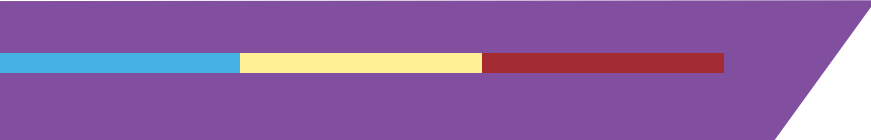


# East Baton Rouge Council on Aging | Annual Report



## Goverance

**The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA) is dually designated as an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and a Council on Aging (COA). EBRCOA oversight agencies includes the Administration of Aging, which is responsible for enforcing the Older Americans Act, the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs (GOEA) is the State Unit on Aging, which manages the Louisiana State Plan on Aging, and is the dedicated state agency for administering federal funds from the Administration on Aging. The EBRCOA is governed by the Area Plan that the agency submits to GOEA for the period of 2019-2021. The agency is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization with a quasi-governmental designation.**

EBRCOA is mandated by the Older Americans Act (OAA), to respond to the needs of Americans aged 60 and over in the local community, with the goal of keeping seniors living independently in their own homes.

Preference shall be given to providing services to older individuals with greatest social need, with particular attention to low-income minority individuals. The term greatest economic need is defined as the need resulting from an income level at or below the poverty threshold established by the Bureau of the Census.

The term greatest social need means the need caused by non-economic factors, which include physical and mental disabilities, language barriers, cultural or social isolation including that caused by racial or ethnic status, which restrict an individual's ability to perform normal daily tasks or threaten his capacity to live independently.

Full service providers shall attempt to provide services to low-income minority individuals, at least in proportion to the number of low-income minority older persons in the population services by the provider.



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# Performance Expectations

Performance expectations of the state and federal agencies of the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging includes:

- Increasing the number of senior citizens who have access to an integrated array of health and social supports;
- Increasing the number of families who are supported in their efforts to care for their loved ones at home and in the community; and
- Facilitating leadership in developing and improving transportation options for the elderly in the Public Service Area.
- Increasing the number of senior citizens who stay active and healthy;
- Increasing the number of senior citizens who benefit from programs that protects their rights and prevent elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Providing assistance with applying for benefits and programs.

Each of these performance indicators must be met to ensure not only effective delivery of services to seniors, but also to receive state and federal dollars to manage and operate Councils on Aging.

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**“Our mission is to promote independence in the ever-growing senior population of this parish.”**

- Tasha Clark-Amar | Chief Executive Officer

## A Message from **our CEO**

**Our commitment here at the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging to support senior independence has remained unwavering. During times of hardship, illness, or solely the transition into an independent senior lifestyle, seniors need us the most. At the inception of the 2016 millage, EBRCOA committed to improving the quality of life for seniors across the parish, and we are on a quest to fulfill that commitment.**



**Tasha Clark-Amar**  
Chief Executive Officer

In our 2019-2021 Annual Report, you can visualize these commitments coming to fruition. Covering an extended period from July 2019-March 2021, this annual report highlights the services provided to the senior community by the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging, capital investments made throughout the parish, and an overview of navigating the challenges set forth by natural disasters. This report provides an accurate depiction of the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging's impact on the community.

Pioneering aging trends, offering new programs to seniors, and administering 30 (+) Million Dollars of capital investments into East Baton Rouge Parish are focus areas of this report. Our staff has worked tirelessly to accomplish many challenging tasks such as accommodating the increase in demand for services, restructuring development budgets to accommodate cost inflation of building materials, adhering to various public health mandates, and ensuring the safety of the most vulnerable residents in the parish.

The coronavirus pandemic and the treacherous hurricane season we experience here in South Louisiana were the causes of these challenges. The entire agency felt the effects of these disasters. We needed to respond to the needs

of our senior community much differently from our standard procedures. Nevertheless, the adjustments made to our programming and operations were to sustain such challenges and ultimately expanded our productivity, and increased our agency's footprint within the community.

The support and dedication shown to seniors of this parish by our Board of Directors, Advisory Board Members, and staff members are commendable. I want to thank all of them for their hard work and countless sacrifices to serve the seniors. The residents of East Baton Rouge Parish truly care about the aging community. The myriad of volunteers, support from the community stakeholders, and donations received during this time period have been phenomenal, and we are immensely thankful.

Please read through our Annual Report. This report reflects on our service, highlights agency milestones, and provides insight into what the agency currently has on the horizon. We will continue to serve as a pillar for senior residents, committed to remaining accessible and informed on geriatric trends and services.



## Agency **Board Members**



**Jerrie M. Booker**

Board Chairwoman



**State Rep. C.  
Denise Marcelle**

Board Vice-Chairwoman



**Atty. Jennifer  
M. Moisant**

Board Treasurer



**Jamie Robinson**

Board Secretary



**Pamela Ann  
Mitchell**

Board Member



**Pastor Leo  
D. Cyrus**

Board Member



**Atty. Steven  
K. Schilling**

Board Member



**Chief Carl Dunn**

Board Member



**Patricia Sims  
Williams**

Board Member



**Dr. Derek Cole**

Board Member



**Ingrid F. Payne**

Board Member



**Kathy Coleman**

Board Member



**Councilwoman  
Carolyn Coleman**

Board Member



**Attorney  
Chandler Loupe**

Board Member

## 2019 Senior Expo



In 2019, the EBRCOA hosted the Second Annual Senior Lifestyle Expo in downtown Baton Rouge at the Raising Cane's River Center. The Senior Lifestyle Expo was a fun-filled all-day event with a variety of activities including vendor booths, health screenings, educational panels, fashion show sponsored by Dillard's, and fruits and vegetables donated by Merchants Foodservices and EBRCOA and seafood donated by the Louisiana Seafood Board and the Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser, there was a cooking demonstration and a showcase of three local chefs preparing various seafood dishes.

Participants won prizes throughout the day, such as gift baskets, a cruise, motorized recliner, living room set, dining room set, and televisions. One very lucky senior won a fully loaded 2020 Hyundai Elantra! Over 4,000 seniors attended the Expo and discovered new ways to enhance the quality of their lives.



Corporate Vendors: **46**



Senior Attendees: **4,000**



## 2019 Thanksgiving **Dinner & Dance**

# 1,005

## Senior Attendees:

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging is committed to breaking the barriers of social isolation that plague the senior population. It was with a tremendous amount of gratitude that EBRCOA hosted their Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Dance at the Raising Cane's River Center. The Thanksgiving Dinner and Dance is a fabulous event inclusive of a delicious Thanksgiving meal, entertainment, and opportunities to win several door prizes. The purpose of this event is to provide the senior population of this parish the opportunity to fellowship and enjoy a full course meal.

Thanksgiving meal that many seniors may not be privy to during the holiday season, due to finances or health issues. In 2019, 1,005 seniors attended the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and enjoyed activities with seniors from other centers across the parish.



# March 2020

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# -June 2020

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*The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging was dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of all seniors across the parish during the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 13, 2020, EBRCOA transitioned to limited operations to protect against the transmission of the virus among staff members and the seniors that we serve. The CDC advised individuals not to congregate in groups of 50 or more, which demanded us to immediately suspend our Homemaker and Respite services, Lotus Rides, and close all congregate senior center locations throughout the entirety of the pandemic. In an abundance of caution, we transitioned to a drive-thru meal service where seniors could drive up to their respective centers, pop their trunk and a staff member placed a hot meal into their vehicle.*

