


East Baton Rouge Council on Aging | Annual Report



April 2021 - March 2022



The 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. AAAs plan and provide social services and nutrition services for elders, and support for caregivers.

Governance

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging (EBRCOA) is both an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and a Council on Aging (COA). EBRCOA is governed by the Administration of Aging which is responsible for enforcing the Older Americans Act and the Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs (GOEA) which manages the Louisiana State Plan on Aging. The EBRCOA is allocated funding through the Area Plan which is a grant application the agency submits to the GOEA for the period 2022-2025.

Performance Expectations

The Governor's Office of Elderly Affairs (GOEA) has provided the following performance indicators as a means of measuring COA performance.

- **Increase the number of older persons who have access to an integrated array of health and social supports;**
- **Increase the number of older persons who stay active and healthy;**
- **Increase the number of families who are supported in their efforts to care for their loved ones at home and in the community; and**
- **Increase the number of older people who benefit from programs that protect their rights and prevent elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.**
- **Facilitate leadership in developing and improving transportation options for the elderly in the Public Service Area and**
- **Providing assistance with applying for benefits and programs.**
- **The seventh and final goal is to educate consumers on services provided by Ombudsman and display and distribute flyers provided by GOEA, and provide opportunities for Ombudsman to speak to staff and clients about the service to promote awareness.**

A Message from **our CEO**

Our commitment 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

2021-2022 was not a typical year for the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging. The disruptions in the normal routines and rhythms of everyday life contribute oftentimes to the lingering unease and sadness that we are all feeling due to the vicious effects of the global Pandemic. Not only are we mourning the loss of hundreds of our senior participant lives, but we grieve for the days of the past where we were free to gather and fellowship without fear of a transmissible deadly virus.

As we make every effort to memorialize the last year in this Annual Report, we recognize that this agency found a way to flourish during an unimaginable and unbelievably challenging year in the midst of providing our most concentrated level of service during a Pandemic. We further realize that we were only able to accomplish these efforts, because of our strong foundation – a foundation of faith, foundation of love, respect for our seniors, foundation of support, encouragement, grace, and perseverance.

This year more than any other has shown that our community is truly resilient. I am proud to say we utilized our breadth, compassion and understanding of the trials of the Pandemic, to emerge laser focused on our commitment to the heart of service. I am sincerely thankful to all the citizens of East Baton Parish, the EBRCOA Board

of Directors, the entire EBRCOA staff, and all of our supporters! The work the Council on Aging does is only possible because of each one of you.

This Annual Report reflects our services, 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

