



ANNUAL REPORT

Empowering Communities Through Collective Impact



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29 YEAR AT

January



February



March



- 29 ULEAD Spring Cohort begins
- 29 PIPELINE partnership with ESSENCE announced
 - THE PIPELINE

 PARTICULARLY DE L'ARTER DE L'A
- 5 8 PIPELINE meetings statewide
- 15- STRIVE Core Graduation (Cohort VI)
- 16 Schools EXPO
- 26- Partnership with LLBC to hold Policy Conference announced
- 27 WIB Pitch Challenge
- 30 ULEAD Spring Cohort Graduation





- 7- Listen and Learn Tour starts in Alexandria
- 9- Listen and Learn Tour in Monroe
- 10 Listen and Learn Tour in Shreveport
- 18 Listen and Learn Tour in Baton Rouge
- 26 STRIVE Core Graduation (Cohort IX)
- 29 START UP! Louisiana

July begins



PRIDF Graduation



3 -



- 1 ULEAD Fall Cohort Begins
- 12 ULPIC-BR PRIDE class graduation
- 25 Suits for Hire Career Fair
- 27 -28-Empowerment & Policy Conference



September



A GLANCE

April



- 6- BR STEM Fest
- 9- Partnership with PJs Coffee Announced
- 18- VOICE 2020 Census Initiative Launch
- 20 BR Schools EXPO





- 2- Get Well Now Series Launch
- 6 Scale UP! Louisiana Launch
- 31- STRIVE Core Graduation (Cohort VIII)





June



- 4 PRIDE Academy begins
- 11 Headstart Graduation
- 29 Annual Gala







- 2 STRIVE Core Graduation (Cohort X)
- 5- BR STEM Fest and Schools Expo 2
- 12 Wake Up Geaux Vote Activation
- 17 Women in Construction Convening
- 23 BR Education Equity Report Released
- 28 Veteran's Small Business Breakfast & Resource Summit (Shreveport)



- 15 ULEAD Fall Graduation
- 16- Schools EXPO 2
- 19- ULLA successful in advocating for funding increase in Early Childhood Education in New Orleans
- 26 Annual All- Staff Retreat
- 28- ULLA rides in Bayou Classic Parade







October



EQUITY

November





Dear Friends,

As we end another decade, we take great pride in the accomplishments of the Urban League of Louisiana over the last ten years. Several important milestones stand out in our movement to promote economic self reliance, parity and power for African Americans and others. Whether it was focusing the city's and the nation's attention on the state of black New Orleans 10 years after Hurricane Katrina, or expanding programming and social justice efforts to Baton Rouge and becoming a statewide organization, or celebrating 80 years of our rich history and significant impact, or purchasing a permanent headquarters building to anchor us and our work, it has been a decade to remember! Nationally and across Louisiana, the Urban League of Louisiana has remained vigilant in its policy and advocacy efforts to ensure that all Louisiana residents benefit from the state's economic growth and workforce opportunities, while at the same time fighting for laws that decriminalize being poor and remove barriers that prevent the second chances needed to become contributing members of society.

In 2019, we began to lay the foundation for the strategic work that will sustain the Urban League for the next decade. Our theme of "collective impact " signaled our intention to approach our work through strategic partnerships that seed our service in northern and central Louisiana. New partnerships with ESSENCE to create a pipeline for small businesses to participate in the ESSENCE Festival, with the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus to create the state's inaugural and preeminent Empowerment and Policy Conference for African Americans, and with several public and private sector partners across the state to engage residents around the 2020 Census are just a few examples of success this year. We understand well the conditions that exist to exclude and promote separation and division. Therefore, we must work with other organizations and individuals whose work aligns with the Urban League's in order to increase our capacity

to serve those from birth to and through various stages of adulthood. We are excited about this approach because it represents what we believe is a key to success - finding common ground for the betterment of those we are honored to serve.

In 2020, look for the Urban League of Louisiana to continue to create new and impactful partnerships that support statewide expansion, innovate across our Centers of Excellence to take our programming to even higher heights, engage and advocate with both our history and our legacy in mind and continue to prioritize those who often go unseen and unheard.

On behalf of the Urban League of Louisiana's executive management and staff, the board of directors and our auxiliary organizations, the Young Professionals and the Guild, thank you for your support. We invite you to join us as we enter the next decade of service!

Judy Reese Morse

President & CEO

Jade Brown Russell Chairman







Board of Directors

Elected Officers

Chairman of the Board

Jade Brown-Russell

Vice Chairman

Ronald Carrere

Treasurer

Dennis McSeveney

Secretary

Christy Slater

Ex-Officio

Chris D'Amour

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Charles Teamer

President & CEO

Judy Reese Morse

Directors

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Leah Brown

Jason Burns

George Chin

Arnel Cosey

Flozell Daniels

Monique G. Doucette

John Georges

Nick Harris

Telley Madina

Minh Nguyen

Wynn Radford

Dottie M. Reese

Victor Robinson

Jamie Schlottman

janne semoum

Tod Smith

Toya Barnes-Teamer

Ricardo Thomas

Laverne Toombs

Beth Trotter

C. Reynold Verret

Kathy Victorian

Kyle Wedberg

Sharonda Williams

Urban League of Louisiana



Executive Team

President & CEO

Judy Reese Morse

Executive Vice President

Cathy Washington

Vice President Finance & Operations

Shawne Favre

Centers of Excellence

Urban League Center of Education and Youth Development

Dana Henry, Vice President

Urban League Office of Workforce Development

Cherie LaCour-Duckworth, Vice President

Center for Entrepreneurship ℰ Innovation

Klassi Duncan, Director

Baton Rouge Area Operations

Edward "Ted" James, Director

Urban League Clarence L. Barney Head Start Center

Belencia Breaux, Director

Urban League Parent Information Center

Gilma Pavon, Director

Urban League Project Ready

Ritney Castine, Director

Communications

Ginger LeBlanc, Director

Strategic Initiatives

Nicole Jolly, Director and Special Assistant to the President

Clarence L. Barney Head Start Center

The Urban League of Louisiana Clarence L. Barney Head Start (ULCLBHS) continues to serve as a beacon in the upper 9th ward Desire neighborhood. The center provides services to 62 children, from low income families, ranging in age from birth to five years old, 26% of whom have verified disabilities. Fifty-two percent of children reside in the Desire Housing Development. With kindergarten readiness as our focus, we utilize developmentally appropriate tools to stimulate sensory learning, cognitive, language, literacy, numeracy, motor, social and emotional skills. With a strong history of success, our children consistently achieve developmental milestones. Additionally, ULCLBHS strongly encourages parent participation and family goal-setting. Collectively, family literacy and community stabilization initiatives make ULCLBHS a neighborhood anchor and partner.