## Lotus Food Pantry

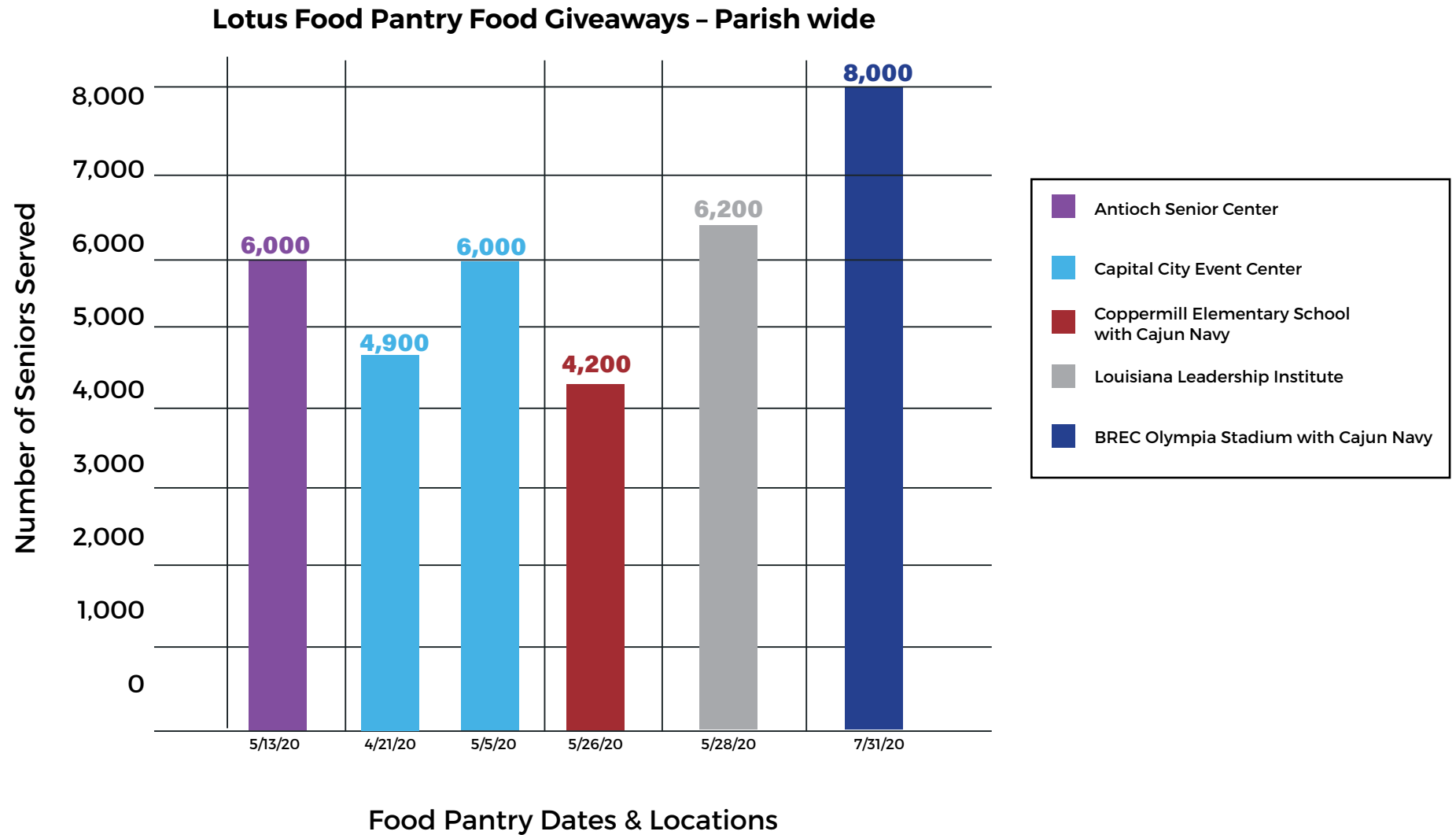
The Lotus Food Pantry is a senior-focused free food pantry designed to combat senior hunger in EBR Parish. Typically, the Lotus Food Pantry service is only available to EBRCOA seniors who are food pantry recipients; however, we open this service to all senior residents in East Baton Rouge Parish during the pandemic. We are overwhelmed with joy to have served **35,300** seniors across EBR parish with fresh fruit and vegetables, household items, toiletries, face mask, and a hot lunch. It's our duty to ensure seniors have access to food and basic necessities.



Yanik Duffus and Guy Jackson serving seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic drive-thru food pantry.



EBRCOA staff working hard to serve the seniors of EBR Parish at the Coppermill Elementary Lotus Food Pantry Drive-Thru.







## Errands Program

Our efforts to ensure the safety of our seniors went a step further when we launched our Errands Program. The Errands Program assisted seniors in getting groceries, household items, toiletries and medications from local stores and pharmacies. An EBRCOA staff member shopped for seniors' essential items once a week and delivered the items to their front door to avoid direct contact.



Johnathan R. McGee, Director of Social Workers rolling out bags of essential items to seniors.



Tasha Clark-Amar, Chief Executive Officer, and Attorney Jennifer Moisant, EBRCOA Board Member, serving the seniors of EBR Parish.

# 35,300



Seniors served at our Lotus Food Pantry Drive-Thru events across EBR Parish. Seniors were supplied with bags of groceries, household items, and toiletries.



Karen Mahomes of the Finance Department assisting with packaging meals at the Coppermill Elementary drive-thru food pantry.

**“The **COVID-19 Pandemic** has been very fluid and ever-changing. We will continue to modify operations, as needed, to continue providing services while also protecting the most vulnerable segment of our community. Although our operations have changed, our focus to lower the chance of transmission of COVID-19 among the seniors has not. This remains our top priority.”**

*- Tasha Clark-Amar, Chief Executive Officer, EBRCOA*



# What have we done?

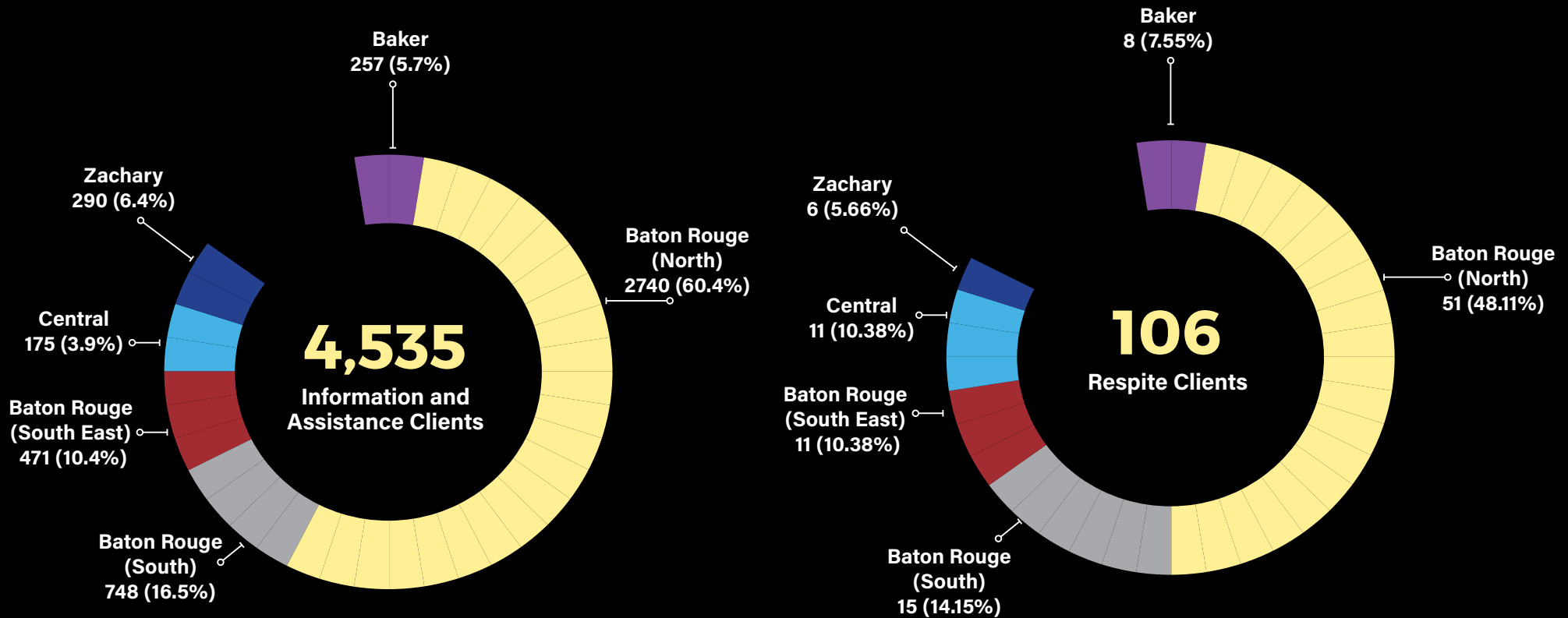
The Information and Assistance Department is the heart of the agency whose primary role is to bridge the gap between senior clients and the community by providing seniors access to area services that can improve their quality of life. The Information and Assistance Department consists of Intake Coordinators, Clerical Assistants, Care Managers, Referral Coordinators, and Social Workers. Our goal is to identify the needs of seniors through Louisiana Independent Living Assessments so that we can continue to provide services such as Meals on Wheels, Homemaker/Personal Care, In-Home Respite, Power to Care Entergy assistance and Material Aid. **Between March 2020 to June 2020, the agency suspended several of our services in order to protect our seniors and their caregivers from contracting the COVID-19 virus.**



***"It's been different not being able to access and assess in seniors' home, but through creative methods and hearts to serve, we pressed onward and upward."* - Pamela Thomas, Director of Information and Assistance Management**



