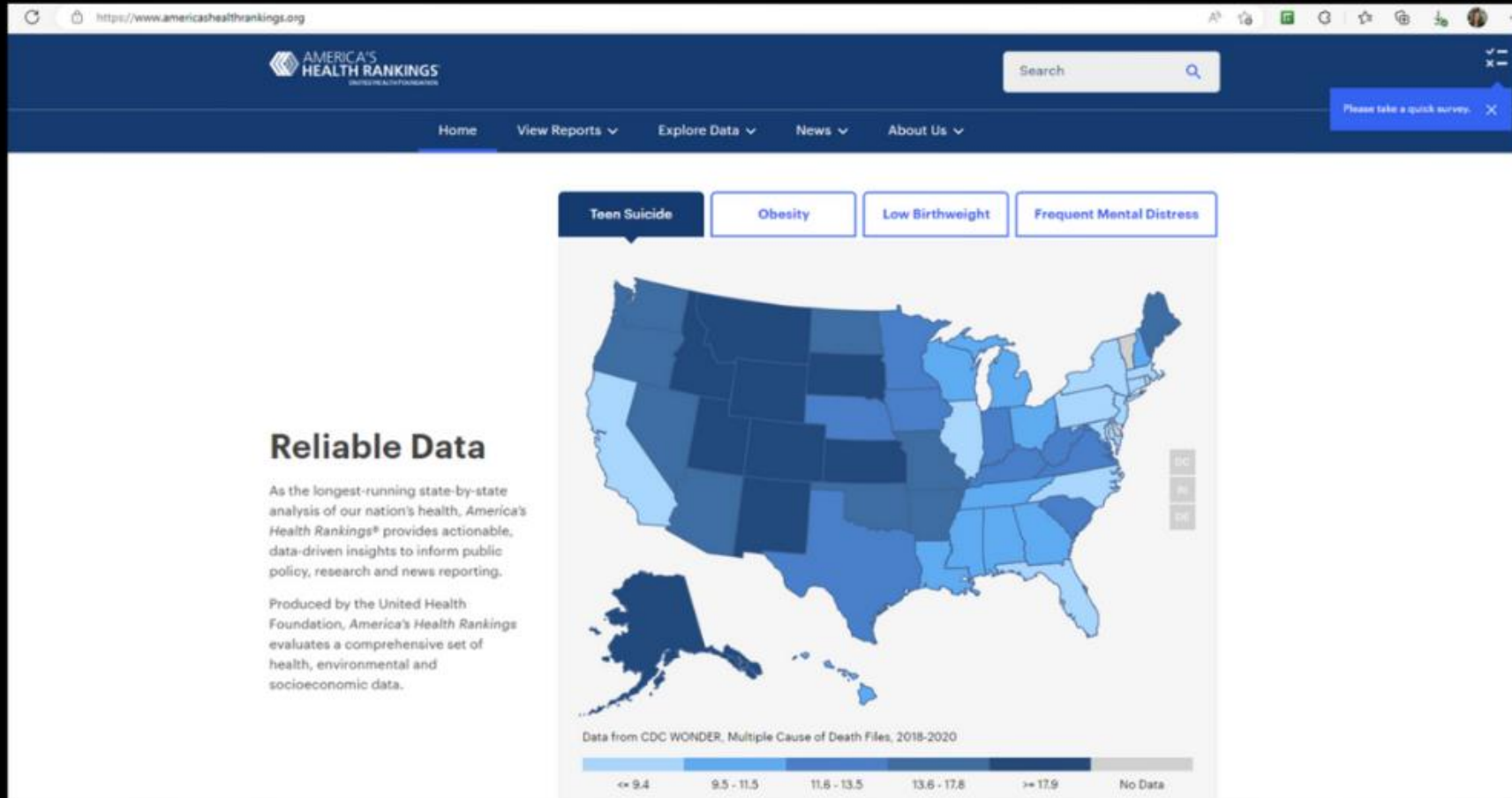




Partner Highlights

Our Long-Term Goals

- Louisiana moves past our previous record in **America's Health Rankings.**
- By 2035, Louisiana advances past the national average in America's Health Rankings.



AmericasHealthRankings.org

Louisiana

State Health Department Website: ldh.la.gov

Overall Rank

50

Key Findings

HPV Vaccination

58%▲

from 41.8% to 66.2% of adolescents ages 13-17 between 2016 and 2023.

Depression

49%▲

from 20.1% to 29.7% of adults between 2012 and 2023.

Primary Care Providers

44%▲

from 183.9 to 264.3 per 100,000 population between September 2018 and September 2024.

Asthma

43%▲

from 10.8% to 19.6% of adults between 2012 and 2023.

