meals, 1,400 bus journeys to and from the program, and supplies over 150 instruments for students each year.

# 2012 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



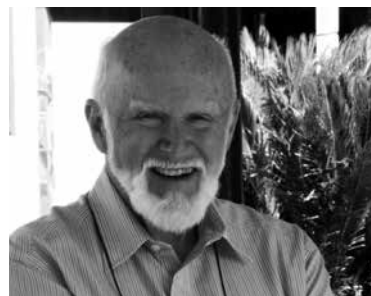
**Darryl Durham**

*Anna's Arts for Kids  
New Orleans*



**Ann Keene**

*Louisiana 4-H Foundation  
Tallulah*



**Michael Hackett**

*CASA Jefferson  
Metairie*



**Tiffany Phelps**

*The Centre for the Arts  
New Roads*



**Gaylynne Mack**

*Big Buddy Program  
Baton Rouge*



**Mary-Brent Brown**

*Kids Wanna Help  
Covington*



**Wendell Jackson**

*Nubian Kruzers United  
Baton Rouge*



## **Tim Falcon**

*Café Hope*

*Marrero*

Tim Falcon of Marrero is the co-founder of Café Reconcile and Café Hope. The cafes provide at-risk youth with hospitality job training and life skills classes.

Over the years, the restaurants have trained thousands of students and helped them find permanent employment.

When Falcon was honored with the Angel Award and grant in 2012, he used it to help open a second restaurant, Café Hope.



# 2013 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Beth McCormick Clark**

*Mighty Moms / Denham Springs*



**John F. Smith**

*100 Black Men of Metro  
Baton Rouge*



**Babs Johnson**

*Young Aspirations/Young Artists  
Inc. / New Orleans*



**Jacob Allen Nichols**

*Baton Rouge*



**Paula LaCour**

*Down Syndrome Association of  
GNO / Kenner*



**Charles Landreneau**

*Healing Place Serve / Baton Rouge*



**Jamie Tindle**

*Families Helping Families  
Denham Springs*



**Pam Frey**

*Hearts of Hope / Lafayette*



## **Carlos Naranjo**

*New Orleans Children's Health Project / Marrero*

Carlos Naranjo was a case manager for the New Orleans Children's Health Project's Hispanic Outreach Initiative, a program he helped design.

The program provides high-quality medical, case management and mental health visits to Spanish-speaking children. Naranjo handled more than 800 case management visits each year, linking children and families to medical specialty care, social and community services.

The Angel Award grant allowed the hospital to help more patients by hiring another case manager.

Naranjo passed away in September 2016, but his work and dedication is still remembered by those he worked with and served.

# 2014 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Brian Hunter**

*Shreveport*



**Laura Landry**

*Down Syndrome Awareness  
Group of Baton Rouge*



**Jennifer Maggio**

*The Life of A Single Mom  
Baton Rouge*



**Ashley Belding**

*Camp Pelican / New Orleans*



**Laura Domingue**

*Trafficking Hope / Baton Rouge*



**Jackie Silverman**

*New Orleans Women's Shelter  
River Ridge*



**Nancy Zito**

*Gardere Community Christian  
School / Baton Rouge*



**Isaac McFarland**

*Game Changers / Keithville*





## Debbie and Hank Perret

*Miles Perret Cancer Services  
Lafayette*

Debbie and Hank Perret founded Miles Perret Cancer Services after they lost their son Miles to cancer in 1996.

Since then, the non-profit has helped 14,000 families in a 10-parish area, offering wellness, nutrition and exercise classes, wigs and prostheses, support groups and family events.

After the Perrets were honored as Angels in 2014, they were able to provide more funding to their children's program that provides cancer patients and their families with school supplies, family activities and other resources.



# 2015 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Tanja Foil**

*Families Helping Families  
Baton Rouge*



**LJ "Joe" Rachal**

*Centennial Culture Center / Olla*



**Kassi Robinson**

*Pay it Forward Networking  
Benton*



**Elisha Wilson-Thomas**

*Tallulah TIARA Girlz / Tallulah*



**Paula Taylor**

*Sulphur Christian Community  
Coalition / Sulphur*



**Kristen Maddox**

*A Door of Hope / Denham Springs*



**Elijah Benjamin Evans**

*No Use for Abuse / Youngsville*



**Dustin LaFont**

*Front Yard Bikes / Baton Rouge*





## **Bivian "Sonny" Lee III**

*Son of a Saint / New Orleans*

As a child, Sonny "Bivian" Lee knew the challenges of growing up without both parents. To honor his mother and late father, former New Orleans Saints cornerback Bivian Lee Jr., he founded Son of a Saint in 2011.

The nonprofit organization provides boys who do not have a physical connection with their fathers with mentors, tutoring, community service opportunities, mental health treatment and other self-improvement activities.

Since receiving the Angel Award grant in 2015, Son of a Saint has grown from having 40 to 60 boys in its program. They have also recently officially partnered with the University of New Orleans.



# 2016 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Loren Carriere**

*Hope for Opelousas / Opelousas*



**Sonya Brown**

*Project 18 / Harvey*



**Dr. Ruby C. Scroggins**

*Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana / Shreveport*



**John Wondergem**

*Royal Family Kids / Covington*



**Teri Hrabovsky**

*One Heart NOLA / Jefferson*



**John Lombardo**

*Kiwanis Club of Thibodaux  
Thibodaux*



**Keith Hester**

*West Monroe Civitan Club  
West Monroe*



**Glenda Chappell &  
Billie Jean Davis-Lomas**

*Black Data Processing Associates  
(BDPA) / Baton Rouge*

**Gerard Barousse Jr.**

*Bayou District Foundation  
New Orleans*

Gerard Barousse Jr. is founder and chairman of the Bayou District Foundation. The organization leads the planning and development of Columbia Parc – a 52-acre, “holistic community model” which includes affordable housing, cradle-to-college education and wellness amenities.