Teachers and Volunteers

83% of staff have Masters, Bachelors or Associate Degrees in Early Childhood Education, and 90% of staff achieved Ancillary Certificates (Louisiana Early Childhood Certification).

280 hours of home visits and parent/teacher conferences completed.

100% of staff participated in professional development in areas of education, health & safety, nutrition, and family engagement completing over 250 of training.

6,412 volunteer hours (sororities/fraternities, Catholic Charities Foster Grandparents, parents, families, etc.)



20 PROGRAM 19 HIGHLIGHTS

Our Children Met or Exceeded Their Developmental Goals in: social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy and mathematics. *At the end of 2018-2019 school year





100%

- 100% of children completed speech, vision and hearing screenings
- 100% of families are on target to achieve their self-sufficiency goals (e.g. home ownership, debt reduction, industry/skills certifications, etc.)

Parental Involvement

83% of parents participated in parental involvement activities including Spring Fest, School Spirit and Awareness Week, Health Fair and the Parent Committee.

22 families participated in 12 weeks of family literacy activities through Prime Time Family Reading.

2,138 hours of School at Home and Family Reading activities completed by families.

67% of heads of household are working or in school.

27,127 nutritious meals served.



Urban League Parent Information Center

As the education ecosystem continues to transform, the Urban League's Parent Information Center (ULPIC) empowers parents to become successful agents and advocates for excellent schools, educates parents about school choice and equips parents to become leaders in New Orleans and Baton Rouge. From high volume community events and activities to tailored trainings and workshops, ULPIC responds to the distinct needs of parents in the achievement of its programmatic goals. ULPIC continues to offer a range of resources for families, communities and schools including the NOLA Annual Schools Expo, the PRIDE Leadership Academy for parents, the New Orleans Guide to High Schools and Beyond, the New Orleans Guide to Early Childhood Education, the Parent Charter Board member training, the NOLA Public School's Family Resource Center support, the Baton Rouge PRIDE Leadership Academy and the Baton Rouge Achievement Zone (BRAZ) School Guide. Through these initiatives, ULPIC enhances the learning experience of all parents and the community.







By the Numbers INDIVIDUALS SERVED

12,150 2,101

High School Guides, Early Childhood Guides, and Baton Rouge Achievement Zone Guides distributed

2,891

individuals were engaged via ULPIC events/workshops, and community partner events

attended the February Schools Expo

1,939

attended the November Schools Expo The Expo is imperative to my son and me. It is very informative for us. We are appreciative of everyone and all of the resources provided. Thank you!"

2019 EXPO ATTENDEE

As a member of PRIDE, I have learned so much valuable information about education advocacy. I can now effectively advocate for my children and the children in my community." – DANIELLE WALKER, 2019 PRIDE GRADUATE



20 PROGRAM 19 HIGHLIGHTS

TWO NOLA SCHOOL EXPOS! The 13th Annual Schools Expo held at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome featured 102 public, private, Catholic schools, and early childcare providers, and 92 community organizations. Over 2.000 individuals participated in the event, which featured STEM hands-on activities and summer programs, along with health and wellness information and services. ULPIC distributed uniform

vouchers to families along with over 800 school supply filled backpacks. In order to better align with the first-round enrollment cycle, a Fall Schools Expo was held in November at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. The Fall Expo featured 189 schools and community organizations, and highlighted 21 Early Childhood Education providers. Over 1,900 individuals participated in the fun-filled, family event and received free uniform vouchers, backpacks and



school supplies, flu shots, etc.

STEM FEST COMES TO THE CAPITAL CITY ULPIC-BR partnered with STEM NOLA and EnrollBR to bring two STEM Fest events to Baton Rouge families. STEM Fest provided free, fun-filled hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) activities at 50 stations including designing and programming robots, controlling hydrodynamics, launching rockets and much more. STEM Fest & EnrollBR Schools Expo provided families the opportunity to engage directly in face-to-face conversation with school representatives from EnrollBR

participating schools and learn about the EnrollBR platform and application process. Over 400 Baton

Rouge families participated in these free activities.

PROUD OF OUR PRIDE PROGRAM! Believing that parents armed with information and advocacy skills are critical to the success of children and the educational system, the PRIDE Leadership Academy offers participants an opportunity to learn the current challenges in education, to enhance and develop advocacy skills, network with other education stakeholders, and develop a network of community leaders willing to advocate on behalf of ALL students in their community. PRIDE Graduations were held in



New Orleans and Baton Rouge adding 36 new parents to the PRIDE Alumni group. A PRIDE alumni member represented the Louisiana Part C-Early Childhood team at the Office of Special Education and Programs (OSEP) Leadership Conference, and a second PRIDE alumni served on the Orleans Parish School Board Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council.



Urban League Project Ready



As the 21st Century workforce landscape continues to rapidly evolve, technology, science, engineering, mathematics, and critical thinking skills are the key drivers of jobs and innovation. The Project Ready Program provides students with a cadre of academic, life skills and career readiness supports to prepare them for high school graduation and post-secondary

success. Central to Project Ready is its dual enrollment program, which ensures that students are equipped with the skills necessary to compete for in-demand jobs with career ladders that pay not just a living wage. Students have the opportunity to pursue career technical education tracks such as the Certificate of Technical Studies in Welding and Electrical Construction at Nunez Community College along with the Associate Degree of Applied Science in Industrial Technology and other certification courses offered by Baton Rouge Community College and Delgado Community College.