Measures

| | | State Rank | State Value | U.S. Value |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------|---------------|------------|
| Social & Economic Factors | | 50 | -1.192 | |
| Community and Family Safety | Homicide (Deaths per 100,000 population) | 49 | 19.6 | 7.6 |
| | Occupational Fatalities (Deaths per 100,000 workers) | 42 | 5.9 | 4.2 |
| | Public Health Funding (Dollars per person) | 22 | \$130 | \$124 |
| Economic Resources | Economic Hardship Index (Index from 1-100) | 48 | 97 | — |
| | Food Insecurity (% of households) | 47 | 16.2% | 12.2% |
| | Income Inequality (80-20 Ratio) | 49 | 5.61 | 4.87 |
| Education | Fourth Grade Reading Proficiency (% of public school students) | 41 | 28.3% | 32.1% |
| | High School Completion (% of adults age 25+) | 45 | 87.8% | 89.8% |
| Social Support and Engagement | Adverse Childhood Experiences (% of children ages 0-17) | 41 | 19.3% | 14.5% |
| | High-Speed Internet (% of households) | 47 | 90.8% | 93.8% |
| | Residential Segregation - Black/White (Index from 0-100) | 9 | 57 | — |
| | Volunteerism (% of population age 16+) | 36 | 21.9% | 23.2% |
| | Voter Participation (% of U.S. citizens age 18+) | 44 | 55.1% | 59.5% |
| Physical Environment | | 47 | -0.240 | |
| Air and Water Quality | Air Pollution (Micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter) | 27 | 7.8 | 8.6 |
| | Drinking Water Violations (Average violations per community water system) | 49 | 4.1 | 2.8 |
| | Water Fluoridation (% of population served) | 45 | 37.9% | 72.3% |
| Climate and Health | Climate Policies (Number out of four policies) | 23 | 2 | — |
| | Heat and Worker Health (Cases per 10,000 full-time workers)* | 1 | 0.1 | — |
| Housing and Transit | Drive Alone to Work (% of workers age 16+)* | 48 | 78.7% | 69.2% |
| | Housing With Lead Risk (% of housing stock) | 18 | 12.1% | 16.4% |
| | Severe Housing Problems (% of occupied housing units) | 34 | 15.8% | 16.8% |
| Clinical Care | | 34 | -0.252 | |
| Access to Care | Avoided Care Due to Cost (% of adults) | 32 | 11.5% | 10.6% |
| | Dental Care Providers (Number per 100,000 population) | 44 | 52.3 | 65.8 |
| | Mental Health Providers (Number per 100,000 population) | 26 | 332.4 | 344.9 |
| | Primary Care Providers (Number per 100,000 population) | 38 | 264.3 | 283.4 |
| | Uninsured (% of population) | 27 | 6.9% | 7.9% |
| Preventive Clinical Services | Childhood Immunizations (% of children by age 24 months) | 20 | 68.5% | 66.9% |
| | Colorectal Cancer Screening (% of adults ages 45-75) | 16 | 63.2% | 61.8% |
| | Dental Visit (% of adults) | 41 | 60.4% | 66.0% |
| | Flu Vaccination (% of adults) | 44 | 34.9% | 42.9% |
| | HPV Vaccination (% of adolescents ages 13-17) | 20 | 66.2% | 61.4% |
| Quality of Care | Dedicated Health Care Provider (% of adults) | 15 | 86.3% | 84.0% |
| | Preventable Hospitalizations (Discharges per 100,000) | 48 | 3.379 | 2.665 |



Focus Areas

Healthcare Workforce

Maternal & Child Health

- Childhood Immunizations

Chronic Disease

Behavioral Health

Healthy Communities

Food Insecurity

Convene & Connect



Convene & Connect

FEATURED STORY

Grant Partners **Making a Difference**



bcbslafoundation.org

**Learn how partners
across Louisiana are
closing the nursing gap.**

Since 2018, the Blue Cross Foundation has facilitated funding, coalition-building, and advocacy work to create and share collaborative models that graduate more qualified nurses. [Read our case study and learn more about our partners.](#)

Building Healthy Communities Together

Questions for reflection:

- What are some ideas/processes that can be replicated in your organization or field?
 - How can you engage/partner?
- Key takeaways from these partners?
- What questions do you have for them?

Focus Areas: Behavioral Health

- Increase the # of trained Peer Support Specialists in shortage areas
- Increase the # of Louisianans trained in mental health first aid
- Improve ratio of mental health providers (timely access)

Bayou Community Foundation
Behavioral Health Work Group

Jennifer Armand
Executive Director



BAYOU COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

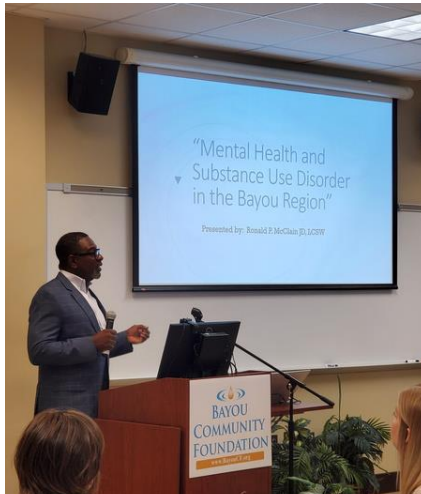
Working Group on Behavioral Health

www.BayouCF.org





2023
**Community
Needs
Assessment**



2024
**Behavioral Health
Lunch
& Learn**



2024
**Bayou Regional Behavioral
Health Summit**

































2025
**Roundtable Discussion
on Behavioral Health
Care**



BAYOU COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Browse Resources by Category

