Central Louisiana will be positively impacted by the Foundation deploying resources to improve key factors of health status.

The mission of The Rapides Foundation is to improve the health status of Central Louisiana.
In 1994 the trustees of Rapides Regional Medical Center took a reasoned but bold step in creating The Rapides Foundation and establishing Rapides Healthcare System, a joint venture with HCA for the operation of RRMC. Would this new structure ensure the viability of RRMC and strengthen its services, quality and community benefit? Would the Foundation use its grantmaking consistent with its legacy to improve health in the region? Could the expected opportunities be realized and emerging concerns be addressed for the benefit of Central Louisiana?

Our answer to these questions — a resounding yes.

The success of The Rapides Foundation and Rapides Healthcare System during these first 25 years was driven and enabled by many who invested time, reputation and relationships to learn, decide, commit, resolve conflicts, work together and celebrate successes.

The contribution of many stakeholders must be recognized and preserved as we move past our 25th year. The Foundation would not have achieved the initial aims of its founders without the efforts of RRMC employees, medical staff and patients; community support; grantees and funding partners; and Foundation staff, counsel and consultants.

But most importantly, our success is largely due to the deliberate work of our founding trustees and the 80 residents of Central Louisiana who have provided leadership, ownership and community perspective as members of the Foundation’s Board of Trustees.

At 25, The Rapides Foundation has evolved, grown and matured consistent with its initial purposes. We will continue to focus on addressing the most significant drivers of health in partnership with the community, and through our ownership in Rapides Regional Medical Center we are poised to provide more and better healthcare in an even more uncertain environment than in 1994.

On the pages of our 25th anniversary annual report, you’ll see examples of the great work that revolves around the Foundation’s continued mission of improving the health status of Central Louisiana. We are proud of this work — the result of the seeds planted in September 1994.
The objective of the Healthy People priority area is to improve access to healthcare and promote healthy behaviors. This work is implemented through the Healthcare Access and Healthy Behaviors Initiatives.

The Healthcare Access Initiative funds cancer screenings and a medication program, and it works to increase the capacity of community health centers to reduce the health disparities in Cenla.
HEALTHCARE ACCESS

The Healthcare Access Initiative fosters the establishment and expansion of primary, behavioral and quality patient-centered services through integration with community health clinics, and addresses screenings, medication access and related medical manpower.

Access to quality healthcare is important to reduce health disparities and improve health status for people in The Rapides Foundation’s service area. Factors limiting care include financial barriers, personal and cultural barriers, not knowing what to do or where to go, physical or geographic barriers, and shortages in healthcare professionals and facilities. The Healthcare Access Initiative has a four-component approach to improve healthcare access in the region.

PRIMARY CARE ACCESS, INCLUDING INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The goal of this component is to support and increase the capacity of Community Health Centers to integrate behavioral health services and provide quality patient-centered care.

The Rapides Foundation since 2016 offered a funding opportunity that expanded access to healthcare services by supporting the establishment of four community-based Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and seven school-based Federally Qualified Health Centers. Since then, these clinics have had over 74,000 visits. In 2019, the Foundation released the Healthcare Quality Improvement Grant opportunity to assist FQHCs with efforts to improve specific health outcomes and disparities in their clinic population. This funding opportunity builds upon the previous funding opportunities by providing support for FQHCs to strengthen or develop their quality improvement programs while focusing on improving a specific health outcome. By supporting quality improvement efforts, the Foundation is helping to ensure the community receives high-quality healthcare services and building the capacity of local FQHCs.

PHARMACY ACCESS

This component addresses the cost barrier to accessing prescription drugs through a grant to the Cenla Medication Access Program. CMAP’s Patient Assistance Program and Central Fill Pharmacy provide free or low-cost prescriptions for uninsured patients of private-practice physicians, rural clinics and health centers, and for Medicare patients who do not have prescription coverage or need prescriptions not covered under their current plans.

In addition, Rapides Regional Medical Center contracts with CMAP to provide free or reduced-cost medications to HP Long Clinic clients.