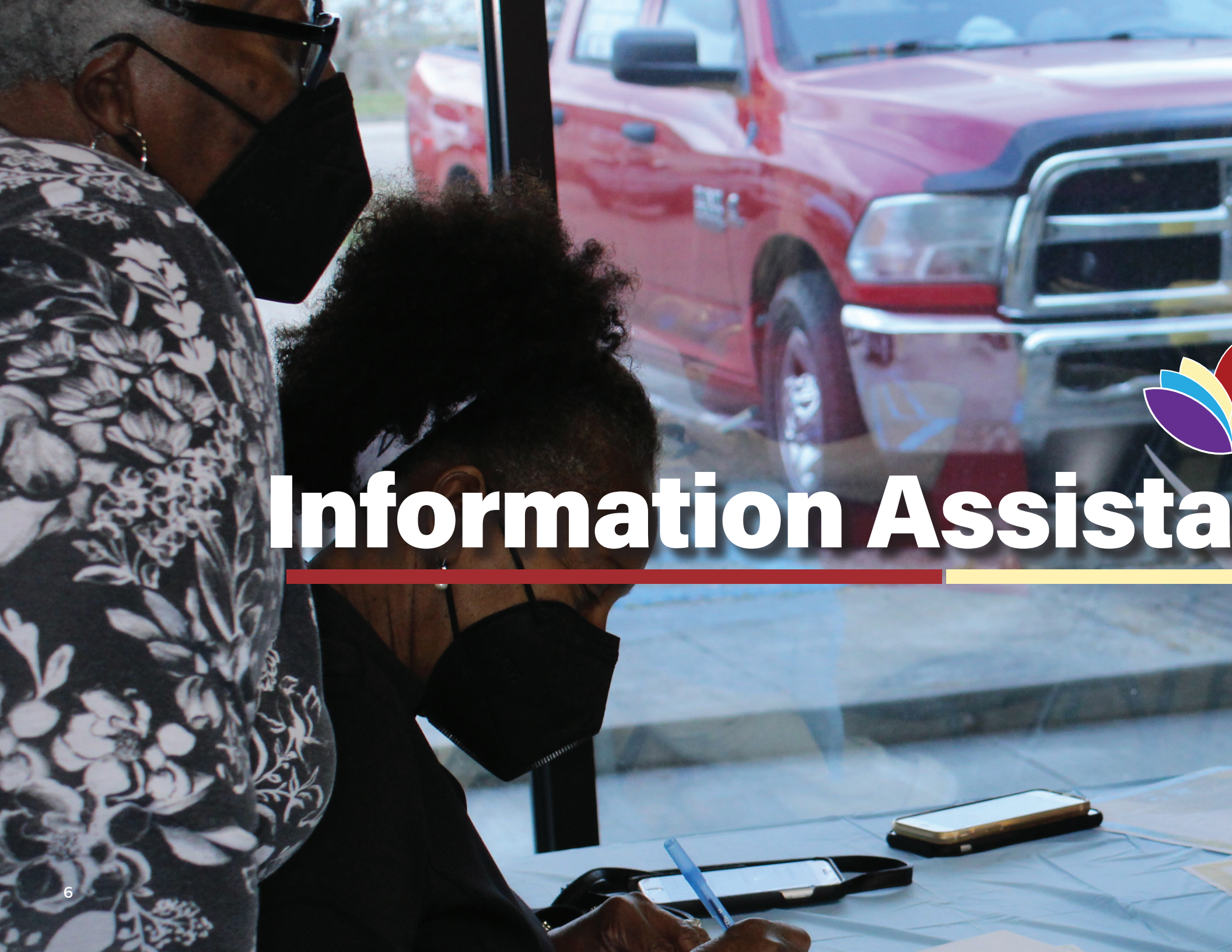
Board Member



Attorney Chandler Loupe

Board Member





Information Assista



Finance & Management

April 2021 - March 2022

Information Assistance & Management

The Information Assistance & Management Department consists of Intake Coordinators, Clerical Assistants, Care Managers, Social Workers, and Management Information Systems (MIS) available to answer questions, conduct thorough assessments of client needs, make appropriate service recommendations, and refer clients to services at COA.

The purpose of Information Assistance & Management is to encourage and assist older individuals to utilize facilities and services available to them. IA&M provides the older adults with the most current information on opportunities and services available within the community. Furthermore, IA&M focuses on assessing individual problems and capacities, while linking seniors with direct services and resolutions. The department holistically conducts assessments, Continuum of Care Coordination, advocacy and outreach, and related care management activities.

Services Included:

Case Management

Cable Bill Assistance (Cox Communications)

Comprehensive Phone Assessments

Medicare, Medicaid, MIPPA Assistance

Material Aid (Incontinent supplies, durable medical equipment, supplemental nutrition supplies, etc.)

Power to Care (utility assistance)

Information Assistance & Management



Units of Material Aid



Seniors Served



Seniors Served



Covid-19 Vacc



ination Clinics

April 2021 - March 2022

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics

The purpose of these clinics was to lower the chance of transmission of COVID-19 in our senior centers and among the most vulnerable population. Vaccines are an important tool in public health to prevent the spread of contagious and deadly diseases while also saving lives. Thank you, Albertsons Companies, Ochsner Health Systems, and the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) for assisting us in protecting our community.



Total number of
individuals vaccinated

5,290



Total number of Homebound
vaccines

720



Total number of COVID-19
Vaccine Clinics

17





COVID-19 Drive-Thru Testing Clinic

"We are still committed to protecting both the seniors of this parish as well as our staff from COVID-19. Everyone must do their part in minimizing the transmission of this horrible virus. I encourage all seniors to get tested for themselves and their community."