BayouHelp.org Online Resource Directory

| | |
|--|--|
|  Food  |  Financial and Utility Assistance  |
|  Crisis / Violence Needs  |  Shelters  |
|  Substance Use  |  Housing  |
|  Mental Health Facilities  |  Counseling and Support Groups  |
|  Legal Aid  |  Public Benefits  |
|  Employment  |  Medical Expense Assistance  |
|  Medical Care  |  COVID-19  |
|  Suicide Prevention Trainings  | |



Crisis Services Mapping



988 Campaign





BAYOU COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

www.BayouCF.org

Jennifer Armand, Executive Director

985.219.0046

Jennifer@BayouCF.org





Q&A



AN INTRODUCTION TO
**community
lighthouse**

BCBS ANNUAL PARTNER CONVENING

FEBRUARY 20, 2025



NEIGHBORHOOD RESILIENCY CENTERS

SOLAR, STORAGE & SOCIAL CAPITAL

**TOGETHER
LOUISIANA**

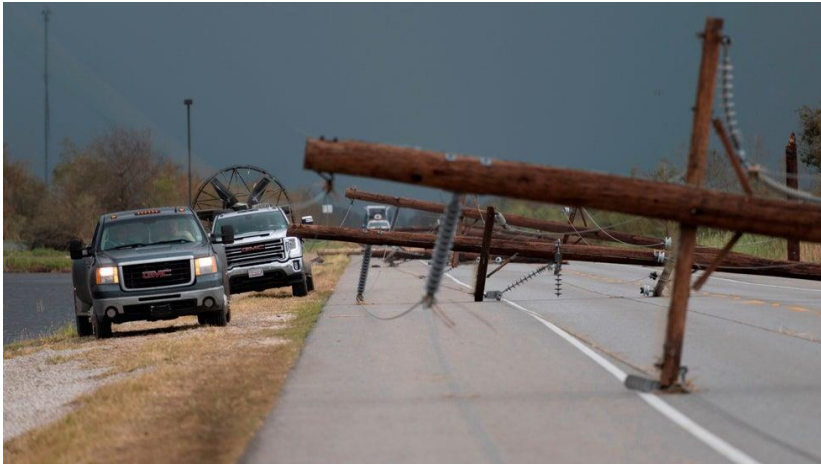
**Power outages are the
leading cause of disaster-
related death in Louisiana &
the Gulf Coast.**

Aug 27 - Oct 1

2020

HURRICANE LAURA

19 people in
SW Louisiana died
in power outage



Feb 11 - 20

2021

WINTER STORM URI

~ 700 people in
Texas die in outage



Aug 29 - Sept 12

2021

HURRICANE IDA

23 people in
died power
outage





WHAT LIGHTHOUSE'S DO

Food &
water



Cooling &
heating
centers



Charging
stations /
internet



Portable
battery
exchange



+ regular blue-sky outreach



Ribbon cutting at first Community Lighthouse with
TNO leaders & New Orleans City leadership (*March 2023*)