Project Ready is available during the school day and after school and serves students in grades 9–12 at L.B. Landry-O.P. Walker College and Career Preparatory High School in New Orleans and at Scotlandville Magnet High School in Baton Rouge. At both sites, students can access college application and eligibility support, career fundamentals courses, career exposure and advising, after-school tutoring, ACT prep, gender-based mentoring, college tours, "Behind the Business"

By the Numbers

192
STUDENTS SERVED

tours, career fairs, and STEM/STEAM enrichment. These school sites serve as key partners in preparing students for graduation and life beyond high school.

- students earned college credit through dual enrollment at BRCC or Nunez Community Colleges.
- students participated in the Summer Bridge program to acclimate incoming freshman to high school.
- 22 students participated in Annual Urban League Career Fair.
- students participated in seven college and university tours and six behind the business tours.
- Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Process Technology and six certificates of Technical Studies in Welding earned.





20 PROGRAM 19 HIGHLIGHTS

READINESS RECAP College and Career Readiness activities included behind the business tours (BTB), college tours, college and career fairs, job shadowing, financial aid workshops, and college counseling. Over 90 students toured a number of colleges including Louisiana State University, Xavier University, LA Tech University, Grambling State University, Southern University, Dillard University, University of New Orleans and River Parishes Community College. BTB Tours took place at locations including Baton Rouge Metro Airport , WBRZ News and WGMB-Fox 44 News.

This past spring, 30 students traveled to LA Tech University and Grambling State University, two schools the majority of Project Ready students were interested in, for a college tour and high school day, respectively. Students had the opportunity to receive an up close and personal look at Grambling's aviation program. Through teambuilding and networking exercises, Project Ready staff and volunteers uncovered that this was the first hotel stay for fourteen of the students and twenty-seven of the thirty students had never visited North Louisiana.

SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM The program served 34 students during a three-week summer program to acclimate incoming freshman to high school. During the program, students participated in college tours (University of Louisiana at Lafayette, University of New Orleans, and Southern University Baton Rouge), BTB tours (Baton Rouge Metro Airport and WGMB Fox 44), and STEM robotics as well as college and career activities.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT Two rising seniors, Jeremiah McGee and Emmani Jackson, and teacher Anita Gilmore traveled to University of Indiana in Indianapolis, IN for the annual National Urban League Youth Leadership Summit.



The Youth Leadership Summit opened my eyes to a lot. If I could name one thing, it showed me that we are national competitors in more than just sports."

- JEREMIAH MCGEE, SENIOR

Urban League Office of Workforce Development

Revitalizing today's workforce so that businesses across the state can thrive and grow, connecting job seekers with resources to attain sustainable careers with a living wage, and collaborating with businesses for the recruitment and development of their labor force are all focus areas of Urban League's Office of Workforce Development (OWD). From incarceration, or an unemployed or underemployed status, to attaining credentials and employment in high demand sectors such as welding, pipefitting, and heavy equipment operations, our Career Pathways Program participants are excelling despite the odds. The Career Pathways Program (CPP) is a multipronged service delivery model, which includes career readiness training, integrated case management, mentoring, education (adult basic education, tutoring, HiSET preparation, etc.), soft skills, financial literacy, occupational skills training, direct employment placement, follow-up services and customized career and

resource fairs. CPP welcomes youth ages 16 to 24 and adults ages 18 and above. The Urban League OWD operates one of the New Orleans Business Alliance's Opportunity Centers offering the STRIVE International Professional Development curriculum, and also served as the One-Stop Operator for EMPLOY BR.

66 The Urban League Career Pathways program staff welcomed me from the first day I walked into the office. Because of this program, I have obtained a certification for HVAC Level 1." – SEDRIC B.

By the **Numbers CAREER SEEKERS SERVED**

of adult participants attained industry credentials.

80% of adult participants were connected to employment.

job seekers attended Urban League's annual 300 Suits for Hire Career & Resource Fair, where 62 on-site interviews were conducted, and 10 on-site hires were made.

> hours of UL's Professional Development (life skills) workshops were provided to program participants.



Business partners are truly valued as

they agree to be nimble and flexible in order to help address the skills gap, while giving employment opportunities to career seekers who are differentlyabled, returning from incarceration, formerly incarcerated, and opportunity vouth.

66 Partnering with the Urban League of Louisiana allowed to observe prospective employees and to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses. Upon completion of the program, I knew exactly who I wanted to hire, and I knew what capacity I wanted them to serve in." STEPHANIE CHAMBLISS. CO-OWNER OF CRESCENT CITY COFFEE. LLC.



20 PROGRAM 19 HIGHLIGHTS

FRESHLY-BREWED OPPORTUNITIES In partnership with Crescent City Coffee, Urban League's Office of Workforce Development conducted outreach and recruitment in the New Orleans East Community giving residents an opportunity to participate in professional development training that would make them more employable. Upon completing the professional development training, Crescent City Coffee opened its doors to the first high-end retail chain, known as PJ's Coffee New Orleans East and hired ten program graduates to serve as an assistant manager and baristas.

SUITS FOR HIRE₁- In observance of National Workforce Development month, the Office of Workforce Development hosted its annual Suits for Hire Career & Resource Fair in partnership with the Louisiana Community & Technical College System and powered by Hancock Whitney Bank and Oxfam America. There were 68 participating employers and education providers, who had an opportunity to meet with 300 career seekers. There were 68 onsite interviews conducted and ten onsite hires.

CAREER & WORKFORCE FUNDAMENTALS - The Career & Workforce Fundamentals and

Strive Core trainings are components of the Urban League's signature Career Pathways Program, which is

designed to assist unemployed and underemployed youth and adult career seekers in attaining skills and education needed to increase their success and retention in the workforce. While in the program, career seekers learn self-branding techniques to help them focus on developing a positive attitude, build a professional resume and cover letter, workplace and business etiquette, and interview techniques. Over the course of the year, OWD provided 27,160 hours of professional development training to 370 career seekers. CPP participants were engaged in financial capabilities workshops provided by Capital One,



and an introduction to Microsoft Word and Outlook was provided by Microsoft. All career seekers participated in the Urban League's signature "Behind the Business Tours", which provided them with an opportunity to speak directly with employers including Turner Industries, Hilton Riverside Hotel, PJ's Coffee, United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers & Allied Workers, and Legacy Restoration.