## Sectioned by Zip Code - JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020

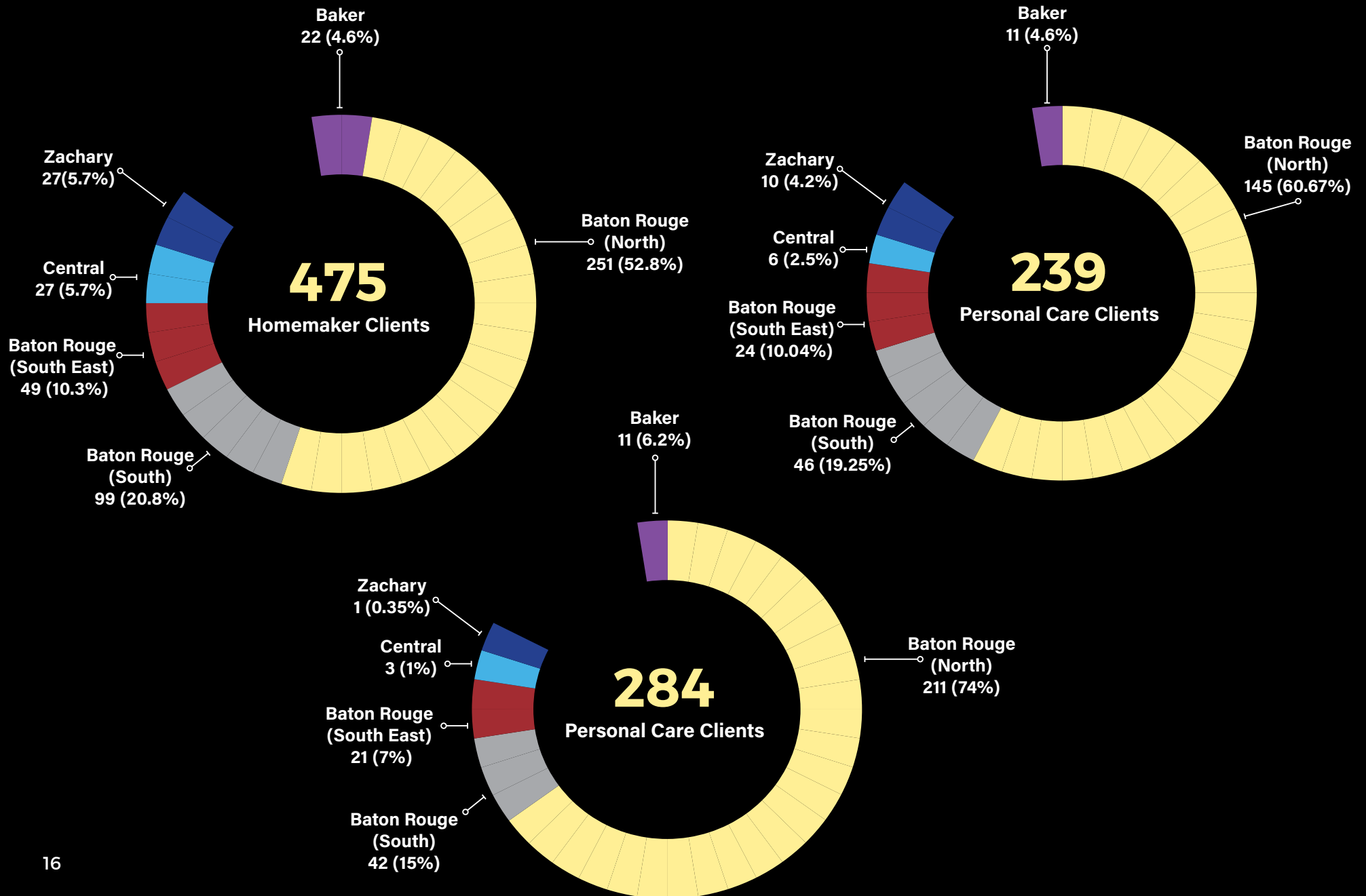


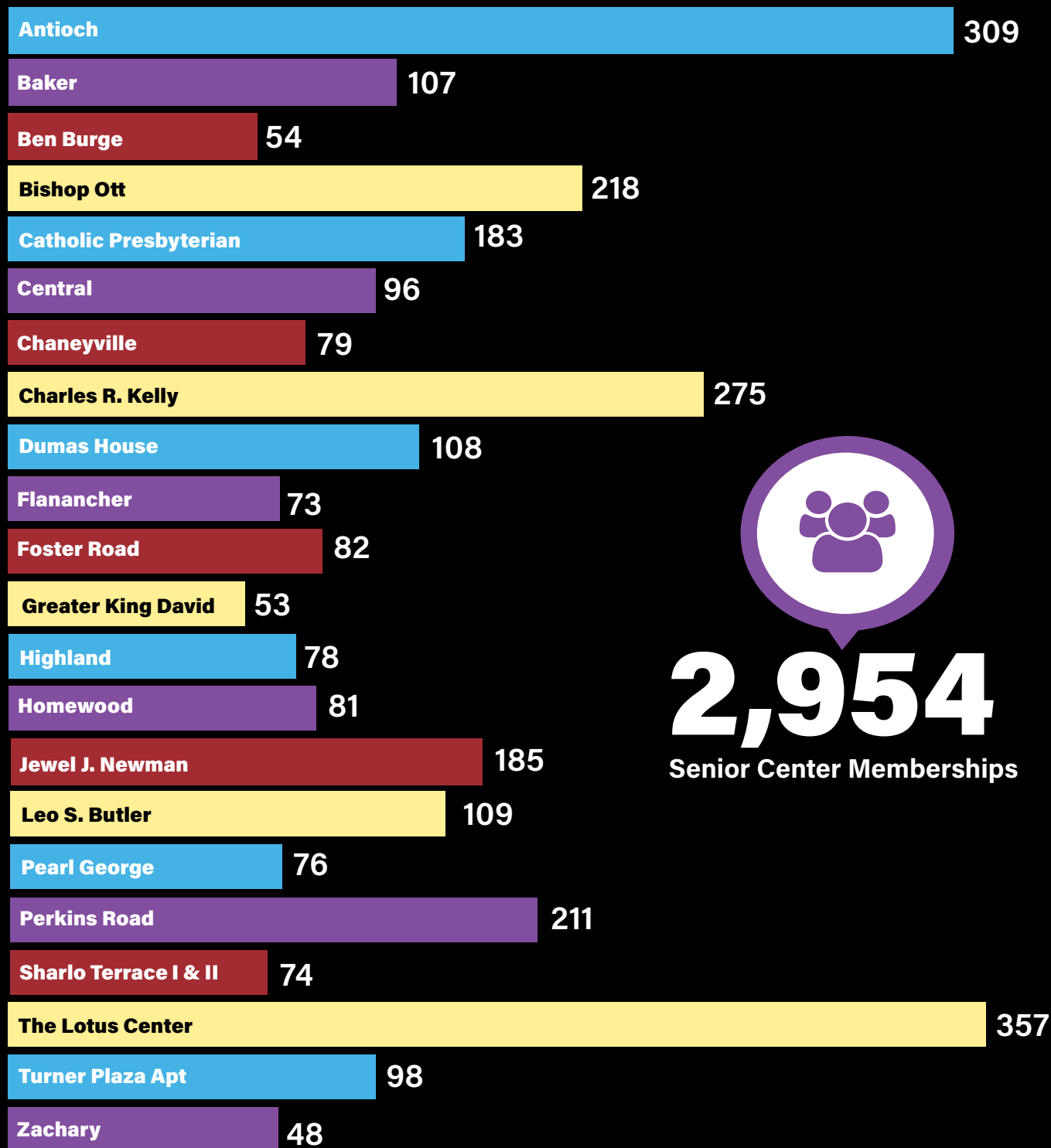
***"There were **many lessons in 2020**, and nothing in life happens without the opportunity to learn from it. I learned that **our seniors are resilient!**"***

*- Patra Scott-Caston, Care Manager 1*

# Information & Assistance | JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020

(Cont.)





## SERVICE AREAS

BY ZIP CODE

**Baker:** 70714

**Baton Rouge (North):** 70802, 70805, 70806, 70807, 70808, 70811, 70812

**Baton Rouge (South):** 70808, 70809, 70810, 70816, 70817, 70820

**Baton Rouge (South East):** 70808, 70809, 70810, 70816, 70817, 70820

**Central:** 70818, 70739

**Zachary:** 70791, 70777, 70777

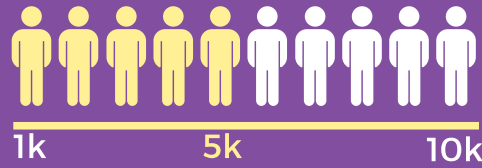


## Congregate Meals

The Nutritional Director, Chef Celeste Gill, incorporated new menu items which created more variety for our seniors to enjoy. The seniors were able to come into our facilities and eat their meals until March 2020 when COVID-19 restrictions required a change in operations.

## Meal on Wheels

The Council on Aging Meals on Wheels Department is dedicated to making sure our seniors receive nutritional prepacked meals on a weekly basis. We were able to service over **5,000** seniors daily across the parish at **1,820,000** meals per year.



**5,000**

**Seniors Served Daily**

**1,820,000**

**Meals Served A Year**



## Lotus Food Pantry

During the beginning of fiscal year 2019-2020, Lotus Food Pantry operated normally with our standard food pantry pick-up service. Beginning March 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions, food pantry operations were modified. We assisted over **500** seniors through the traditional operations of Lotus Food Pantry.











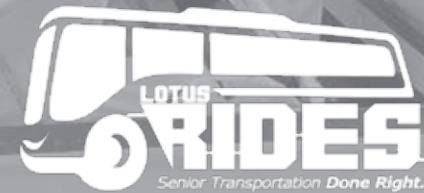
**1,693**  
Seniors Served

Our Material Aid program under the Information & Assistance Department, works diligently to accommodate the needs of our seniors. The pandemic altered our services; however, we still reached out to the seniors that requested material aids. EBRCOA was able to supply approximately **1,693** seniors with over **10,000** units of Material Aids. Material aid consists of incontinent supplies, nutritional supplements, walkers, wheel chairs, etc.

**10,000**  
Units of  
Material Aids

The Transportation Department made several adjustments to accommodate the seniors of East Baton Rouge Parish during the Fiscal Year July 2019-June 2020 due to **COVID-19 Pandemic**.