System Specs

15

Community
Lighthouses

2,094

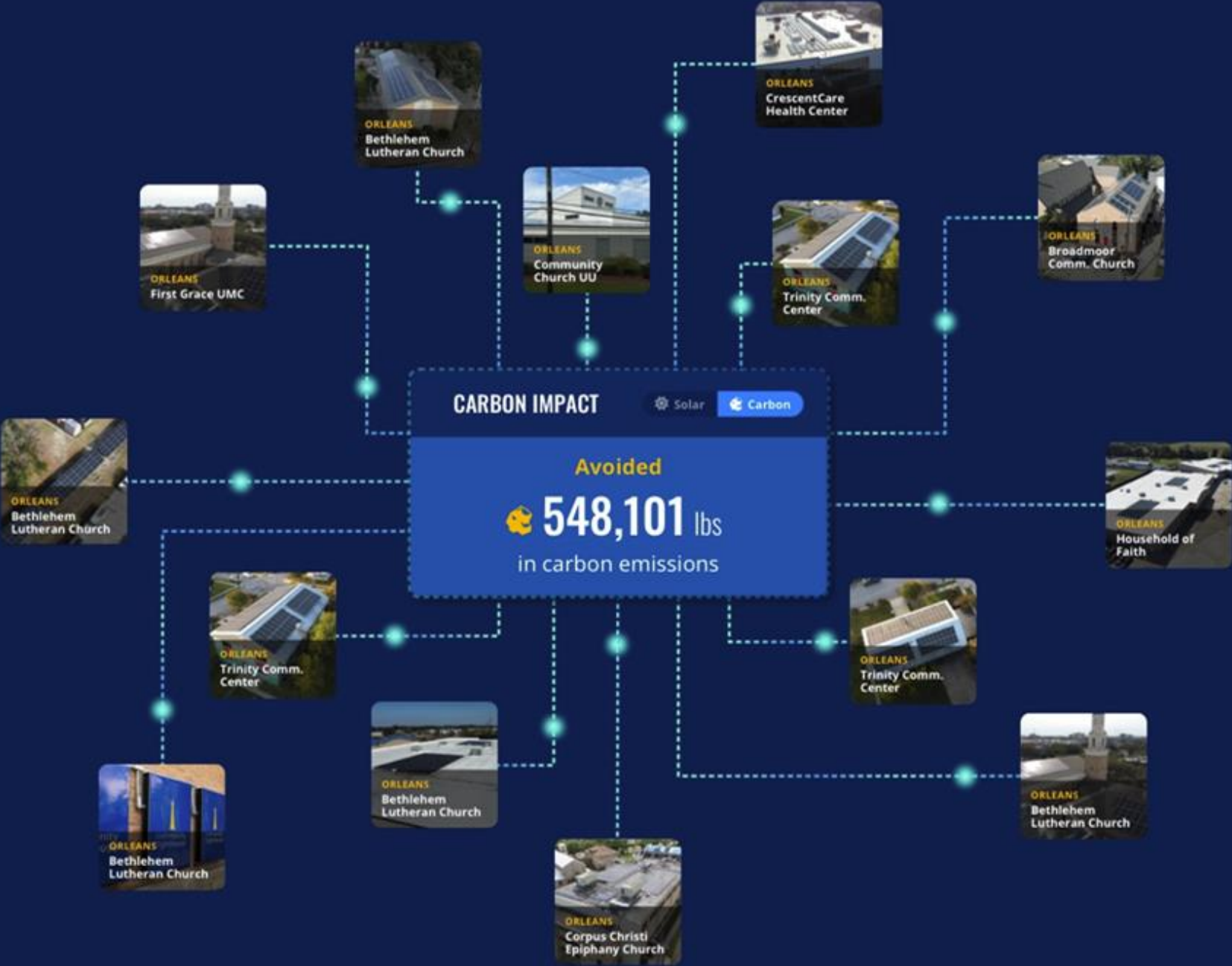
PV solar panels

1,002

kilowatts DC
solar

1,656



kilowatt-hours
battery storage

