

# News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **East Baton Rouge Council on Aging Changes Operations Amid COVID-19 Pandemic**

**BATON ROUGE, Louisiana (03/16/2020)** – In an abundance of caution and to ensure the health and safety of senior participants and our staff, effective Thursday, March 19, 2020 we will be discontinuing the drive thru meal system at our senior centers. We will transition to home delivery of meals to all our senior participants.

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging will be providing home delivered meals to 1,970 Meals On Wheels senior participants and 1,265 senior center participants. Each recipient will receive a 2-week supply of meals, including bread, fruit and snacks. In total, EBRCOA will be delivering 45,290 meals across East Baton Rouge Parish.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has now advised to avoid congregating in groups of 50 or more. We encourage all seniors of the parish to adhere to this recommendation, as they are a high-risk segment of the community.

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging is dedicated to ensuring the safety of all seniors across the parish during this pandemic. We strongly advise everyone to pay close attention to the advisories and warnings being given by national and local governmental officials. Additionally, please be reminded to follow the proper procedures to sanitize and disinfect shared surfaces, as well as to continue wash your hands frequently.

“The COVID-19 pandemic is very fluid. We will continue to modify operations, as needed, in order to provide our seniors with the most update information while continuing to provide services. Although our response plan remains fluid, our focus on lowering the chance of transmission of COVID-19 among the seniors has not. This remains our top priority,” said Tasha Clark-Amar, Chief Executive Officer of EBRCOA.

For more information, call the Council on Aging at (225) 923-8000.

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA) is a non-profit organization serving the senior population of East Baton Rouge Parish. Annually, our agency delivers 1,105,820 meals through our “Meals on Wheels” Program and our senior centers and meal sites.

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## East Baton Rouge Council On Aging: Supporting Independence ~ Serving Seniors

Since 1973, the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA), a 501c3 nonprofit supported by philanthropic donations and public funds (federal, state, and local), has served the seniors of East Baton Rouge Parish through a spectrum of nutritional and social services such as the nationally recognized Meals on Wheels program and over a dozen community senior centers throughout the Parish. EBRCOA is charged with discovering and meeting the growing needs of this ever-increasing population. Central to EBRCOA's mission – Supporting Independence and Serving Seniors – is proving high-quality services to seniors, the maintenance of their personal independence, and the enhancement of their storied lives while being good fiduciary stewards of public funds and trust.

More information about EBRCOA and its services can be found online at [www.ebrcoa.org](http://www.ebrcoa.org).