**We delivered congregate meals daily to each transportation participant as well as assisted with Meals on Wheels routes.**







Senior Centers create a sense of community and help minimize social isolation through engagement activities, 2019 -2020 was an unprecedented year due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Here is a breakdown of senior enrollment by senior center during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

Activity Center	# Senior Clients
Antioch Senior Center	309
Baker Senior Center	107
Ben Burge Senior Center	54
Bishop Ott	218
Catholic Prebyterian	183
Central Lotus Activity Center	96
Chaneyville Senior Center	79
Charles R. Kelly Senior Center	275
Dumas House	108
Flanacher Senior Center	73
Florida Blvd/The Lotus Center	357

Activity Center	# Senior Clients
Foster Road Senior Center	82
Greater King David Senior Center	53
Highland Senior Center	78
Homewood Senior Center	81
Jewel J. Newman Senior Center	185
Leo S. Butler Senior Center	109
Pearl George Senior Center	76
Perkins Road Senior Center	211
Sharlo Terrace	74
Turner Plaza	98
Zachary Senior Center	48

\*Senior Engagement was not tracked during the COVID-19 pandemic due to senior center closures so data may be slightly inaccurate. \*



## Lotus Food Pantry

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging has continued to provide vital services during the pandemic while protecting our seniors. Our staff was on the front line and dedicated to the seniors of this parish.

During these difficult times, we understand the importance of interacting and maintaining the relationships we have built with our seniors over the years. We will continue to meet the astronomical demand from seniors across the parish while minimizing the risk of transmission of the COVID-19 virus to the most vulnerable population.

The Lotus Food Pantry has become one of the largest senior pantries in EBR Parish and decreased senior hunger tremendously in our community. Over **8,000** seniors received a variety of non-perishable items, household items, and fresh produce at our food pantry drive-thru. We would like to thank our sponsors and volunteers for your generosity and continued dedication to our seniors. The Lotus Food Pantry is open to all qualified seniors across EBR Parish ages 60 years or above.





**July 2020-March 2021**







## Pop-Up Vaccination Clinic

Beginning March 10, 2021, the EBRCOA hosted weekly pop up vaccination clinics at The Lotus Center, 1701 Main Street, open to all individuals in EBR parish to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. This weekly clinic was made possible in collaboration with LDH, Office of Public Health, Ochsner's, Mayor-President Sharon Weston-Broome, the Governor's Health Equity Task Force, the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, the Louisiana National Guard and Albertsons. We understood the importance of ensuring access to the vaccines was equitable and easily accessible to anyone who was eligible for a vaccine.



## Homebound Vaccine Clinic

Across the parish are homebound individuals who were unable to visit vaccination sites in order to be vaccinated. On Monday, March 15, 2021, we took the initiative to distribute the vaccine to homebound seniors and our Meals on Wheels clients. In partnership with Mayor-President Sharon Weston-Broome, LDH, Healthy BR, and EBR Emergency Medical Services. Seniors across the parish were fully vaccinated without having to leave their homes. We provided essential services to the seniors of EBR parish and ensuring their safety from the COVID-19 virus was our top priority.

**720**  
Home Bound  
Seniors  
Vaccinated

***"We are honored to be a trusted community partner to facilitate access to the vaccinations in our community. I implore the community to take the initiative to register for an appointment and to equip themselves to fight against this horrible virus."*** -Tasha Clark-Amar, CEO, EBRCOA







EBRCOA Board Member, Patricia Sims Williams receiving her first dosage of the COVID-19 vaccine.



## > Mass Vaccination Clinic

The benefit of hosting these events around our community was being able to provide vaccines to large quantities of individuals. We're so thrilled to announce that 10,800 individuals of the community were vaccinated at the clinic. Special thanks for Albertsons, Oschner Medical, Louisiana Department of Health, Secretary Courtney Phillips, the Office of Public Health, Dr. Dawn R. Marcelle, Senator Cleo Fields, Representative Larry Selders, and Councilmember Carolyn Coleman for your partnership.

DAY 1 > Thursday, March 4th  
@The Lotus Center

DAY 2 > Friday, March 5th  
@Leo S. Butler  
Community Center

DAY 3 > Saturday, March 6th  
@Living Faith  
Christian Center



  
**10,800**

Community Residents  
Vaccinated

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging virtual programs were designed to enhance cognition, improve community interactions, and eliminate the feeling of loneliness among the senior community. In an abundance of caution, during the COVID-19 pandemic, all EBRCOA Congregate Senior Center locations were temporarily closed to ensure the safety and health of our senior clients. Social isolation is an ongoing problem in the senior population as we continue to navigate our way through these troubling times. Communication was essential and technology became vital to staying in contact with our seniors. It's important for seniors to make it a priority to learn how to properly use the latest devices such as a smart phone, computer, or tablet in order to stay in touch with the world around them.

## > Lotus Zone Radio Show

The purpose of The Lotus Zone Senior Radio Show is to engage, educate, and entertain seniors and their caregivers through a series of topics, such as senior news, health care tips, radio bingo, giveaways and much more. On Technology Tuesday, EBRCOA gives away tablets, laptops, and smart televisions to seniors to assist them in staying connected with agency updates, family, and friends. Technology Tuesday was made possible through a grant from the National Meals on Wheels of America. Seniors can tune in every Tuesday at 4 PM for a live show on our social media platforms, our website ([www.ebrcoa.org](http://www.ebrcoa.org)) or listen in on 106.1 FM WTQT.

## > Virtual Fitness & Wellness

Our Virtual Fitness program lowers the risk of chronic diseases, reduces their impact, and improves seniors balance and strength. EBRCOA certified fitness instructors guide seniors through step by step fitness routines such as Yoga/ Tai Chi Aerobics and Line Dancing that can be performed in the comfort of their own homes. Virtual fitness is a fun way to become more active and perform the exercises at a speed that works best for you. Our fitness videos can be viewed on our YouTube or Facebook page or website at [www.ebrcoa.org](http://www.ebrcoa.org).

## > Arts & Crafts

Our arts and crafts activities are known to have a positive effect on the physical and mental health of seniors. Our senior center site coordinators hosted video demonstrations of various craft projects that bring a sense of satisfaction, fun, and excitement into senior's lives. Our arts and crafts videos can be viewed on our YouTube or Facebook.

# 100

Average number of seniors who tune into our Lotus Zone Radio Show every Tuesday



Tasha Clark-Amar, CEO of EBRCOA and Mrs. Holmes of Cy-Tech Tara High School Magnet Academy discussing our Tech It Forward program.

# 680

Total views on Virtual Fitness videos



Jewel J. Newman seniors during Yoga/Tai Chi class with certified yoga instructor Carol S. Bradley.

# 220

Total views on Arts & Crafts videos



Central Lotus Activity Center fitness class with Ms. Donna Hincks.

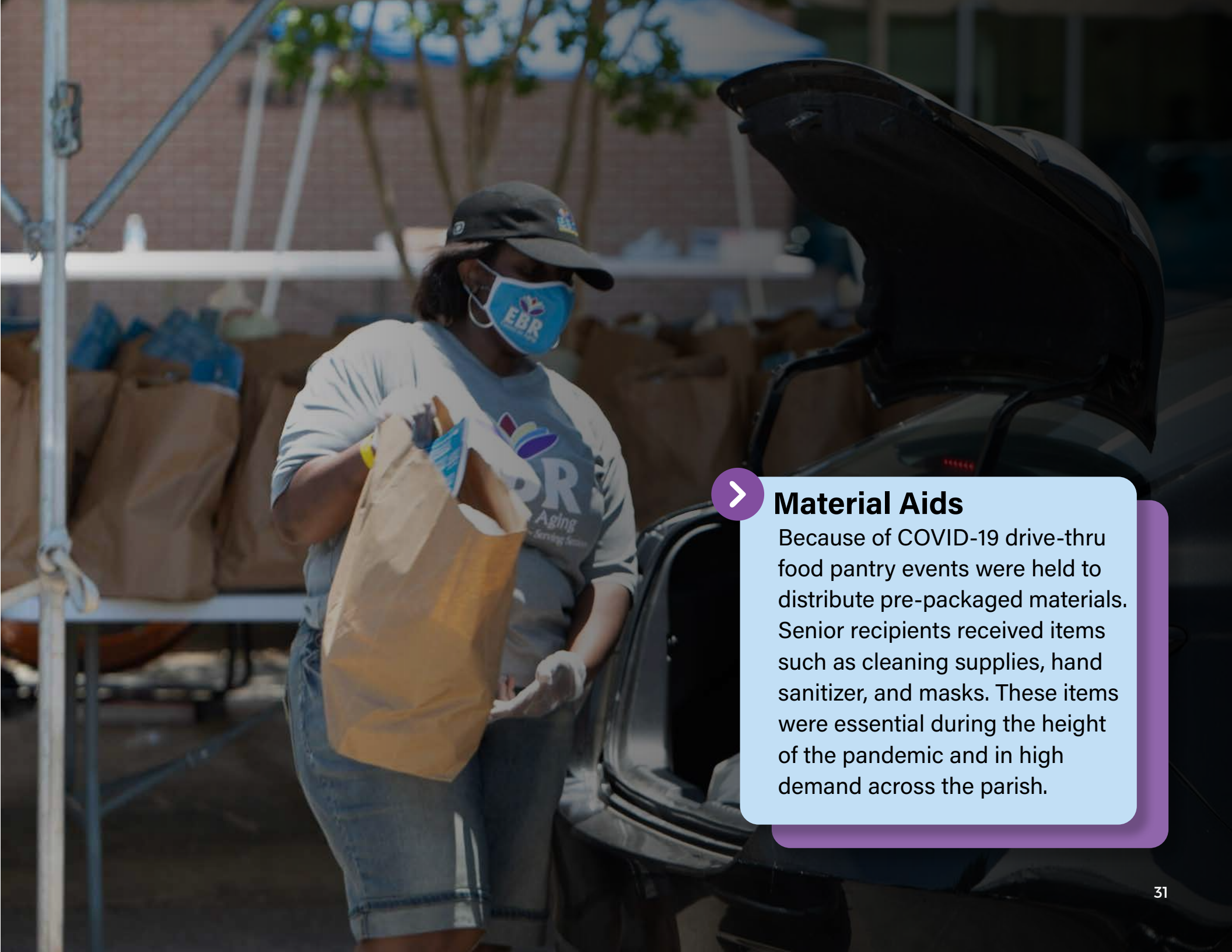
*"It is vital to keep our seniors abreast of what's going on in their community, with our agency and with their perspective senior centers. In order to keep our seniors safe, we decided to implement virtual programming to still engage with our seniors from the safety and comfort of their own home. We hope our seniors understand the importance of technology and how it can keep us all connected no matter where we are or the time of day." - Jasmine Carter, Director of Senior Engagement & Activities*