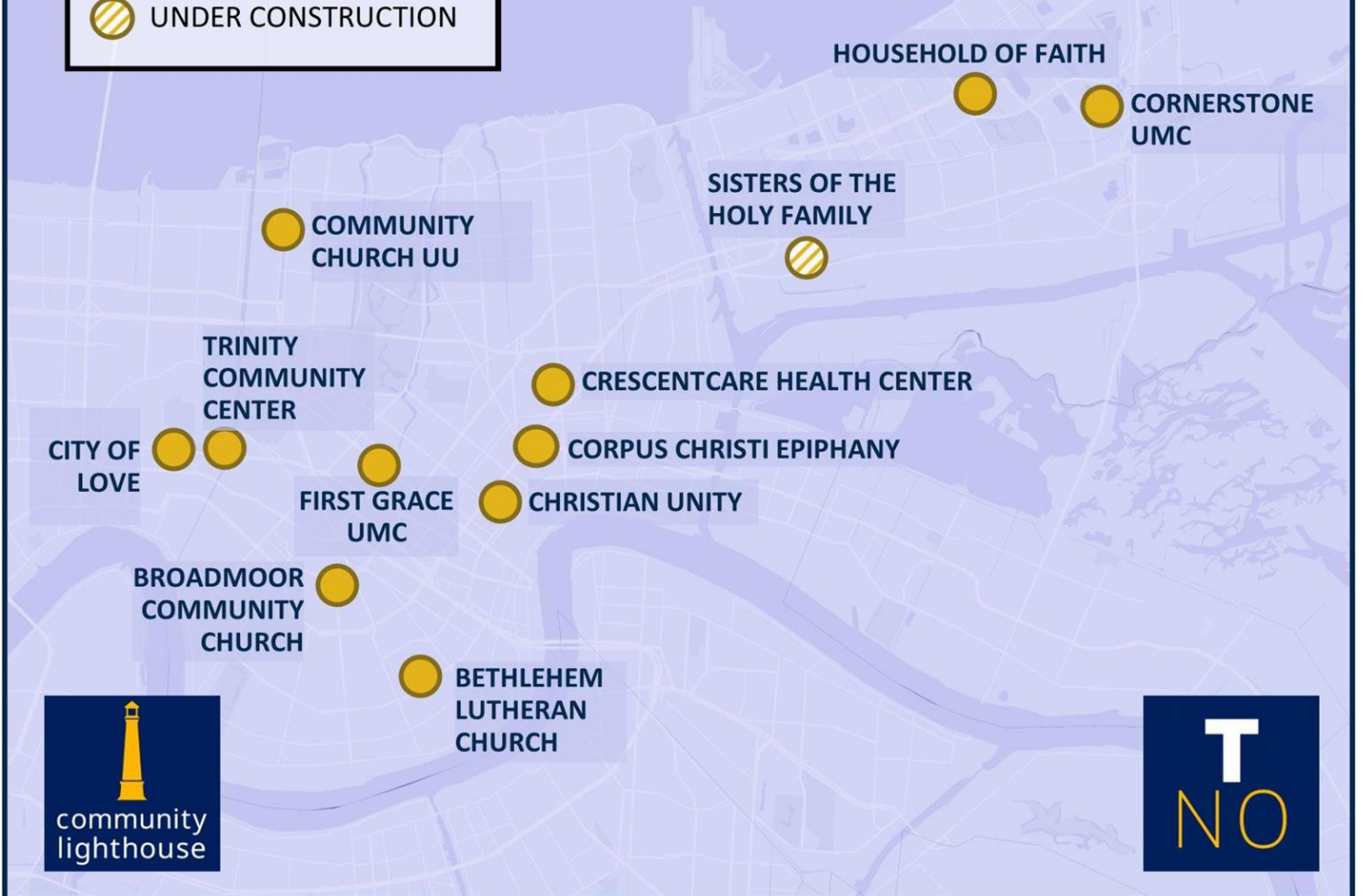


CURRENT NEW ORLEANS SITES

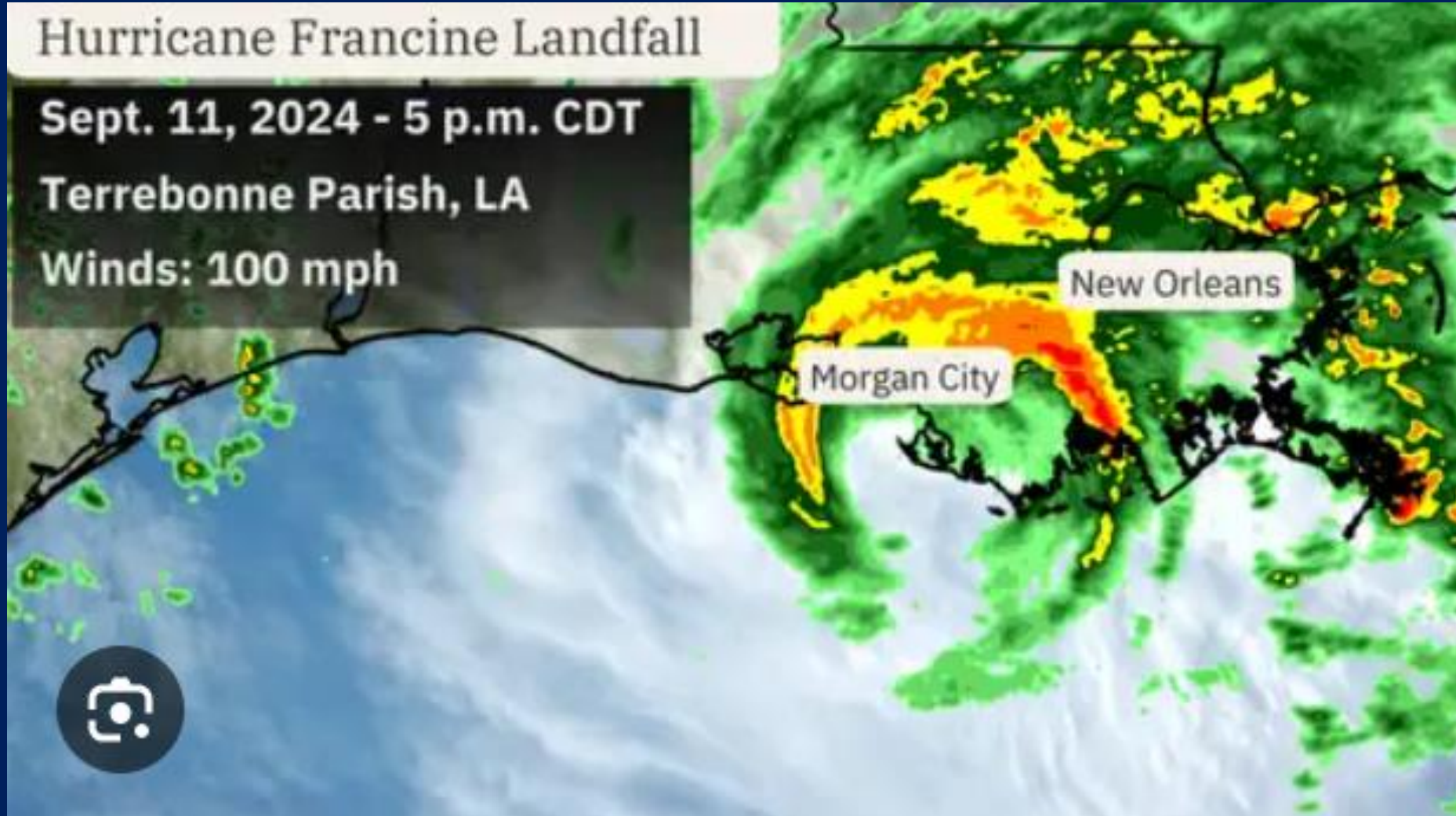
NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITY LIGHTHOUSES