EARLY CANCER SCREENING

This component of the Healthcare Access Initiative offers three programs to promote early screening among adults in the areas of colorectal, cervical and breast cancers.

Through a partnership with the Partners in Wellness Program at Feist-Weiller Cancer Center at LSU Health Shreveport and CMAP, the Foundation supports a mobile cancer screening van that travels throughout Central Louisiana to offer breast, cervical and
colorectal cancer screening to uninsured and Medicaid patients. Follow-up services are available to patients who qualify under the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program guidelines.

CMAP’s Community Health Advisor Program provides an advisor to increase community awareness of recommended screening guidelines and assist community members in accessing screening services by helping remove barriers.

The Foundation implements a multi-media cancer screening awareness campaign to deliver key messages to promote awareness and the benefits of screening and early detection.

MEDICAL MANPOWER
This component addresses the shortage of healthcare professionals in rural communities through grants to postsecondary institutions. Foundation grants have funded programs that have the goal of increasing the number of nurse practitioners and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners in Central Louisiana. The Foundation also provides funds to postsecondary institutions in the region to support nursing instruction and student retention in nursing programs.
HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

The Healthy Behaviors Initiative addresses tobacco prevention and control, substance and alcohol abuse prevention, healthy eating and active living.

The Rapides Foundation has invested more than $21 million since 2007 to address tobacco use, substance and alcohol abuse, poor nutrition and lack of physical activity. These behaviors are directly linked to premature death and disability from heart disease, stroke, diabetes, certain types of cancer, unintentional injury and arthritis. Evidence suggests an integrated, comprehensive, multi-level, multi-target initiative that focuses on these behaviors can have a meaningful impact on chronic disease prevention in the region. The Foundation’s comprehensive Healthy Behaviors Initiative consists of four components.

SCHOOLS

School is a chief part of most young people’s lives and therefore provides a critical setting for prevention and intervention efforts. The Foundation invites Central Louisiana public school districts to apply for annual Healthy Behaviors School District Partnership Grants that are used to fund projects and activities that positively impact students and school personnel in the areas of tobacco prevention and control, substance and alcohol abuse prevention, physical activity and nutrition. The goal is to provide students, staff and teachers with the knowledge and skills necessary to create a healthy school environment as well as make better and informed behavior decisions leading to healthier lives.

National speaker Dr. Matt Bellace motivates hundreds of students who attended the Youth Summit on Healthy Behaviors, an annual event where students learn how to become advocates for healthy choices and policy change in their schools and communities.
Schools use these funds to develop school health improvement plans and implement School Health Advisory Councils; for training and support for Kick Butts Day activities, National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week and Living Healthy Clubs; and for professional development and certification for nutrition services staff.

The initiative also funds the annual Youth Summit on Healthy Behaviors, a one-day event for students to learn how to become advocates for healthy choices and policy change in their schools and communities.

COMMUNITY

This component has three approaches to support healthy behaviors in Central Louisiana communities.

The Foundation provides a grant to CMAP to administer the Healthy Lifestyle Program, a physician referral, lifestyle coaching program where staff provide nutrition and physical activity planning, goals and support for their clients for a six-month period. The purpose of the Healthy Lifestyle Program is to provide demonstration and education on proper nutrition and physical activity for good health aimed at fighting chronic disease in Central Louisiana.

The Healthy Behaviors Initiative includes funding for a nutrition program (photo above), tobacco prevention awareness activities for Central Louisiana students (below) and a smoking cessation program.
Research shows smoking cessation services are an important part of a comprehensive tobacco prevention and control program. The Foundation supports cessation counseling through a grant to CMAP to provide administration and oversight to CMAP’s partnership with the Smoking Cessation Trust. This program offers direct cessation services to Louisiana residents who started smoking before September 1, 1988. Members receive medication and counseling to help their cessation efforts.