ONE-STOP OPERATOR In partnership with the Office of the Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome, Urban League of Louisiana served as the One-Stop Operator at EMPLOY BR. ULLA provided strategic direction, professional development and compliance oversight.

Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation

The Entrepreneurship Center became the "Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation" (CEI) and began to expand its services across the state of Louisiana to support economic prosperity and small business development in underserved communities. The CEI includes: Women's Business Resource

Center, Contractor's Resource Center, and Contractor's Resource Center Satellite Lab - Baton Rouge.



The Women's Business Resource Center (WBRC) was established in 2001 to support minority and women-owned businesses as a pathway to secure economic parity for underserved communities. The WBRC provides small-business development services including business education workshops and interactive trainings, handson technical assistance, and access to resources relevant to aspiring and existing entrepreneurs throughout Southeast Louisiana. The Contractor's Resource Center

(CRC), an extension of the WBRC, was established in 2014 as an expansion of the Urban League's work in economic development and inclusion. The CRC provides resources to small, disadvantaged, minority, and women-owned contracting firms.

Award-Winning Year



The WBRC was recognized as the 2019 Region IV Women's Center of Excellence by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Louisiana District Office. The WBRC and Director, Klassi Duncan, were recognized as the 2019 Partner of Year by the Women's Business Enterprise Council South. The WBRC was recognized by the New Orleans Citizens Diplomacy Council as an honoree for the 2019 Outstanding Citizen Diplomat Award.

By the Numbers 376 UNIQUE CLIENTS served, trained or counseled

459

CLIENTS COUNSELED

COUNSELING SESSIONS COUNSELING HOURS

UNIQUE TRAINING ATTENDEES

NUMBER OF TRAININGS

HOURS OF TRAINING

\$26.4M

IN CONTRACTS

IN BONDING

NEW BUSINESSES CREATED

JOBS CREATED

My experience has been life changing. It has lead me to some pretty positive and impactful relationships with others that have the same appreciation for this organization." CANDY MARTIN, **BUSINESS SOLUTIONS**

20 PROGRAM 19 HIGHLIGHTS

WOMEN IN BUSINESS PITCH COMPETITION



The WBRC hosted its 2019 Women in Business Pitch Competition. Four finalists competed for the chance to win \$10,000. The title sponsor for the event was Fidelity Bank P.O.W.E.R. Leslie Barrow of

Southern Comfort Real Estate Services was the winner. In addition, supermodel, entrepreneur and reality TV star, Cynthia Bailey, served as the keynote speaker for the event.

BRONNER BROS. BUSINESS SESSIONS ULLA cohosted two sessions at the Bronner Bros. International Beauty Expo in New Orleans. The sessions for entrepreneurs were led by attorney Tracey Sanders from California. CEI Director Klassi Duncan covered "Resources for Small Businesses in Louisiana" and "Growing Your Business the Right Way."

> SCALE UP! LOUISIANA The WBRC launched its statewide entrepreneurial development program, Scale Up! Louisiana in New Orleans East with 30 businesses participating in the pilot. Scale Up! Louisiana is a statewide entrepreneurial education intensive hosted by Urban League of Louisiana's Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation. Sponsors for Cohort 1 included: LED, Capital One Bank, SBA, AARP-Louisiana, and Delgado Community College – Sidney Collier Site.

START UP! LOUISIANA The WBRC launched its first cohort of Start Up! Louisiana. This 27-hour training gives entrepreneurs the interactive advantages of a classroom environment with the opportunity to receive individual business counseling from a team of professional advisors.



3RD ANNUAL WICC CONFERENCE The WBRC hosted its Women in Construction Convening with the theme of "The Power of Connectivity". During the event, women in construction learned about the networks that exist to support and promote them across the state of Louisiana. Over 60 entrepreneurs and professionals attended.

SFRVING THOSE WHO 4 **SERVED** The WBRC hosted two Veterans Small Business Breakfast and Resources Summit events in New



Orleans and Shreveport, in celebration of veterans entrepreneurship and as an extension of National Veterans Small Business Week (November 4-8). Veteran entrepreneurs came to learn about the many resources that are available to them and their spouses to start or grow their businesses.



BOOST WITH FACEBOOK

The CEI partnered with Facebook to host two digital skills training sessions. Boost with Facebook events provide small businesses around the

country with the most up-to-date tools, insights, and best practices for growing your business on Facebook and Instagram.



The Urban League's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation has been a tremendous resource in business development, training, and mentorship. The center's leadership and staff provide small business owners all the tools needed to be successful. There is no way to measure the positive impact the center's resources has had on my company's growth and scalability."

> - JOEL B. HOLTON, OWNER - J.B. HOLTON AND ASSOCIATES, LLC

Policy & Social Justice

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

o In March 2019, the VOICE (Voicing Our Information for Census Equity) initiative was launched as the Urban League of Louisiana's umbrella initiative to encourage a complete count in the 2020 Census. The focus is on historically undercounted groups including the African American community and other



- communities of color with special attention to families with young children and opportunity youth (16-24 year olds who are not in school and not working).
- o ULLA's VOICE initiative includes a **public awareness campaign** and **trainings** provided to partnering community, non-profit, social service agencies, HBCUs, and small businesses of color. ULLA is preparing to serve as a 2020 Census completion site, is hosting an HBCU Challenge, convening Complete Count Committees in Baton Rouge and New Orleans, and using data on historically undercounted groups to inform strategic and intentional outreach and awareness efforts.
- Two VOICE Census Complete Count Committees were launched in 2019 to engage over 40 trusted community messengers and utilize the knowledge of local stakeholders to encourage a successful response rate and raise Census awareness among all residents using the knowledge, expertise and leadership of community residents. In addition, ULLA launched two types of internships to engage HBCU students and opportunity youth directly in the education, awareness, and mobilization phases.
- o In 2019, **ULLA provided 2020 Census education and training to over 350 individuals** on the importance of the 2020 Census and is producing materials and toolkits designed to make basic Census information accessible and approachable to local communities. The Census was a key theme throughout 2019 in the summer Listen and Learn Tour, the 2019 Empowerment & Policy Conference, annual Schools Expo, and the Bayou Classic Parade where this year's float theme was the 2020 Census.