As of July 24, 2024

-  IN OPERATION
-  UNDER CONSTRUCTION



FRANCINE RESPONSE



NEW ORLEANS RESPONSE



9 Lighthouses opened

Served ~ **2,300 people**

Provided ~ **1,800 meals**

Distributed ~ **4,000 bottles of water**

Texted ~ **154,000 people**

Conducted needs survey with **1,995 people**

Distributed **16 deployable batteries** (*1 & 2.5 kWh*)

Organized ~ **100 volunteers**



Welcome table

CONTACT INFO

Northwest LA: Nathanael Wills
felderfarm@gmail.com

Northeast LA: Kitty Batterton
kitty@togetherla.org

Central LA: Ben Nugent-Peterson
ben@cenlainterfaith.org

Southwest LA: Asia Ognibene
asia@togetherla.org

New Orleans: Broderick Bagert
broderick@togetherla.org



TOGETHER
LOUISIANA



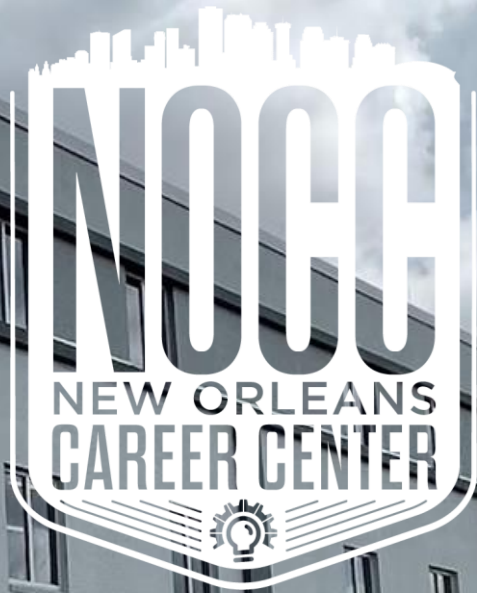
Q&A

Focus Areas: Healthcare Workforce

- Innovative approaches to addressing **access to care** gaps by increasing efficiency of healthcare workforce programs

New Orleans Career Center
High School to LPN Program

Carlin Jacobs
Chief Programs Officer



Mission

New Orleans Career Center is our city's hub for high-quality technical education, training skilled and prepared graduates.

Vision

New Orleans Career Center aspires to the day when every NOCC graduate has the power to shape their future and the future of New Orleans.

LPN PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Partnership: NOCC, Delgado Charity School of Nursing, and Ochsner Health offer a **debt-free, three-year** Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program.

Junior Year: New Orleans high school students start training at NOCC with entry-level healthcare training and earn industry certifications.

Senior Year: Students take foundational LPN coursework at NOCC, gaining academic and practical nursing skills.

Final Year: Advanced nursing coursework at Delgado Charity School of Nursing and **paid apprenticeship** with Ochsner Health.

Completion: Students graduate **one year after high school** as licensed LPNs after passing the NCLEX—**fully career-ready with no debt!**



LPN PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

PROGRAM STEPS

Start Pre-Nursing or Medical Assisting programs in 11th grade

Earn industry-based certifications in 11th grade

Earn qualifying score on the KAPLAN exam and apply to the LPN Program

Complete Year 1 LPN courses in 12th grade and apply for the LPN apprenticeship

Complete Year 2 LPN courses, apprenticeship, and pass NCLEX exam during post-high school year



LPN PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

PROGRAM SEQUENCE

JUNIOR YEAR

Required IBCs

- Basic Life Support
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- One of the following:
 - Certified Patient Care Technician
 - Certified Clinical Medical Assistant

Interview Process

- Submit interest form
- Attend mandatory information session with NOCC, Delgado, and Ochsner Health
- Submit application and personal statement
- Interview with the admissions panel
- Receive formal acceptance

SENIOR YEAR

LPN Year One Course Sequence

Fall

- Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology
- Introduction to Anatomy and Lab
- Medical Nutrition and Therapy

Spring

- Introduction to Practical Nursing
- Essential Nursing Skills
- Pharmacology in Nursing

Summer

- Pediatric, Obstetrics & Mental Health Nursing For Practical Nursing

POST-HIGH SCHOOL YEAR

LPN Year Two Sequence

Fall

- Med-Surg. Nursing I

Spring

- Med-Surg. Nursing II
- Medical Nutrition and Therapy
- Career Preparation for the Practical Nursing Student