The Foundation offers multi-year program grants for community projects that address healthy behaviors and substance and alcohol abuse prevention. These funding opportunities are open to nonprofit organizations, community groups and government entities to support implementing community-driven strategic action and research-based prevention programs. The Substance and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program Grant supports organizations to develop, implement, and enhance new prevention projects or strengthen existing protective factors and reverse or reduce modifiable risk factors associated with substance and alcohol abuse. The Healthy Behaviors Program Grant supports the implementation of evidence-based, community-driven solutions for preventing and reducing obesity and preventing and controlling tobacco use.

MARKETING / COUNTERMARKETING
The Healthy Behaviors Initiative includes marketing campaigns designed to raise awareness of the importance of diet and physical activity, to counter tobacco advertising and to provide awareness and resources in the area of alcohol and substance abuse. These campaigns also are intended to provide information and tools to facilitate healthy behavior choices.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY
Policy and advocacy efforts are addressed under Healthy Behaviors activities in schools and communities. At the annual Youth Summit on Healthy Behaviors, students and teachers receive awareness and advocacy training in the areas of tobacco prevention and control, substance and alcohol abuse prevention, healthy eating and active living. The Foundation also forms partnerships with local, state, national and federal agencies to coordinate Healthy Behaviors campaigns and other advocacy efforts.
The objective of the Education priority area is to increase the level of educational attainment and achievement as the primary path to improved economic, social and health status. This work is implemented through the Effective Schools, Career and Postsecondary Readiness and School Readiness components.

The Education priority area includes efforts to improve the effectiveness of schools (top left), career counseling for students (top right), and an early childhood reading program for children and their caregivers (below).
EFFECTIVE SCHOOLS

This component of the Education Initiative focuses on enhancing the instructional core in the nine public school districts within the Foundation’s service area by supporting instructional leadership and professional development.

The Effective Schools component of the Education Initiative focuses on professional development for teachers and increasing the instructional leadership capacity for administrators. Building upon the long-standing work and relationships between the Foundation and school districts, these opportunities are provided through grants to the districts and funding to The Orchard Foundation for training institutes.

The Effective Schools Grant supports district-wide school improvement plans that seek to increase educational attainment and improve student achievement. Districts use these funds to deepen their work by enhancing professional development for teachers and strengthening instructional leadership capacity for administrators. These district-level grants fund coaching, mentoring and professional development trainings for teachers; leadership development for administrators; and participation in institutes provided by The Orchard Foundation.

The Effective Schools Grant supports district-wide school improvement plans that seek to increase educational attainment and improve student achievement. Districts use these funds to deepen their work by enhancing professional development for teachers and strengthening instructional leadership capacity for administrators. These district-level grants fund coaching, mentoring and professional development trainings for teachers; leadership development for administrators; and participation in institutes provided by The Orchard Foundation.

The Instructional Leadership for Administrators subcomponent provides regional institutes to build the instructional capacity of leaders and aspiring leaders. The institutes are tailored to meet the challenges faced by today’s administrators.

In 2019, The Orchard Foundation began training its first cohort of residents in the Central Louisiana Instructional Partnership, a program that will recruit, train, support and retain effective math and science teachers in high-needs middle schools in the region. The goal of CLIP is to improve student achievement in middle schools throughout nine rural school districts by preparing 44 highly qualified educators during the five-year project. CLIP addresses the high teacher turnover and shortages facing rural schools by developing and implementing a model of middle school math and science teacher preparation. CLIP is funded by a $4.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Teacher Quality Partnership Program, plus $8 million in-kind matched funding from project partners.
CAREER AND POSTSECONDARY READINESS

This component of the Education Initiative focuses on achieving career and postsecondary success through implementation of counseling, credential and advance credit programs.

The Career and Postsecondary Readiness component offers counseling, skill development, credential and advance credit programs. This work is carried out through two subcomponents.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Rapides Foundation funds Career and Technical Education programs to give Cenla residents the opportunity and support to earn a credential or degree that will put them in a position for a higher-wage job that offers a good quality of life. This work is implemented through the Cenla Work Ready Network, a system designed to link education and workforce development efforts and align them with regional economic needs.

Through the Cenla Work Ready Network, high school students and unemployed or under-employed adults are able to earn a nationally recognized certificate that demonstrates their work ready skills to a potential employer.