**Due to the on-going pandemic, all senior centers and activity centers remained closed to the public for more than 90% of the fiscal year of July 2020 – March 2021. Because of the closure, there is not any accurate data for food and nutrition.**





## Material Aids

Because of COVID-19 drive-thru food pantry events were held to distribute pre-packaged materials. Senior recipients received items such as cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, and masks. These items were essential during the height of the pandemic and in high demand across the parish.



## > Reflections, Changes, and Adjustments due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

As the COVID-19 virus spread and stay-at-home orders were issued, the agency shifted our focus into combat mode with the leadership of our Chief Executive Officer, Mrs. Tasha Clark-Amar. The Information and Assistance Department has held together, despite the unimaginable loss of lives throughout our senior population, as well as personal family. Although so much has changed, we've adapted to the new way of life and stood strong in serving the senior citizens of East Baton Rouge Parish. Several of our services are suspended in order to avoid direct contact with seniors who are the most vulnerable in contracting the COVID-19 virus. Seniors may soon be able to resume activities as normal prior to the pandemic.

EBRCOA are essential workers and our staff have been on the frontline throughout the pandemic continuing to serve our agency mission. COVID-19 may have turned our lives upside down, but we as an agency will continue to restructure our operations to serve the seniors of this parish. As we continue to practice social distancing and avoiding large groups of individuals, we will emphasize the importance of technology and staying connected with those around you during this time.





***"I am personally proud of my staff for stretching beyond normal duties and responsibilities during this pandemic. We have learned to quickly adapt to change which in return made us stronger. It truly hurts us to experience the countless loss and the unbelievable effects of COVID-19 on seniors and families, but we showed our humanity. It even brought us to our knees, but while there, we prayed. I am eternally grateful to Senior Management, my direct supervisor and my great staff."***

***- Pamela Thomas, Director of Information and Assistance Management***







**Due to the on-going pandemic, all senior centers and activity centers remained closed to the public for more than 90% of the fiscal year of 2020 – 2021. Because of the closure, there is not any accurate data for senior engagement.**









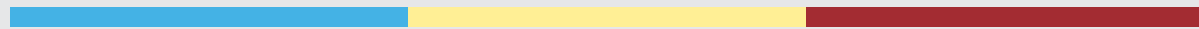


**“During the months of July 2020- March 2021, Lotus Rides continued to assist with the delivery of Congregate Meals. In addition, Lotus Rides played an integral role in the initiative to vaccinate seniors across the parish by providing needed transportation to the various clinic locations.”**

*- Johnathan Stagg, EBRCOA Transportation Coordinator*



# Capital Investments



## Capital Investments | Central Lotus Activity Center



Senior Centers serve as a gateway in the community, connecting older adults to services that maintain their health and independence. These centers provide hot congregate meals, cognitive activities, daily fitness, and access to a Social Worker. Ensuring that senior centers are located in close proximity to East Baton Rouge Parish residents is a very high priority of the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging. Our goal is to provide senior centers that are easy for the community to access. Our new Central Lotus Activity Center meets that goal. The Central Lotus Activity Center is a brand new 8,000 square ft building located off Hooper Road in the Central Community. This nearly 8,000 square foot facility is a very modern center with several amenities to accommodate the active population of seniors within the community equipped with state-of-the-art technology. This facility is situated in front of a recently renovated park, a fully stocked pond, and a walking trail.



### Development Summary

- New Construction 8,000 SQ. FT. Building
- Card Room, 200" Mounted Projector Screen
- Modern Industrial Design



**\$650,000**  
TOTAL INVESTMENT



## Capital Investments | Central Lotus Activity Center



## Capital Investments | Ageless Circle



# \$679,000

**TOTAL INVESTMENT**

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging renovated the old fire station located on Gus Young Ave and 38th Street in the heart of the Eden Park Community. The Ageless Circle is the home of our Lotus Zone Senior Radio Show that is featured on the radio and all of EBRCOA's social media platforms. This program assists in improving the youth's academic performance, allowing the seniors to teach the youth various trades, life skills, and enhance seniors' technological capabilities. In addition, this program will reduce social isolation for the seniors and youth, allowing them to engage with one another in structured activities. This center will also allow the seniors and youth to cultivate meaningful and long-standing relationships.

The center features a high-tech computer lab, multipurpose room, conference room, offices, state-of-the-art recording music studio, and custom-built outdoor kitchen for entertainment. This is the home of the Lotus Zone Radio Show that is featured on the radio and all of EBRCOA's social media platforms. The Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Celebration was held on Friday, June 18, 2021. The event had several community stakeholders, senior volunteers, and the Eden Park community celebrating the new staple of the Eden Park Community.



### Development Summary

- Renovated Old Eden Park Fire Station 4,000 SQ. FT. Building
- The Architect: Map Design Group LLC
- The General Contractor is Ronnie Howard Construction
- Music Studio & Custom-Built Outdoor Kitchen-Legette Construction, Inc.
- The Design Team-Coleman & Partners Architect, L.L.C



## Capital Investments | Ageless Circle





## Capital Investments | Lotus Headquarters

The current Administration Building and Commercial Kitchen located at 5790 Florida Blvd is antiquated and lacks the space needed to sustain the ever-growing workforce of the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging. For years the agency has needed to expand the commercial kitchen and allow more space to produce and store nutritional meals. As East Baton Rouge Parish residents continue to gracefully age, new seniors are added to our programs daily, and the need for expansion is dire. Currently under construction at 965 North 18th Street is the agency's New Administration Building (The Lotus Headquarters). The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging is confident that the new Lotus Headquarters facility will continue to affirm our mission of Supporting Independence ~ Serving Seniors. Several construction milestones have recently taken place at 965 North 18th Street:

- The rough-in of all necessary mechanicals

- Pouring of the concrete slab

- The installation of steel framing

- The installation of aluminum decking



The architect of record for this project is the Map Design Group LLC, and the general contractor is Percy J. Matherne Constructors. The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging is genuinely excited about the much-needed space of this facility and the service to the aging community that East Baton Rouge Council on Aging will provide in this facility. This new facility is slated for completion in the last quarter of 2021. Upon completing the Lotus Headquarters, EBRCOA will vacate 5790 Florida Blvd and return possession of this property to the East Baton Rouge City-Parish.

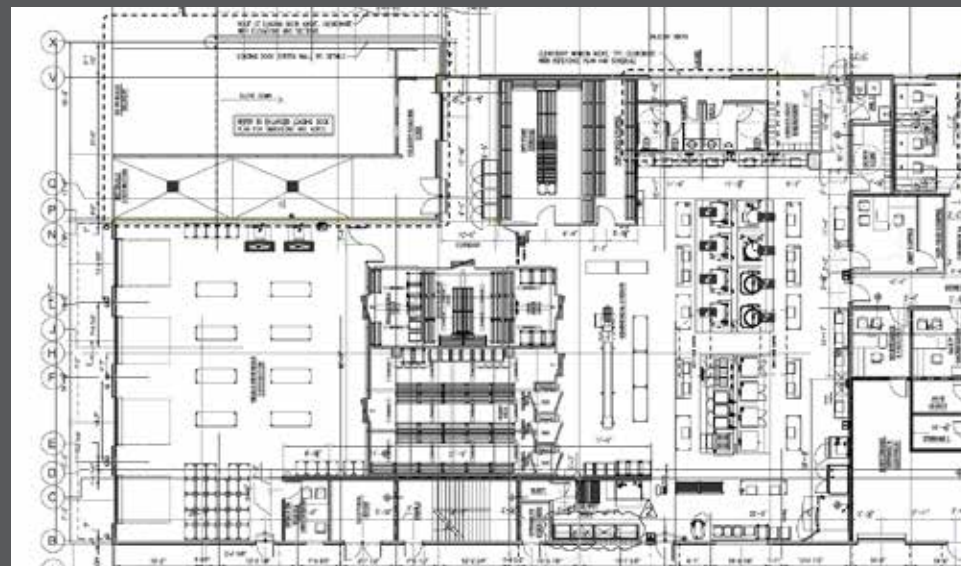


**\$5.8 Million**  
TOTAL INVESTMENT

# Capital Investments | Lotus Headquarters



▪ New Construction 25,000 SQ. FT. Building



▪ State-of-the-art Commercial Kitchen (12,000 SQ. FT.)