Summer

- NCLEX Exam
- Interview for full-time LPN job opportunity

PROGRAM DATA

HIGHLIGHTS

- **300+** high school students enrolled in the Pre-Nursing and Medical Assisting programs over the last 3 years
- Students attend from **25** partner New Orleans public high schools
- **90%** earned either an NHA Patient Care Technician or Certified Clinical Medical Assistant certification
- **34** students have enrolled in the program in the first 2 cohorts (17 per cohort)
- **10** students currently working as LPN Apprentices in their second year of the pilot LPN Program
- **71** Current Juniors applied to the LPN Program for the 2025-2026 school year



Q&A

PROPELLER

WHERE ENTREPRENEURS COME TO GROW

**Digitizing Early Childhood Education (ECE), Business, Back Office
and Capital Access Resources Initiative**

Thursday, February 20, 2025

Jessica Allen, Co-CEO

OVERVIEW

Mission: Propeller is a 501c3 nonprofit that **grows and supports entrepreneurs to tackle social and environmental disparities.**

Vision: Our vision is an **inclusive and thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem** in New Orleans that responds to community needs and creates the conditions for an equitable future.

Strategy: Our strategy is to build a critical mass of businesses and nonprofits working to tackle disparities in our five areas of focus: community economic development, **early childhood education**, food, health, and water.



*ECE Program Manager
Sophia Scarano (left).*

WHY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION?

2022: Propeller narrows its Education sector to focus on Early Childhood Education.

PROPELLER

Low-income children who attend ECE centers develop **social/emotional and academic skills** that place them on track for **long-term success**.

Yet ECE centers remain in short supply due to their **high-cost** and **often unstable operations**.¹

47% of low-income preschoolers in New Orleans **lack access** to publicly funded ECE

49% of 3rd graders in New Orleans have **failed** to meet literacy benchmarks

1. U.S. Department of Education. (2021). *The Economics of Child Care Supply in the United States*.
2. Agenda for Children. (2023). *Kids Count Data Book on Louisiana's Children*.
3. The Data Center. (2024). *New Orleans Youth Dashboard*.

SOLUTIONS

2022: New millage bumps the city's ECE budget from \$3M/year to \$21M/year for 20 years.

Agenda for Children partnered with New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA) to disseminate millage funds through the **New Orleans Early Childhood Education Facilities Fund Grant** program:

\$5K-\$250K grants to repair /
expand ECE facilities

Results So Far:
2022: 820 seats
2025: 2,235 seats

Many teachers and center directors struggle to access these funds.

Their expertise is in curriculum development, classroom management, and pedagogy, not real estate acquisitions or grant writing.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION SUPPORT

PROPELLER

Propeller works with ECE centers to **expand the number of childcare seats and ensure their sustainability** through a four-pronged approach:

- **Early Childhood Education Impact Accelerator**, a 5-month intensive program that accelerates the growth and expansion of high-quality ECE centers by **providing access to capital, contracts, customers, and community**.
- **ACCEL (Advancing Child Care through Excellent Leadership)** back-office, HR, facilities expansion, marketing workshops and technical assistance.
- **Financial Wellness Collaborative** enables center directors to **access debt capital** through loan packaging, budget, lender introductions, etc.
- **ECE Shared Resources** a digital hub of **2,600 vetted digital tools**, editable templates, cost-sharing opportunities that CCA for Social Good made available at no cost to all of Propeller's ECE entrepreneurs.

PARTNERS

PROPELLER

For Providers by Providers (4PxP)

- Co-founded by Propeller alumni Rochelle Wilcox (2017 Impact Accelerator) and Kristi Givens (2016 Impact Accelerator).
- Rochelle: 23 years of experience as an ECE professional and the first ECE provider to sit on the board of Agenda for Children.
- **MOU: 4PxP refers their members** (directors and owners of Type 3 ECE centers) to attend Propeller ECE, access loans.

Agenda for Children

- Mission-aligned agency with a 35-year track record offering education, reports, and educational policy at a national and local scale, focused on curricula and compliance to standards of care.
- Monthly ECE Directors meetings: **Directors share their operational pain points.**
- **MOU: Agenda refers ECE directors to Propeller** to gain operational resources (HR, loans, facility grants, marketing, etc.).

CCA for Social Good

- Since 1984, CCA for Social Good has provided real-world solutions to over 40,000 ECEs throughout the United States.
- CCA for Social Good created **ECE Shared Resources** platform.

PROPELLER WINS

In 2024

- 5 ECE entrepreneurs participated in the 2024 Impact Accelerator cohort.
- 47 ECE leaders participated in 5 ACCEL workshops.
- 134 individuals received financial coaching, credit counseling, loan packaging, lender introductions and more through the Financial Wellness Collaborative.
- Propeller's **14 ECE Impact Accelerator Alumni represented 1,133 ECE seats** in New Orleans.

