News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EBRCOA Host Drive-Thru Lotus Food Pantry

BATON ROUGE, Louisiana (09/05/2021) – The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA) will host a "Replenish Your Refrigerator" Drive-Thru Lotus Food Pantry on Wednesday, September 8th beginning at 8:30 a.m. at The Lotus Center located at 1701 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. The drive-thru food pantry is open to all senior residents of the East Baton Rouge Parish aged 60 and older, while supplies last.

The pick-up instructions for this event are simple! Seniors should drive up to The Lotus Center, pop their trunk, and an EBRCOA staff member will place their groceries into their vehicle. The EBRCOA will distribute bags of groceries containing meat, milk, fruit, vegetables, bread, pantry staples and water, while supplies last. This event is possible due to the following sponsors: The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, Merchants Foodservice, the Office of Mayor-President Sharon Weston-Broome, and State Senator Regina Barrow.

"Due to Hurricane Ida and the loss of electricity across the parish, our seniors have loss all of their perishable goods. In an effort to continue to combat senior hunger, we want to assist them with restocking their pantries and refrigerators." said Tasha Clark-Amar, Chief Executive Officer of EBRCOA.

The EBRCOA Lotus Food Pantry is a senior-focused free food pantry designed to combat senior hunger in East Baton Rouge Parish. Our pantry service is made possible through a partnership with the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, the USDA, and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture.

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging is dedicated to ensuring the safety of all seniors across the parish as the community recovers from Hurricane Ida. We strongly advise everyone to continue to pay close attention to the advisories and warnings being given by local governmental officials during this hurricane season. Additionally, continue to follow the proper COVID-19 precautions such as masking up, sanitizing and disinfecting shared surfaces, social distancing, and continuing to wash your hands frequently.

For more information, call the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging at (225) 923-8000 or email <u>info@ebrcoa.org</u>.

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 providing high-quality services to seniors, the maintenance of their 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.