WAKE UP

- The Urban League of Louisiana reactivated its statewide voter mobilization initiative, **Wake up Geaux Vote Louisiana (WUGV)**, in anticipation of the November 16th run-off election. In partnership with the National Urban League, ULLA's targeted WUGV efforts included mobilizing over 250 canvassers throughout November in Shreveport, Baton Rouge, Slidell, Orleans Parish, St. Bernard Parish, St. James Parish, St. Charles Parish, and St. John Parish.
- ULLA held a Wake up Geaux Vote early voting rally on November 9th in New Orleans in partnership with MOVE Millennial Voter Engagement, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Omicron Lambda Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Rho Pi Omega Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. New Orleans Alumnae Chapter, Laurenia New Orleans, The Links Incorporated, Crescent City (LA) Chapter, Mystic Krewe of Femme Fatale, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Rho Phi Chapter, Southern Poverty Law Center, Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club and the National Urban League.

The Urban League of Louisiana maintains an active policy agenda that aims to advance the organization's larger mission to enable African Americans and other communities seeking equity to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights. ULLA's policy agenda spans issues ranging from criminal and juvenile justice, to education, and economic and workforce development. This year, the Urban League of Louisiana worked with a number of coalitions including the Louisiana Youth Justice Coalition and the Louisiana College Access Coalition to advance policy measures in the Louisiana Legislature on the following matters:

EDUCATION

- ULLA worked collaboratively and **supported Act** 555 which requires public schools with state-mandated academic improvement plans must hold at least one detailed public meeting on school grounds so that parents can learn what educators are doing to turn the schools around.
- ULLA collaborated with other advocacy organizations to **support Act 171** (Harrah's payments will provide money to the Early Childhood Education Fund).
- o ULLA collaborated to **support Act 247** which mandates that revenues from the sale of industrial hemp be directed to the Early Childhood Education Fund.
- O ULLA collaborated to **support Act 223** which modified the State of Louisiana's match from 2:1 to 1:1 for the **Early Childhood Education Fund**.
- o ULLA collaborated to **increase funding for K-12 public schools** including, but not limited to, a \$1000 per year pay raise for certified teachers and a \$500 per year pay raise for support staff.
- o ULLA collaborated to support the creation of the Louisiana State Special Education Advisory Council (Act 274)
- ULLA collaborated and won passage of the bill requiring modification of the School Improvement Plan with direct parent participation and engagement for struggling schools that must develop a School Improvement Plan (Act 236)
- o ULLA Vice-President of Education and Youth Development Dana Henry, appeared multiple times before the New Orleans City Council to advocate for increased funding for the New Orleans City Seats Program, a sixmonth to 3 year old quality ECE seat creation initiative facilitated by Agenda for Children. Through these collaborative efforts, the City Council doubled the City's investment from \$1.5M to \$3M, thereby triggering a 1:1 State match up to \$6M mandated by Act 223 mentioned above
- **ULPIC testified against the proposed change in the N size** (Minimum number of students districts have to report on in the ESSA accountability report.) from 10 to 30 at the Louisiana Accountability Commission Special Education Advisory Panel. Because of ULPIC's testimony, the N-Size of 10 remains the same for all sub-groups in all accountability measures.
- ULPIC testified on behalf of parents to be included in the proposed creation and management of a
 District System-wide Needs Program. After ULPIC's testimony at the OPSB Policy Committee meeting, the
 policy was amended to include surveying both the Superintendents' Parent Advisory Council and Student
 Advisory Council.



2019 Empowerment & Policy Conference

The inaugural Empowerment and Policy Conference, powered by the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus (LLBC) and the Urban League of Louisiana (ULLA), took place on September 27-28 at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans, LA. A statewide convening designed to examine systems, influence policy decisions and enact changes that will positively impact the African American community in Louisiana, this unique event was attended by over 400 local, state and national thought leaders, policy makers, sector leaders, community leaders and residents. During the event, participants discussed, debated, and advanced conversation and thinking around a multitude of issues that impact African Americans in Louisiana. Conference panelists and guest speakers engaged attendees on economic, social, and political topics.



THANK TOU SHREVEPORT!

To inform the content of the conference, ULLA and LLBC engaged residents across the state with a statewide listening tour that began in July and concluded in late August. Community members helped to shape the conference agenda by voicing their top concerns and sharing their visions for an equitable Louisiana.

66 First, this conference was absolutely necessary. Props to Urban League for taking the lead. The most memorable moments for me were the panels and how the panelists spoke truth to power, unafraid and honestly."

- CONFERENCE ATTENDEE

The panel discussions were amazing.
The genuine authenticity of everyone was overwhelming. Simply awesome.

- CONFERENCE ATTENDEE

Fantastic conference – one of the best I've attended. Well constructed, intentional panels representing a diversity of experiences and perspectives.

























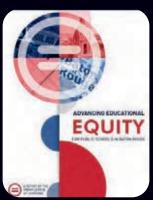






Education Empowerment Program (EEP)

BR EQUITY REPORT - In 2019, the first ever Advancing Educational Equity Report focused on Baton Rouge was produced by ULLA. The EBR Equity Report examined several key metrics through an equity lens and identified biases and gaps in outcomes and access for K-12 public schools in Baton Rouge. Unfortunately, the results in Baton Rouge paint a sobering picture of the challenges facing non-white and economically disadvantaged students in accessing the resources that provide a foundation for academic success. The short-term goal of EBR Equity report is to spark dialogue focusing on closing the educational equity, excellence, and opportunity gaps for all students, but particularly African-American students from low-income communities. Long term plans including leveraging the EBR Equity Report to spark actionable change in public education policy, practice, and leadership in Baton Rouge public schools.



DYAN "MAMA D" FRENCH COLE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP - The Urban League continued Dyan "Mama D" French Cole College Scholarship Award as a financial commitment to honor and continue Mama D's legacy of leadership and activism upon which future generations can build. This year's recipient was Ronald Cowart.



A SEAT AT THE TABLE - ULLA participates as a member of the Louisiana Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline (ACSBD) for statewide Public Education. The ACSBD reviews current state laws, policies, and regulations and makes recommendations with respect to the implementation of school master plans for improving student behavior and discipline and making those plans more equitable and fair.