One of Columbia Parc’s biggest focuses is providing children with quality education. Over 90 percent of the students going through their early education programs arrive to kindergarten on-grade and ready to succeed.

After Barousse was honored as an Angel, the organization used the grant money to provide teachers with more training and certifications.

# 2017 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS



**Tammy Cook**

*School2U / Lake Charles*



**Mark & Maegan Hanna**

*The Clearport Learning Center  
Lafayette*



**Jonathan James**

*Hope Charities / Baton Rouge*



**Verni Howard**

*Providence House / Shreveport*



**Kim Winston Bigler**

*James Storehouse / Covington*



**Anselmo Rodriguez**

*Rotary Club of Baton Rouge -  
Capital City Choices Program  
Baton Rouge*



**Dr. Clyde Johnson**

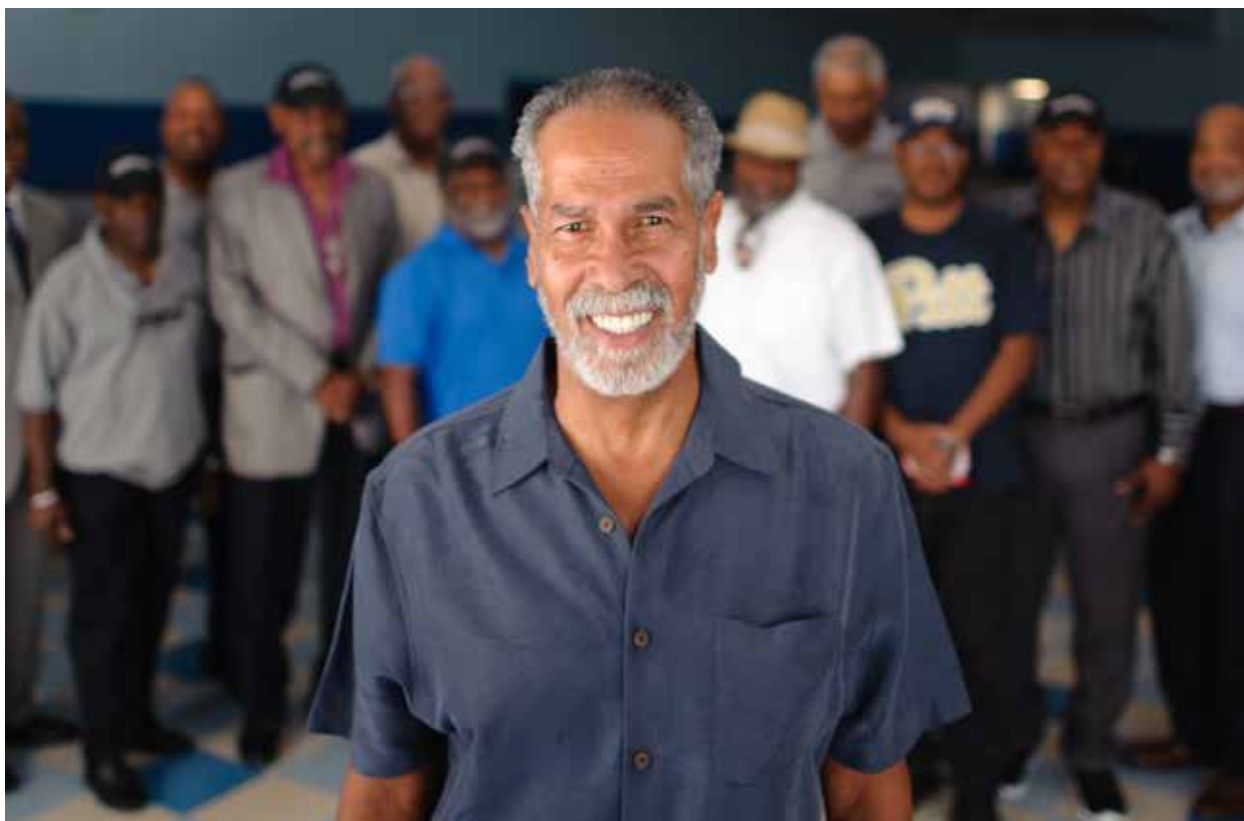
*Volunteers in Public Schools  
Baton Rouge*



**Peggy Kirby**

*Louisiana Foster & Adoptive  
Parent Association / Monroe*





## **Lloyd Dennis**

*Silverback Society, Inc.*

*New Orleans*

One day in 2007, over coffee, Lloyd Dennis and his friend Arthur Wardsworth were hashing out a familiar conversation—the problems with today’s youth. And maybe the blend was a little strong, because this time, the conversation went a different way. They challenged each other to offer themselves up as part of the solution, forming the Silverback Society—a cadre of established older men—to mentor children one-on-one and put them on the path to success.

They chose their organization’s name to reflect that mature men begin to gray as they reach the peak of their lives as family men. The mission of the Silverback Society is to teach and inspire boys to become men who can claim this distinction.

After starting in just one school, the Silverback Society has grown to include 18 campuses and more than 150 men who volunteer to provide mentoring and classroom instruction to young people around New Orleans. Their curriculum has led to measurable increases in school attendance, academic excellence and self-esteem for the students participating. Since its inception, the organization has helped 1,100 boys.

Lloyd’s friend Arthur has since passed away, but the program he helped dream up is going strong. In 2012, over another cup of coffee, an advocate and donor to the program challenged Lloyd to take on the work full-time. It seems that cup of joe was pretty strong, too, because Lloyd now serves as the executive director of the Silverback Society and a full-time mentor for young people.

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Carldeon Floyd - *Community Relations Assistant*



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