- Tasha Clark-Amar, Chief Executive Officer

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging, Senator Cleo Fields, and the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) hosted a COVID-19 Drive-Thru Testing Clinic at the Louisiana Leadership Institute on Saturday, January 29, 2022. Due to the stigma around the test being painful or uncomfortable, several seniors were tested for their very first time.





700
***Individuals
tested for
COVID-19 at
the Louisiana
Leadership
Institute
drive-thru
testing clinic.***





Sweet Potatoes (QTY 2)

Potatoes (QTY 2)

Nutritional



Services

April 2021 - March 2022



The Lotus Food Pantry

Combating Senior Hunger

East Baton Rouge Council on Aging 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, and the USDA.

During the fiscal year, the Lotus Food Pantry continued to operate under COVID-19 modified restrictions, which consisted of no in-person shopping. To better protect our seniors, the agency implemented a drive-thru pantry pick-up system that instructed seniors to drive-up, pop their trunks, and a staff member would place their groceries and personal items into the vehicle.

Each week our seniors receive, but are not limited to, meat products, produce, water, juices, milk, eggs, cereal, snacks, household and personal care items.

This great selection of items provide our seniors with a well-balanced and nutritious diet.



Feeding others one pantry at a time.

- Jeremiah Sampract, Lotus Food Pantry Coordinator

Replenish the Refrigerator



Lotus Food Pantry Drive-Thru

The Replenish Your Refrigerator Drive-Thru Food Pantry took place on Wednesday, September 8th at The Lotus Center (1701 Main Street) beginning at 8:30 AM. We are elated to announce 2,500 senior citizens across the parish received a food box containing meat, milk, fruit, vegetables, bread, pantry staples, and water. This event was the agency's effort to assist the thousands of seniors affected by Hurricane Ida.

Special thanks to The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, Merchants Foodservice, the Office of Mayor-President Sharon Weston-Broome, EBR Parish Constable Office, EBR Sheriff Office, and State Senator Regina Barrow for making this event possible for the seniors of EBR Parish.



 **2,500**
Senior Served



Nutritional Services



623,767

Total Home Delivery Meals

****Service delivery methods changed during the period due to the declared Global Pandemic (COVID-19). Due to the pandemic, all meals (Meals on Wheels and Congregate (Hot) Meals) were combined for one grand total. ****





Senior Eng



Engagement

April 2021 - March 2022

on Aging
pendence ~ Serving Seniors

● Fall Arts & Crafts



● Santa Tour

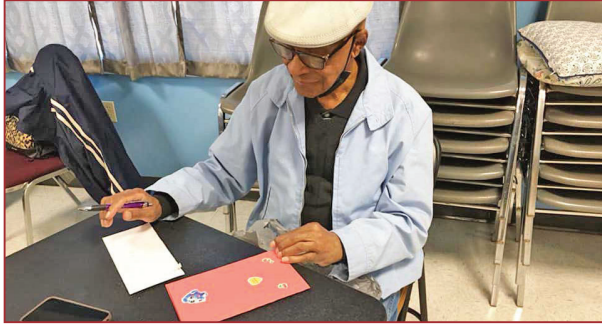


The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging currently operates several Congregate and Nutritional Meal sites throughout EBR Parish. In addition, to providing a nutritionally balanced meal, Congregate Meal sites also provide programs and activities designed to promote physical health and well-being. These include physical activities such as Yoga, Tai Chi for Arthritis, and Seasonal Aquatic Exercise and Activities, as well as programmatic activities, such as Nutrition Education, Matter of Balance that focuses on balance and strengthen, Chronic Disease Management, and Diabetes Self-Management.