In the area of **Early Childhood Education**, ULLA convened stakeholders to identify sustainable funding streams for quality ECE seats from birth to 4 years old in New Orleans.

ULLA is a member of the **Education Research Alliance (ERA)** which is charged with identifying topics for research by the Cowen Institute regarding education access, transparency of data, school quality, and school choice.

ULLA is a part of the **Youthforce NOLA Collaborative Steering Committee**. YouthForce NOLA is an education, business, and civic collaborative that prepares New Orleans public school students for successful pursuit of high-wage, high-demand career pathways and facilitates systems change to ensure equitable outcomes.

ULLA is also a member of the **NOLA Education Communications Coalition** who work collaboratively to highlight and uplift positive stories regarding students' and parents' experiences in public schools.

The Urban League is a member of the **EnrollNOLA Task Force**, a group which convenes to review enrollment data/projections for families and students as well as the Orleans Parish School Board Facilities Master Plan Task Force whose purpose is to preserve new facilities and ensure community access to building/resources.

ULLA has a seat on the **Housing NOLA Leadership Board** where stakeholders monitor legislation/policies at the state and local level to guarantee access to affordable housing to local, vulnerable families

ULLA is a member of the **Bails**, **Fines**, **Fees** (**BFF**) **Task Force**, a collaborative of advocacy organizations working to reform the bail bonds industry by making it less punitive and prohibitive for poor, non-violent people who are awaiting trial.

ULLA is also a part of the **Louisiana Youth & Justice Coalition** which consists of advocacy groups who support a statewide legislative and policy agenda for common-sense juvenile justice reform that is fair for children and their families.



Since 2015, the Urban Leaders for Equity and Diversity (ULEAD) cohort provides a forum for training on the current and potential educational landscape of New Orleans for people of color who are public education and social advocates. Also, ULEAD offers an opportunity to engage in discussions with advocacy peers to exchange experiences, best practices, and ideas related to current and emerging issues associated

with the area of public education in New Orleans. Topics that are typically covered include, but are not limited to, the history of Public Education in New Orleans, New Orleans education policy and governance, emerging public education issues, educators in New Orleans, New Orleans parent engagement, and equity/diversity considerations in public education in New Orleans.

ULEAD (Urban Leaders for Equity and Diversity) launched two (2) successful cohorts with 47 total advocates and leaders participating. Lecturers included Darryl Kilbert, Kevin Gutierrez, Dr. Rashida Govan, Dr. Kelli Peterson, Myrialis King, Melanie Askew, Rana Ottalah, Mary Moran, Leslie Leavoy, Eva Kemp, and Orleans Parish School Board Member Sarah Usdin.

ULEAD 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- o ULEAD served 46 participants in 2019 between Spring and Fall cohorts.
- o 100 % of applicants who were accepted to ULEAD graduated after participating in the eight week program.
- O ULEAD's Spring and Fall cohorts celebrated the completion of 40 graduates from various professional backgrounds including attorneys, educators, grassroots community advocates, members of the New Orleans Recreation Department and Commission (NORDC) Executive Leadership Team, and members of the NOLA Public Schools Executive Leadership Team.
- Several ULEADers are pursuing graduate level education certifications at local universities.
- One ULEAD graduate submitted an op-ed focusing on public education options for publishing in a local blog.
- o Several ULEAD graduates plan to apply and serve on a local charter school board in 2020.
- Two (2) ULEAD graduates plan to work with a ULLA non-profit partner to expand support services to youth in New Orleans.







Urban League Young Professionals









The Urban League of Louisiana Young Professionals – Greater New Orleans is a volunteer auxiliary of the Urban League of Louisiana that targets young professionals, ages 21–40, and helps the local affiliate in carrying out its mission. YP provides community service opportunities, professional development workshops and social networking events.

- YP expanded partnership with the Greater New Orleans Foundation around preparing young professionals for board service across the city with Board Governance 101.
- The group welcomed B-Mike, Dee-1, Ayo Scott, Quentin W and Sunni Patterson for a panel discussion on how to be a successful artist for the March general body meeting.
- o Four YP members attended the 2019 National Urban League Conference in Indianapolis, where President Deborah Anderson received a Distinguished President award and Membership Chair Andrea Auguster won a Distinguished Member award.
- YP hosted New Orleans natives actor Wendell Pierce, radio DJ Downtown Lesli Brown and others for a panel discussion on African-Americans in Media for the August general body meeting.





Urban League Guild









The Urban League Guild serves professionals ages 40 and over. Guild members work to promote the Movement of the Urban League by incorporating progressive fundraising, leveraging community service programs and developing a cadre of dedicated, informed and loyal volunteers.

- o In January, the Guild co-hosted the annual State of the Chapter open house event, sponsored by longtime partner, IberiaBank.
- o The Guild provided volunteer support for both School Expos held this year at the Superdome.
- o The Guild hosted a variety of meetings including On the Money financial literacy series, which won a national award for outstanding community outreach event, as well as a Healthy Awareness Day event. The Guild also participated in Aviation Day with the local chapter of the Black Pilots of America.
- Members volunteered with Second Harvest to pack food to be distributed across the metro area.
- The Guild conducted a cleanup project at the local Ronald McDonald house, and in preparation for the 2020 census, dispatched volunteers to the Essence Festival to distribute census literature.
- The Guild launched their Table Talk series which brings in key community leaders to discuss timely topics that are vital to the advancement of the community.







"Our Vibrant Vision: Empowering Communities Through Collective Impact" themed the 2019 Annual Gala of the Urban League of Louisiana, held in the Celestin Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency. John M. Hairston, President and CEO of the Hancock Whitney Corporation and Michael O. Smith, General Manager of the Hyatt Regency, New Orleans served as co-chairpersons; First Lady Donna Hutto Edwards served as honorary chairperson; Sheba Turk of WWL-TV was the mistress of ceremonies; and Judge Terri Love served as the toastmistress.

Hancock Whitney Corporation and the Hyatt Regency New Orleans were the major benefactors. The gala committee was chaired by Urban League Board Member Ricardo Thomas. Over 900 were in attendance.

Headline entertainers were Caren Green, followed by DJ Raj Smoove. Distinguished Honorees included the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, the Louisiana Youth Justice Coalition, New Orleans Parks and Recreation Partners, Together Baton Rouge, the Unanimous Jury Coalition and YouthForce NOLA.