Client Success Story

Lynette Rivers, Owner, Kid's Kingdom & Academy Daycare, worked with her Lead Mentor, Sonjia Daniels to expand the number of high quality seats she offered.

- Prepared a lead agency city seats application.
- Received B3 funding to add an additional 11 seats.
- Prepared job descriptions and she hired 3 more positions at the center.
- **Started the Impact Accelerator with 27 seats and ended the program with 41 seats, resulting in a 35% revenue increase.**





Louisiana Blue Special Project: “Digitizing Early Childhood Education (ECE), Business, Back Office and Capital Access Resources Initiative”

- Workshop series and individual assistance to **30 ECE leaders** applying for NORA grants and **contributing 290-400 new quality ECE seats** for New Orleans children.
- **Digitization of workshops and resources** on our fully revamped website to expand our reach through open-access, free, online templates, videos, and other tools.

Progress Made & Lessons Learned from 2024

- Planned **5 workshops** with pared technical assistance (TA) and digital resources for 2025.
 - We learned from our 2024 workshop series that participants sought and benefited from direct 1:1 mentorship (the narrower the topic, the better). We will offer **10 hours of TA to each participant.**
 - Since tax credits may be eliminated, last year’s workshop on tax credits was replaced with CPA referrals and a **2-part series “Business Planning to Fund Your Future.”**
- Drafted digital resources, **scheduled to go live in June.**
 - Preparing **user-friendly, downloadable resources** to complement each workshop + time to practice using tools during workshops.
 - Scheduling **3 days of professional filming** to shoot workshops and post online.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

[gopropeller.org/
events](https://gopropeller.org/events)

PROPELLER

2025 Program Plan: Advancing Childhood Care through Executive Leadership

- 1. Business Planning to Fund Your Future (2/13/2025):** Goal setting, business and proposed project plan development, and funding strategies. Facilitators offer TA during the session. **Digital Resources: Business Plan Templates**
- 2. Real Estate Acquisition & Budgets (2/19/2025):** Develop budgets and financial projections to prepare for real estate acquisitions or renovations. In-session TA. **Pro Forma, Budget Templates**
- 3. Hiring for Impact (3/13/2025):** Explore effective hiring, interviewing and onboarding practices while managing personnel costs. Each attendee qualifies for free 1:1 TA from an HR expert. **Onboarding Plan, Interview Questions, Teacher Handbook Template**
- 4. Streamlining Center Operations (4/16/2025):** Reduce workflow conflicts and elevate center operations. Each qualifies for free 1:1 TA with an ECE expert. **Sample Schedule**
- 5. Growing Your Client Base (5/8/2025):** Use digital marketing and referral processes to increase enrollment. Each qualifies for free 1:1 TA with a web design professional. **Value Proposition Statements, Market Segmentation Documents**

PROPELLER

WHERE ENTREPRENEURS COME TO GROW

CONTACT US

Name

Jessica Allen

Co-CEO

jallen@gopropeller.org

Website

gopropeller.org

Social Media

[@gopropeller](#)



Q&A

Other Good Ideas to Spread

- Together Louisiana: Community Lighthouses
- Health & Education Alliance of Louisiana
- LSU School of Social Work
- HealthCare Career Central
- BRYC: Health Fellows
- Groceries to Geaux: Second Harvest's Home Delivery Program for Seniors



FEATURED STORY

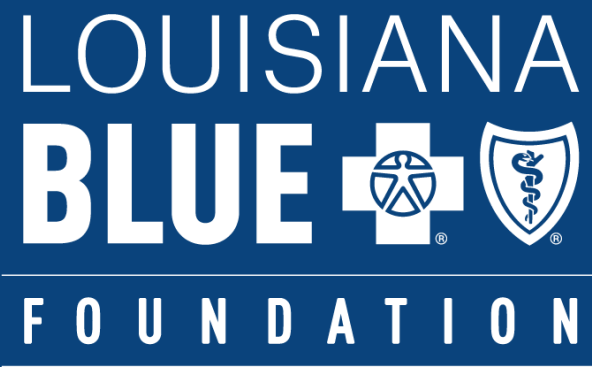
Grant Partners **Making a Difference**



Learn how partners across Louisiana are closing the nursing gap.

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bcbslafoundation.org



Agenda

- 10 AM** | Arrival & Networking
- 10:15 AM** | Welcome & Introductions
- 11:00 AM** | Partner Bright Spots
- 12 PM** | **Lunch/Networking Break**
- 12:15 PM** | LDH Presentation/Lunch
- 1:00** | Collaboration Discussion
- 1:20 PM** | Louisiana Blue Resources
- 2:00 PM** | Closing Remarks

Sit by someone new

Say Hello!

Please introduce yourself:

- Name
- Organization
- Angel or grant partner?
- One sentence mission summary
- Land the plane!

**Land the
plane!**