▪ 21st Century Workspaces and Technology



Developing a 21st Century Workplace sustainable for decades of use.



# On the Horizon







## On the Horizon | Lotus Village



# \$23.9 Million

**TOTAL DEVELOPMENT COST**

Lotus Village is a planned senior community, replacing five blighted, and abandoned blocks in the Suburb Gracie neighborhood. This community will embrace a village-style development concept, providing seniors with easy access to necessities such as health care and nutrition while offering tons of leisure and recreational-style amenities. Adjacent to the new Lotus Headquarters, Lotus Village will provide 116 homes to seniors in East Baton Rouge Parish. These homes are FORTIFIED and Energy Star rental units. The cost associated with building FORTIFIED, Energy Star housing on a site that manages its stormwater on-site is significantly higher than a traditional housing development, but the cost to react to the effects of flooding and vulnerable seniors with high utility cost are much more significant.

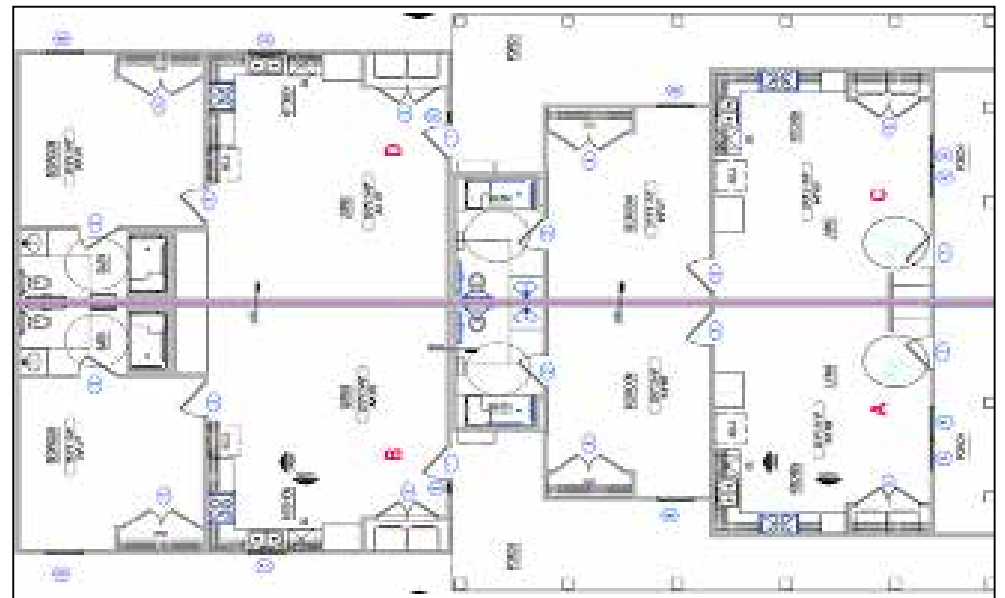
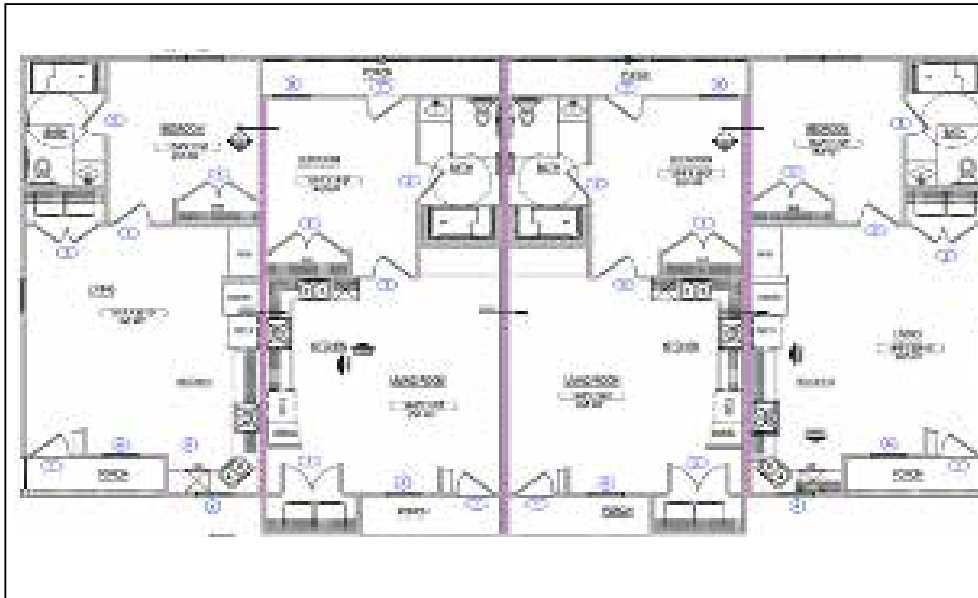
The units offered in Lotus Village are all One Bedroom Units and range from 790 square feet to 1088 square feet in size. The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging has partnered with Gulf Coast Housing Partners to develop Lotus Village. Through this great partnership, the Lotus Village project has successfully obtained funding from various sources through competitive application processes. Those awards include a 4% LIHTC, \$10 Million from CDBG Funds by Louisiana Housing Corporation, and \$750,000 from AHP Dallas. Our Lotus Village project is estimated to be complete in November 2022.

## A New Senior Village in the Heart of Gracie Suburbs



# 116 Units

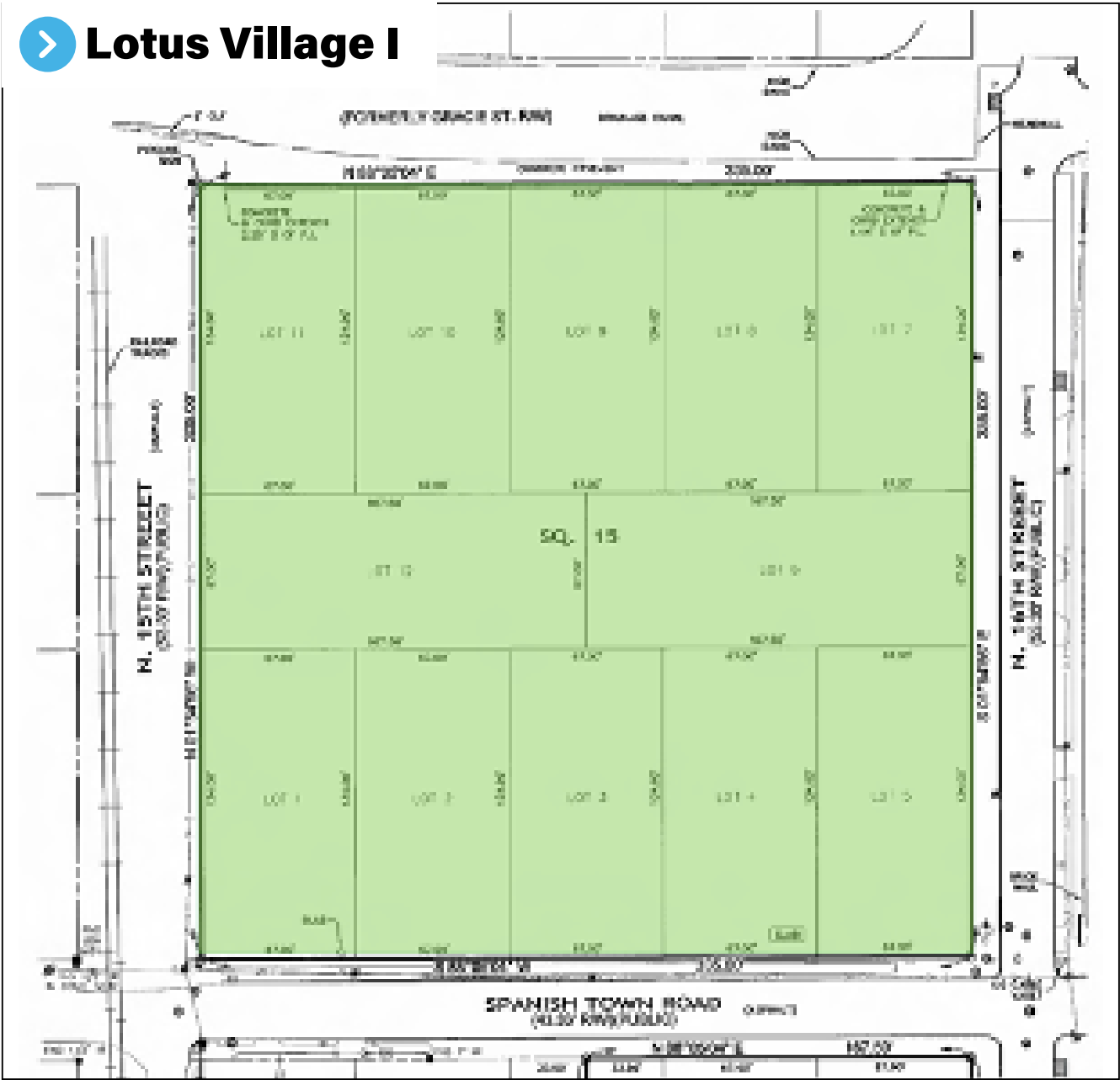
20 % - 80 % AMI (Area Median Income)