Guests at the gala included Governor John Bel Edwards and First Lady Donna Hutto Edwards, Mr. & Mrs. John M. Hairston, Judy Reese Morse, Urban League President & CEO and husband Chuck Morse, Bill Goldring, Sheriff Marlin Gusman, Senator J.P. Morrell, Councilwoman Helena Moreno, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Exnicios, Dr.







& Mrs. Charles Teamer, Councilwoman Cyndi Nguyen, Jade Brown Russell, Chris D'Amour, Judge Terri Love and husband Ellria Love, First Lady Sybil H. Morial, LA. Representative Randal Gaines, Alden McDonald and Rhesa McDonald, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Coaxum, Representative Ted James, St. John Parish President Natalie Robottom and Hernendez Robottom, and Judge Nakisha Ervin-Knott.



Gala Supporters

PLATINUM BENEFACTORS

Hancock Whitney Corporation Hyatt Regency New Orleans

GOLD BENEFACTORS

Capital One

Entergy

Iberia Bank

Leslie Jacobs

SILVER BENEFACTORS

Adams & Reese

BP

Business Council of New Orleans

and the River Region

Chevron

Healthy Blue

The Helis Foundation

Louisiana Federation For

Children

NOCCI

JP Morgan Chase

Shell

New Orleans Ernest N. Morial

Convention Center

BRONZE BENEFACTORS

Essence

Gallo Mechanical

Louisiana Seafood

Ochsner Health System

The Pamela & Warner Williams

Charitable Fund

New Orleans & Co.

New Orleans Tourism and

Marketing

Regions Bank

Uber

BENEFACTORS

Audubon Nature Institute

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Boh Bros Construction Co., LLC

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Canal Barge Company

Cox Louisiana

Daughters of Charity Health

Services

Deep South Center for

Environmental Justice

Delgado Community College

Downtown Development District

Erika McConduit

Finance Authority of New Orleans

French Market Coffee "d.b.a.

French Market Coffee"

Greater New Orleans Foundation

Greater New Orleans Inc.

Harrah's

Health & Wealth Consultants

Highly Seasoned Catering

Jade Russell Consulting

James Carter & Associates

Jones Walker

KIPP

Laitram

LCMC Health

Liberty Bank

Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus

New Orleans Business Alliance

New Orleans Multicultural

Tourism Network

New Orleans Saints & Pelicans

New South Parking

OXFAM

Port of New Orleans

OCS Logistics & Global

Parking Systems, Inc.

Program Supporters

PIC/FFP

Alliance for School Choice, Inc.

(AFC Growth Fund)

Baton Rouge Area Foundation

Bloomberg Philanthropies

(through Baton Rouge Area

Foundation)

New Schools for Baton Rouge

Walton Family Foundation

PROJECT READY

AT&T

Chevron

Louisiana Dept. of Education - 21st Century Learning Center

LYFE (State of Louisiana)

National Urban League

Shell

United Way of Southeast Louisiana

Wilson Foundation

HEAD START

Institute of Mental Hygiene

Louisiana Department of

Education. Child and Adult Care

Food Program (CACFP)

Total Community Action, Inc.

United Way of Southeast Louisiana

CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION

AARP

APTIM

Capital One

Chevron

Facebook

Jacobs/CSRS

Louisiana Economic Development

National Urban League

NewCorp

U.S. Small Business Administration

UPS

The Solomon Group The Square Button Together Baton Rouge

Total Community Action, Inc.

TransDev

United Way of Southeast

Louisiana

W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Walgreens

Xavier University

PATRONS

Algiers Charter School

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana

Assessor Errol Williams

Bollinger

Bruno & Tervalon

Collegiate Academies

Councilmember Kristin Gisleson

Palmer, District C

Dennis McSeveney & Nance

Harden

Digital Engineering

DMM & Associates, LLC

Dr. Toya Barnes-Teamer &

Roderic F. Teamer, Sr.

Ed Trust

Fidelity Financial

Grant Management Group

Gulf South Engineering &

Testing

Iazzmen Rice

Kyle Wedberg

Laverne Toombs

Louisiana Lottery

Michael Ruffin

Natalie Robottom, St. John the

Baptist Parish President

Ron Carrere, Jr.

Sheriff Marlin Gusman

TDInternational Group

Thomas-Waddell L & Associates,

Inc.

TMG Group Consulting

UNO Foundation

Victor Robinson CPA's

YWCA Greater New Orleans

Zippy Shell of Louisiana







OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Aetna

Aspen Institute

Baptist Community Ministries

Capital One

Hancock Whitney

Huey & Angelina Wilson

Foundation

JP Morgan Chase

New Orleans Business Alliance

National Urban League

Oxfam America

State Farm

W.K. Kellogg

URBAN LEAGUE OF LOUISIANA -GENERAL

Educate Now – YouthForce Nola

Georges Enterprises

Greater New Orleans Foundation

Goldring Family Foundation

HancockWhitney

Woldenberg Foundation

WTAA Engineers

Tell Me Something Good...

MORE FEEDBACK FROM OUR PARTNERS AND PARTICIPANTS!

SCHOOLS EXPO

"This event is amazing! Thanks so much for everything! My son and I had a great time and learned a lot!"

"This fair is very well-organized and provides access to a lot of information that otherwise would be difficult to obtain."

"Amazing event, I love attending because everyone helped with my son's education and different choices with schools. Excellent!!!"