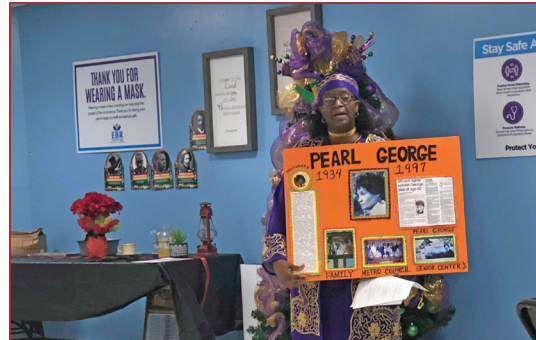
● Senior Fitness



● Valentine's Day



● Black History Month



● Mardi Gras



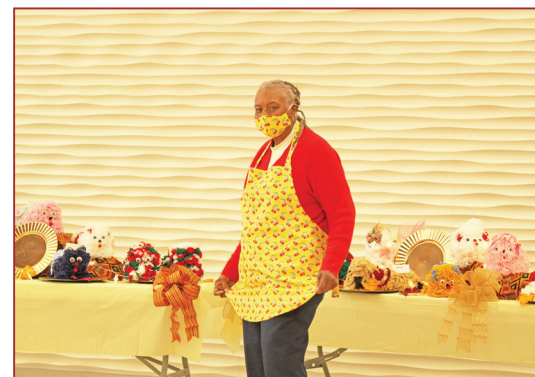
● St. Patrick's Day



● Veteran's Day Program



● Sewing Club Fashion Shows





Senior Testimonials

"I have a few medical problems, with so many surgeries on my feet. My goal is to be able to walk without the use of any other medical devices. Mr. Thompson continues to encourage me to reach my goal. He is a great support to me and is an example of how the Council on Aging is making a positive impact in my life."

- **Juanita Rutherford,**
The Lotus Center Participant

"Coming to the Council on Aging has made such a difference in my life. It has helped me focus on the positive aspects of my life and my days are filled with laughter at the senior center. I have access to many resources that I wasn't aware of it before becoming a member of the agency. The staff is amazing and so caring towards the seniors."

- **Dorothy Hargrove,**
EBRCOA Senior Participant

"At 60 years old, I have never felt more alive. Thank God for the Council on Aging and the Jewel J. Newman Senior Center. My days at the senior center are filled with so much fun, laughter, and peace. We pray together, do line dancing, yoga, eat delicious food, and so much more."

- **Betty Caddo, Jewel J. Newman Senior Center Participant**

"I've been attending the Antioch Senior Center for several years and it has truly become the greatest part of my day. I love socializing with my peers and the food is always outstanding."

- **Antoinette Collins, Antioch Senior Center Participant**

"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





"Thank you for the wonderful gifts you all distributed earlier this week to assist in replenishing our fridge. It's certainly generous of you all and much appreciated. Thank you for your continued service to the seniors!"

**- Allan Kraft,
Lotus Food Pantry
Drive-Thru Participant**



"I enjoy socializing with my peers in the senior centers. The activities are great and engaging. It's nice to have a place you can go as a senior citizen and not have to worry about being disrespected or threatened. The senior center feels like a second home."

**- Mr. & Mrs. Cleve Harrison,
The Lotus Center Participant**

"I want to give a heartfelt thank you to Council on Aging for helping my wife and I get vaccinated after several attempts at different avenues to no avail. Receiving the COVID vaccine may seem so small of service; however, we needed it the most. Thank you, COA!"

**- Floyd and Barbara Lee, Pop Up Vaccine
Clinic Participant**



"I would like to personally thank you for all the Meals on Wheels deliveries. You all are truly a blessing to many people in EBR Parish. The Council on Aging is very fortunate to have such a dedicated staff."

**- Robert M. Carr,
Meals on Wheels Recipient**

"I offer my sincere thanks to the EBRCOA for the lovely hospitality shown to me when I moved to Baton Rouge five years ago. I'm especially appreciative to receive seven prepared balanced meals, fruits, and milk every week. Not only are the meals healthy, but they are delicious, especially that baked chicken! The delivery drivers are always so courteous. May God continue to shower down His blessings on the management and staff of EBRCOA and keep them safe."