**56 New Construction Buildings**

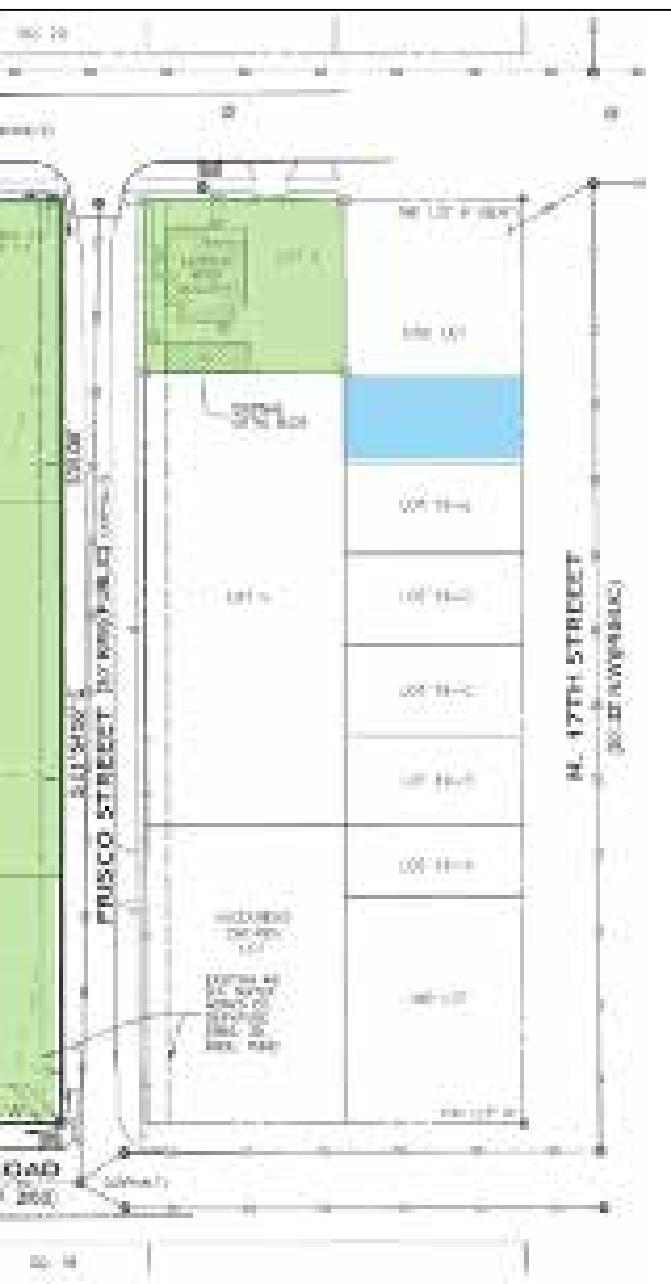


➤ Lotus Village I

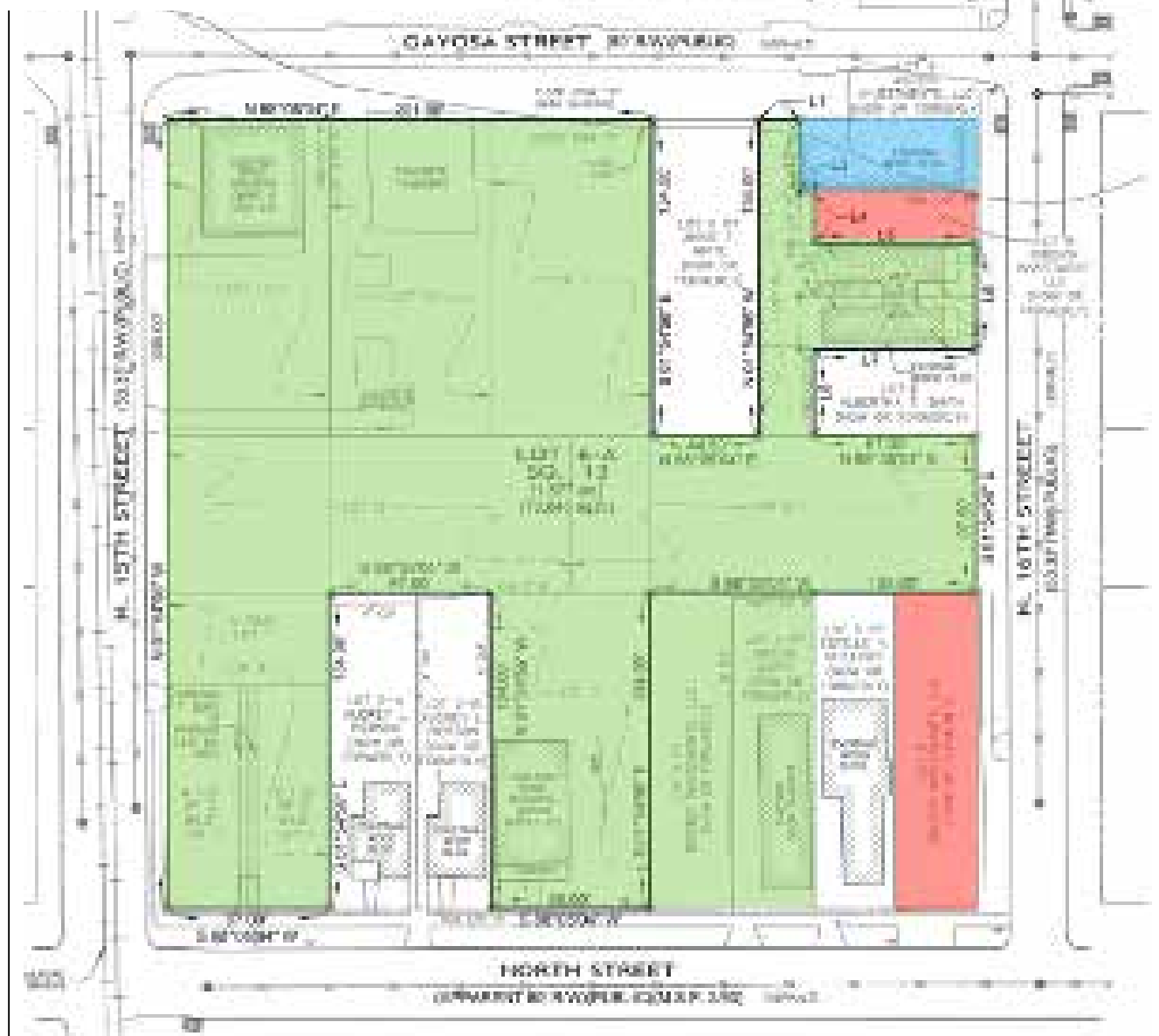


➤ Lotus Village II





## Lotus Village III



Green = Housing Development | Blue = Proposed Amenities Sites | Red = Land Available for Future Development

## On the Horizon | Lotus Village at the Lake



Since 1991, the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging has owned 2.99 Acres of land in the unincorporated area of Baker, LA. The current administration was unaware that we held ownership of this property until researching all properties owned by the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging. This discovery could not have come at a better time as we were actively searching for available property in the area. When the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging received the millage in 2016, expanding our footprint to serve our seniors in rural areas more efficiently was a commitment. In keeping that commitment, Lotus Village at the Lake will be home to our first Housing Development in the Northern part of the parish. Our goal is to develop 60 rental units and a state-of-the-art Baker-Zachary Senior Center. The Senior Center developed at this site will replace both the Baker and Zachary Senior Center, as it is centrally located between both.

The East Baton Council on Aging will partner with Gulf Coast Housing Partner to develop Lotus Village at the Lake. This project is currently in the planning phase, and we are excited about this new development.



### Development Summary

- 8.1 Acre Site
- 15,000 square foot Senior Center (minimum size)
- Featuring: Cafeteria, Community Space, Activity Rooms, Pantry
- 60 – One Bedroom Rental Units



## On the Horizon | Lotus Village at the Lake



**Red = Housing Development | Blue = Senior Center**



# Senior Testimonials

## Drive Thru Pantry

"I'm thankful for the masks, hand sanitizer, toilet paper, hand soap, and meals provided by EBRCOA. Thank you for caring and constantly thinking about seniors, you all rock! May God bless you all!"

- **Louise Turner Spradley, Facebook**

"Thank you, thank you, thank you! The lunch is always amazing, fruit and veggies are super fresh, can goods, pasta, bread, toilet paper, and hand sanitizer. Priceless! You guys are amazing!"

- **Jackie Snow, Facebook**

"Praise God that seniors were able to receive needed items during this pandemic. I love to see you all reaching out to seniors throughout the parish. It can be a very rough time for many of us; so, it's important we take care of one another. Seniors, you're not alone or forgotten."

- **Cindy Brown, Facebook**

"Thank you to the United Cajun Navy for the fruit and vegetables. EBRCOA you are such a blessing to the seniors. God bless you all!"

- **Earline C. Bell, Facebook**

## Drive Thru Pantry

"I would like to commend the staff of EBRCOA for going the extra mile in helping the seniors during the pandemic. The hot lunches passed out daily are very healthy and helpful to all seniors. The workers are patient and very pleasant. The text messages we receive about the pantry dates, times, and locations are all awesome. Everything is so well organized. If I had to rate EBRCOA on a scale of 1-10, I would rate them a 10! Your service is excellent. I have nothing to say about this organization as negative. Prior to the pandemic, my mother was assigned a caregiver to help me out with my mother. Overall, I would like to say job well done EBRCOA. Keep up the good work and may God bless you all!"