WORKFORCE PARTNERS

"Working with the Urban League helps us to empower its members to achieve more through use of technology. Through this direct relationship, we're able to provide Windows and Office based skills that will prepare members for the new, modern workplace!" – Christopher Douglas, Learning Specialist, Microsoft Corporation

"Working to improve the lives of some of our most forgotten in the community is what we share in common with the Urban League of Louisiana and we look forward to a continued partnership." – James Scott, Southern Regional Representative, United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers Union 317

"As a Financial Access Educator for Capital One, it has been both an honor and a privilege to deliver financial capabilities workshops to participants in Urban League's Strive Core training. Each participant made a personal commitment or sacrifice because they wanted to make a difference in their lives and the lives of their families. I was especially inspired by the testimonials delivered at graduation. I am grateful that I had the opportunity to provide each participant with tools that will support their ongoing growth and stability." – Deborah Graham, Financial Access Educator, Capital One

HIGH SCHOOL GUIDE

"What I learned was - don't go to a school that your friends go to. Pick a high school with good grades and a school that's best for you." - Student

"So helpful! I appreciate the assessments." - Parent

CONTRACTOR'S RESOURCE CENTER

"I would not be where I am today were it not for the help of the Urban League and the guidance of Mr. Frank. He made the path that I needed to take so clear. The Urban League provides a personal touch that you just don't find in other places. They are willing to sit down and talk to you but they really listen as well. With what I have learned, I'm on target to have a really successful business." - Jamar Lewis, D-Unit Enterprises

PRIDE

"This program has opened my eyes to the many different facets of the educational structure. SPS scores, ESSA, selective enrollment and 504 accommodations were just a few of the topics that helped to develop the educationally-equipped advocate that PRIDE has made me."

"PRIDE has not only allowed me to be more vocal but actually provided me with a platform to make changes in the community for the greater good of not just my son but for someone else's kids who need the help."

"PRIDE has equipped me with the ability to advocate confidently for my son in matters regarding his education. PRIDE has also given me the platform to shed light on the issues facing many children with special education needs."

PRIDE BR

"As a member of PRIDE, I have learned so much valuable information about education advocacy. I can now effectively advocate for my children and the children in my community." – Danielle Walker, 2019 PRIDE graduate

WORKFORCE PARTICIPANTS

"I have been participating in the re-entry program at Urban League of Baton Rouge since October of 2019. My experience has been incredible, I have learned how to construct a resume properly, demonstrate my knowledge and skills in interviews and much more. The staff has been especially kind and professional every time I visit." - Valeria V

"I enjoyed the Facebook training more than I thought I would. Though this training, I was able to be creative and engage with people regarding my aunt's reception hall. Once I started posting pictures and events that occurred at the hall, many people had questions about hosting events there. My aunt's calendar bookings increased by over 50%. I was able to help her get more customers thanks to the Facebook Social Media Marketing program." - Xavier L

WBRC

"The Women in Business Challenge brought so many gems to my personal development and the growth of my business. I was taught the importance of working on the fundamentals such as proper bookkeeping and creating a brand with will grow with your vision. But most importantly it taught the importance of finding and growing your community of support. Urban League of Louisiana has been and will always be a pillar of my support community!" – Leslie James, Southern Comfort Consulting, 2019 WIB Challenge Winner

CEI

"The efforts of Urban League's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation has created a space for much needed educational opportunities, equitable engagement, programing, and relationship-building for community members who are interested in learning about and becoming more involved in small business development, whether as consumers, producers, or advocates." - Jon Renthrope, Cajun Fire Brewing

EMPOWERMENT & POLICY CONFERENCE

"I was lucky and blessed to be able to attend this very important & enlightening event by winning a raffle. Every portion of the event was memorable and educational."

ULEAD

"The Urban League's ULEAD program afforded me the opportunity to simultaneously acquire valuable knowledge while expanding my professional network and honing my advocacy skills."

Brandon Caples, Fall 2019 Cohort

URBAN LEAGUE OF LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2019

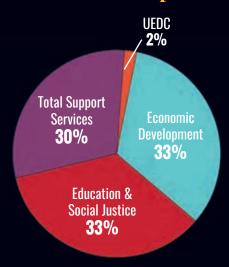
| ASSETS | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|---------------|
| | | June 30, 2019 |
| ASSETS | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ | 442,503.49 |
| Short-term investment | | 3,444.00 |
| Due from funding agencies | | 615,295.00 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | | 21,818.73 |
| Promises to give | | 241,610.61 |
| Land, building and equipment, net | | 7,477,657.08 |
| Note receivable | | |
| Endowment fund | | 39,727.15 |
| Total assets | \$ | 8,842,056 |
| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | _ | _ |
| LIABILITIES: | | _ |
| Current portion of long-term debt | \$ | 90,514 |
| Accounts payable | Ÿ | 201,618 |
| Accrued liabilities | | 66,023 |
| Advance from funding source | | 113,970 |
| Revolving line of credit | | 1,396,897 |
| Total liabilities | | 1,869,022 |
| NET ASSETS: | | |
| Without Donor Restrictions | | 6,166,989 |
| With Donor Restrictions | | 806,045 |
| Total net assets | | 6,973,034 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$ | 8,842,056 |

URBAN LEAGUE OF LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF UNRESTRICTED REVENUE AND EXPENSES BY PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2019

| REVENUE | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Federal grants | 900,638 |
| State, local and other grants | 1,668,590 |
| Board generated self-support | 526,981 |
| Client generated self-support | 2,241,537 |
| Interest Income | 3,545 |
| Realized gain (loss on investment) | 1,250 |
| Realized gain on property | - |
| Other revenue | 228,971 |
| In-kind contributions | 395,674 |
| Total self-generated revenue | 5,967,186 |
| United Way funding for next year | 59,412 |
| Grand total revenue | \$ 6,026,598 |

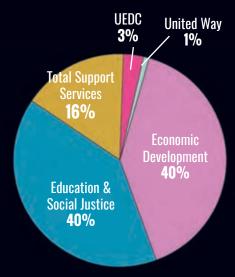
Total Direct Expenses



SCHEDULE OF UNRESTRICTED REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

| EXPENSES | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Compensation expenses | 3,663,681 |
| Occupancy expenses | 420,079 |
| Professional fees and contracts | 340,377 |
| Food | 93,027 |
| Travel and transportation | 99,969 |
| Gala expenses | 306,610 |
| Supplies | 144,332 |
| Equipment rental | 48,839 |
| Printing and copying | 55,751 |
| In-kind costs | 226,474 |
| Other direct program expenses | 381,833 |
| Bad debt | 17,050 |
| Interest and Loan Amortization | 118,854 |
| Total expenses before depreciation | \$ 5,916,876 |
| Net Difference | 109,723 |
| DEPRECIATION | \$314.134 |

Total Direct Revenue





Urban League of Louisiana

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