**- Josephine Rice,
Meals on Wheels Recipient**



2021 Thanksgiving Dinner



1,550 meals were served at the 2021 Thanksgiving Dinner

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging would traditionally host a parish-wide Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Dance event to provide seniors an opportunity to enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving meal and socialize with their peers. However, due to the COVID-19 virus, our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Dance transitioned to individual celebrations at each senior center. To eliminate a large congregate setting and protect the health of our seniors and staff, on Tuesday, November 23rd seniors indulged in a delicious Thanksgiving meal at their respective senior centers.



"We believe that no senior in EBR Parish should go hungry during this holiday season."
– Tasha Clark-Amar, Chief Executive Officer



Lotus Rides

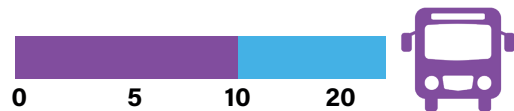
April 2021 - March 2022

Lotus Rides

The demand for transportation is steadily increasing Lotus Rides transports an average of 58 seniors daily to and from our senior centers across the parish. Since its inception in 2019, ridership has grown to 97 total riders.



Total Buses in Use:



10
Transit Handicap
Accessible Buses



Lotus Rides buses are awarded through the Federal Transit Association Grant.



The Lotus Zone

April 2021 - March 2022



The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging virtual programs are designed to enhance cognition, improve community interactions, and eliminate the feeling of loneliness among the senior community.

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, prizes, and much more. On Technology Tuesday, EBRCOA seniors win tablets, laptops, and smart televisions 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 and our sponsors. Seniors can tune in every Tuesday at 4 PM for a live show on our social media platforms, our website (www.ebrcoa.org) or listen in on 106.1 FM WTQT.

21

Lotus Zone Radio Shows hosted

150+

Average number of seniors who
engage with the Lotus Zone Radio
Show via social media



The Ageless Circle

Intergenerational Center



> L.I.T. – Learning with Intergenerational Teaching

L.I.T. is a weekly intergenerational literacy program that advances the learning process of youth grades 3rd -5th with the assistance of senior mentors. The goal of this program is to help youth develop age appropriate academic skills.



> Book Camp

Book Camp serves as an extension of the classroom during the school closure period. Youth will be able to continue to develop their love for reading and practice literacy skills. Camp days are filled with engaging, fun, and empowering activities for both youth and seniors.



> S.T.R.E.A.M. Saturdays

The S.T.R.E.A.M. program consists of Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math labs with the intentional interaction of seniors and youth that occurs monthly. The goal is to deepen and expand reading comprehension, challenge young minds, and also reduce social isolation for seniors.



Capital In



vestments

Capital Investments | Zachary Lotus Activity Center



The Zachary Lotus Activity Center is our new 5,468 sq. ft. facility located at 6363 Main Street, Suite L, Zachary, LA 70791. This facility has a modern style with several amenities to accommodate the active population of seniors within the area. Our goal was to provide our Zachary seniors with a safe and easily accessible facility to maintain their mental health, physical health, and overall independence.



\$92,000
TOTAL INVESTMENT



Development Summary

- 5,468 sq. ft. Building
- Card Room, Pool Table, and Common Area
- Modern Industrial Design

Capital Investments | Zachary Lotus Activity Center



Capital Investments | Lotus Headquarters

The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging has outgrown our current administration building and commercial kitchen located at 5790 Florida Blvd. due to the influx of new senior members and additional programs and services. We're elated to announce the official completion date of the agency's new administration building and commercial kitchen (The Lotus Headquarters) located at 965 North 18th Street slated for August 2022. Upon completing the Lotus Headquarters, EBRCOA will vacate 5790 Florida Blvd and return possession of this property to the East Baton Rouge City-Parish.

The architect of record for this project is the Map Design Group LLC, and the general contractor is Percy J. Matherne Constructor, Inc.



\$6.4 Million

TOTAL INVESTMENT

Capital Investments | Lotus Headquarters



Development Summary

- 25,000 sq. ft. Building
- Features State-of-the-Art Commercial Kitchen (12,000 sq. ft.)
- 21st Century Workspaces and Technology

Capital Investments | Lotus Village – Senior Independent Living Community



\$23.9 Million
TOTAL DEVELOPMENT COST

Lotus Village is a senior independent living community located in the heart of mid-city 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.