- **Debora Sims, caregiver of the National Family Caregiver Support Program**

"Thanks so much for your kindness. We really appreciate you and all you do for seniors."

- **Gwen Suarez-Carriere**











# Senior Testimonials

## COVID Vaccine Clinics

"I applaud EBRCOA for doing the pop-up clinics as well as visiting the homes of seniors that want the vaccine."

**- Elouise Colbert, Senior Participant in Pop-Up Clinic**

"Great job EBRCOA in scheduling and delivering the COVID vaccines. The process was efficient, no long lines and effective. Thank you COA another job well done!"

**- Diane Tate, Senior Participant in Pop-Up Clinic**

"I was there today, first visit to get my COVID-19 vaccine. The entire process was efficient and easy. Extremely helpful staff. After the officer at the door brought me in to the first stop, he alerted others that I read lips. Everyone was cognizant of the fact and helped me along. Very grateful for their kind treatment."

**- Nancy Vinci, Senior Participant in Pop-Up Clinic**

"You are truly a blessing that enriches so many seniors. I can never say thank you enough!"

**- Frankita Jolene Sims, Facebook Testimonial**

## Lotus Zone

"Thank you EBRCOA! I won a tablet on the Lotus Zone show yesterday and picked it up this morning with no problem. Thank you for all you and your team do for the seniors in this parish. You are Awesome!"

**- Corliss Stewart, Lotus Zone Testimonial**

"The great thing about this show is you can re watch it whenever you want and follow the recipes."

**- Quin Haney-Armstrong, Lotus Zone Testimonial**

"You always have the BEST GUEST - so smart and informative."

**- Sandra S. Pressburg, Lotus Zone Testimonial**

"Y'all have the best leadership and do an awesome job for seniors in this area. I moved here from South Carolina and must say no other area is blessed like EBR. Thanks for everything y'all do."

**- Veronica Rodgers, Lotus Zone Testimonial**











# EBRCOA Audited Financial Activities

Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2019

	AS OF JUNE 30, 2019
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE:</b>	2019
Government Grants/ Property Tax/In-Kind	11,891,887
Public Contributions	190,901
Interest/Other Income	27,813
<b>Total Support and Revenue:</b>	<b>12,110,601</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Programs and Overhead	3,596,091
Operating Services	1,897,245
Operating Supplies	2,692,230
Kitchen Operations/Other Costs	2,019,524
Capital Outlay	2,513,713
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>12,718,803</b>
Change in Net Assets **	-608,202
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	5,498,071
Net Assets, End of Year	4,889,869

Information taken from EBRCOA Audited Financial Statement as of June 30, 2019  
Audited by L.A. Champagne & Co. LLP - Certified Public Accountants

\*\* Primarily due to the recognition of property tax revenue when received.  
Expenses for July1, 2019 - December 31, 2019 are not reflected.

## ➤ **2020 Donors**

Adrienne Shields  
 Alice Ann Fesmire  
 Ashley Elisar  
 Attorney Joel G. Porter  
 Bayard Management Group  
 Bell's Janitorial Services, LLC  
 Borden's Dairy  
 Brandy Funderburk  
 CareSouth Medical & Dental  
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 Carol Barry  
 Catherine Jordan  
 Chantell Singleton  
 DaEdge1 Productions, LLC  
 Daniel Mulligan  
 Danika Battley  
 DC Eats  
 Dr. James Gilmore, Jr.  
 EBR Street Crimes  
 Enforcement Community  
 Services  
 Eric Lhymn

Erin Walker  
 Hannah McIntire  
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 Rockea Thompson  
 Sarah Eich  
 Suzanne Jones  
 Toni Holland  
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## ➤ **Lotus Zone Radio Sponsors**

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 Accounting Services  
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 Jimmie and Maude Catering  
 Legette Construction, LLC  
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 United Healthcare

## ➤ **2019 Taste of Baton Rouge | Living Life Like It's Golden 5th Annual Celebration**

Beausoleil  
 Blaque Liquid Factory  
 Café Express  
 Chef Charles Wilford, Sr.  
 Chef Rhonda  
 Chef Schonberg Sweets  
 Chicken Shack  
 Diamond Marque  
 EBRCOA Lotus Beverage  
 EBRCOA Lotus Catering  
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 Indulgence Catering  
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 520 Spain

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 Dental  
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 Davelyn Martin  
 Guy Jackson  
 Jay Williams  
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 Patricia Williams  
 Tasha Clark-Amar  
 Patrice Bryant  
 Rose Doolittle  
 Shirley Lolis  
 Sylvia Andrews  
 The GBR Pan Hellenic Co.  
 Timothy Moore  
 Trudy Bihm-Howard  
 Unchella Wicker

## > 2019 Senior Lifestyle Expo Sponsors

AARP Louisiana  
Alzheimer's Services of the Capital Area  
Aroma Flame Candles  
Baton Rouge General  
Capital Area Agency on Aging  
Capital Area Human Services Opioid Prevention (OPAL)  
CareSouth Medical and Dental  
Cumulus Media  
Dillard's  
Entergy Solutions  
Hamilton Relay  
Hancock Whitney Bank  
Housing Authority of East Baton Rouge  
Humana  
Jess' Bra Closet  
Latter & Blum

Life Source Hospice  
Louisiana Center for Eyes, LLC  
Louisiana Commission on Human Rights  
Louisiana Department of Health - Office of Public Health - Bureau of Community Preparedness  
Louisiana Lt. Governor & Tourism  
Louisiana Senior Medicare Patrol  
Mayor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness  
Medicare Advantage  
Merchants Foodservices  
MidCity Redevelopment Alliance, Inc.  
Office of Aging and Adult Services  
One Up.Fit  
Pennington Biomedical Research Center  
Peoples Health

Picture Perfect Getaways  
Radiant Gems  
Ray J's College of Hair  
Resting Place Funeral Home  
Rosebud Healthcare and Training  
S.A.L.T  
Sam's Boutique  
Senior Health Insurance Information Program (LA-SHIIP)  
Serenity Private Care  
Southern University AG Center  
Southgate Towers  
The Lighthouse for the Blind  
T-Mobile  
UnitedHealthcare  
Urban Bros / Boodha Noony  
Urban Garden Senior Villiage

## > Brick Campaign Donors

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Jonathan McGee

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Judge Yvette Alexander  
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Laticia Espinoza  
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Tameka London  
Tasha Clark-Amar  
Timothy Moore  
Trudy Bihm-Howard  
Twahana Harris



# East Baton Rouge Council on Aging | Senior Centers

**Antioch Senior Center**

7140 East Antioch Rd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70817  
Phone: 225-246-7994

**Ageless Circle –  
Intergenerational Center**

3820 Gus Young Ave  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
Phone: 225-330-4966

**Baker Senior Center**

3334 Jefferson St.  
Baker, LA 70714  
Phone: 225-366-6432

**Ben Burge Senior Center**

9350 Antigua Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810  
Phone: 225-454-2815

**Central Lotus Activity  
Senior Center**

11111 Park Place Dr., Suite C  
Central, LA 70818  
Phone: 225-615-8339

**Chaneyville Senior Center**

13211 Jackson Rd.  
Zachary, LA 70791  
Phone: 225-286-4101

**Charles R. Kelly  
Senior Center**

3939 Riley St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70805  
Phone: 225-389-5464

**Dumas House Senior Center**

1313 North Sherwood Forest  
Baton Rouge, LA 70815  
Phone: 225-389-4990

**Flanacher Senior Center**

205 E. Flanacher Rd.  
Zachary, LA 70791  
Phone: 225-306-4392

**Foster Road Senior Center**

11333 Foster Rd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70811  
Phone: 225-227-2562

**Sharlo Terrace I & II**

4915 Alvin Dark Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
Phone: 225-346-0215

**Turner Plaza Apt.**

4546 North St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
Phone: 225-923-8114

**Greater King David Senior Center**

131 Elmer Ave.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70807  
Phone: 225-775-4996

**Highland Road Senior Center**

14024 North Amiss Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810  
Phone: 225-454-4773

**Homewood Aquatic  
Senior Center**

3654 Granada Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810  
Phone: 225-636-5611

**Jewel J. Newman  
Senior Center**

2013 Central Rd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70707  
Phone: 225-239-7796

**Leo S. Butler Senior Center**

950 E. Washington St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
Phone: 225-344-6775

**Pearl George Senior Center**

4000 Gus Young Ave.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
Phone: 225-389-5611

**Perkins Road Senior Center**

7122 Perkins Rd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
Phone: 225-302-9662

**The Lotus Center**

1701 Main St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
Phone: 225-923-8000

**Zachary Senior Center**

3541 Highway 19  
Zachary, LA 70791  
Phone: 225-286-4107

## Feeding Sites:

**LOL Senior Residential Living/  
Calais House**

7545 Bishop Ott Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
Phone: 225-223-6559

**Catholic Presbyterian Apt.**

655 North St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
Phone: 225-383-5551

**East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (Main Office)**

5790 Florida Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Phone: (225) 923.8000 Fax: (225) 923.8030

ebrcoa.org | Lotus Ride Line: (225) 361-0299

info@ebrcoa.org



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