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. Our Lotus Village project is scheduled to have 34 units available in August 2022.

A New Senior Village in the Heart of Gracie Suburbs



**116**
Total Units



Development Summary

- 58 one-bedroom duplex and quadplex
- 91 standard units
- 25 ADA
- 37 buildings
- Leasing Office
- 790 – 1088 sq. ft. unit size

Capital Investments | Lotus Village – Senior Independent Living Community

➤ Lotus Village I



➤ Lotus Village II



➤ **Lotus Village III**



42
Total Units



2
Total Units

➤ **Lotus Village IV**





EBRCSOA Audited Financial Statements

Twelve Month Ending June 30, 2021

AS OF JUNE 30, 2021

SUPPORT AND REVENUE:

	2019
Government Grants/ Property Tax/In-Kind	13,616,626
Public Contributions	50,563
Interest/Other Income	258,321
Total Support and Revenue:	13,925,510

EXPENSES:

Programs and Overhead	4,678,045
Operating Services	2,005,871
Operating Supplies	828,949
Kitchen Operations/Other Costs	3,886,397
Capital Outlay	3,704,187
Interest	6,443
Total Expenses:	15,109,892

SPECIAL ITEM

Sale of Lotus Village Property/Reimbursement of	
Related Expenses	1,537,256
Change in Net Assets **	352,874
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	3,153,447
Net Assets, End of Year	3,506,321



Agency Sponsors & Donors



Annual Report **Sponsors**



Lotus Zone Radio Sponsors

CareSouth Medical and Dental
First Financial Services

UnitedHealthcare



COVID-19 Vaccination Pop-Up Clinic Sponsors

Albertsons Companies
Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank
Louisiana Department of Health
Louisiana Department of Homeland Security
Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome

Merchants Foodservice
Ochsner Health System
Senator Cleo Fields
State Senator Regina Barrow



Donors

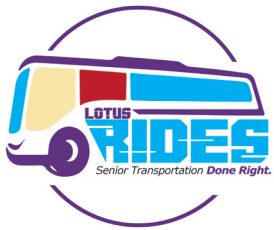
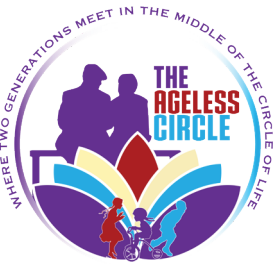
BRAF – In memory of Myron Faulk
Catherine Robichaux
Chloe Sterling
Christa Wilborn
Dorothy Bradford
Dr. James Gilmore, Jr.
Elen Carpenter
Emily Parrott
Jacob Thomas
Jean Wall

John Shortess
Lakeisha Butler
Lee Bairnsfather
Michael Myers
Monica Bishara
Moyse Family Foundation
Robin Mayhall
Sam Taylor Plumbing Company
William Beyer



EBR
Council on Aging®

Supporting Independence ~ Serving Seniors



The East Baton Rouge Council on Aging is growing at an outstanding rate which proves that the services we provide daily are necessary for the aging community. The heart of a successful organization is the powerful team of employees who serve in the critical role of carrying out our agency's mission.

Supporting Independence and Serving Seniors is more than an agency mission, it's a daily way of life for us. We would like to thank the community for your continued support as we serve the seniors of EBR Parish.



East Baton Rouge Council on Aging | Senior Centers

Antioch Senior Center

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

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: 225-228-2670

Central Lotus Activity Senior Center

11111 Park Place, 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: 225-388-5646

Greater King David Senior Center

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

Highland Road Senior Center

14024 North Amiss Rd.
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 Lotus Activity Center

6363 Main Street, Suite L
Zachary, LA 70791
Phone: 225-306-4102



Feeding Sites:

OLOL 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

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

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

Intergenerational Center - The Ageless Circle

3820 Gus Young Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Phone: (225) 330-4966 | agelesscircle@ebrcoa.org



ebrcoa



ebrcoa73



ebrcoa73



ebrcoa1973