CAREER AND POSTSECONDARY COUNSELING

The Orchard Foundation provides career counseling for Central Louisiana middle and high school students through a partnership with Career Compass of Louisiana, a nonprofit education organization with coaches across the state. Career Compass partners with the guidance departments in area schools to act as an added resource and a liaison between the students of Central Louisiana and the postsecondary institutions in the state. Career Compass employees are educated on all of the postsecondary schools in the area they serve and the programs each offers, thus helping students find the right school for their needs.

Activities under this subcomponent also include the Students Exploring Career Opportunities expo, an interactive career expo for high school students, and summer Workplace Experience Exchange camps for teachers to learn how to translate the skills needed in today’s workforce into their classrooms. Career counseling services and group seminars have also been expanded to middle school students.
SCHOOL READINESS
This component of the Education Initiative focuses on the support, expansion or establishment of high-quality early childhood programs to support the teacher-child and family-child interactions.

The School Readiness component includes strategies to ensure more children are ready to enter kindergarten. Studies show children who attend some type of early childhood program before kindergarten are more likely to complete high school and go through their entire school careers without repeating a grade.

Research shows the most effective strategies are those that focus on improving the quality of already existing early education settings. Additionally, high-quality teacher-child interactions are essential for children’s learning and developing. Work under this component includes three subcomponents.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS AND LEADERS
The Rapides Foundation provides a grant to The Orchard Foundation to administer School Readiness training institutes to build the capacity and quality of PreK, Head Start and childcare centers in the region.

EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY
In response to a need for added emphasis on developing literacy skills in children before they enter school, the Foundation in 2017 supported the development and implementation of an evidence-based, early literacy program by providing a multi-year Early Childhood Literacy grant to The Orchard Foundation. The Read to Soar early literacy program, developed by Orchard, was launched in 2018 and features workshops for children ages 5 and under and their parents or caregivers. Sessions help develop and strengthen a culture of reading at home by educating parents, building a child’s home library and increasing awareness about community resources to help ensure the child has the tools for school success. Families earn a certificate of participation and up to 40 books for their home library while parents come away with tips and resources that help them teach their young ones.

INCREASE ACCESS FOR THE BIRTH TO THREE POPULATION
This subcomponent seeks to increase the number of at-risk children ages 3 and under who are enrolled in an early childhood education program. Foundation staff will participate in community efforts to raise awareness, identify resources and increase access to early childhood programs.
The objective of the Healthy Communities priority area is to improve economic opportunity and family income; and to enhance civic and community opportunities for more effective leaders and organizations. This work is implemented through the Economic Development and Social Environment Initiatives.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

The Healthy Communities priority area includes funding for a school-based youth volunteer service program (above) and a grant to expand manufacturing programs throughout the region (below).
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Development Initiative addresses median household income through workforce development, business startups and expansions, and support of regional economic development.

The Economic Development Initiative makes the link between healthy economies and healthy people. Healthy economies with low unemployment rates and higher-wage jobs provide people with the means to purchase medical insurance, make better healthcare choices and live healthier lifestyles. The goal of the initiative is to raise the household income of people living in Central Louisiana by improving the region’s capacity to produce higher-wage jobs for all income levels and generate more wealth in its communities.

Building upon the work that was started in 2007 and continued through the 2014-18 Initiative, the Economic Development Initiative for the 2019-2023 strategic plan cycle consists of three components.

BUSINESS STARTUPS AND EXPANSIONS

This component focuses on supporting the region’s entrepreneurship system. The Foundation provides a grant to the Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance for continued support of the Business Acceleration System. BAS is a comprehensive and coordinated entrepreneurial system that provides training, technical assistance, coaching and mentoring support services for local entrepreneurs and small businesses.

WORKFORCE SKILLS AND DEVELOPMENT

This component supports efforts to build a cohesive and effective workforce development system in Central Louisiana that meets the demands of employers, has the capacity to quickly respond to change, and provides training opportunities and career paths for employment and advancement for Cenla residents. This includes efforts to fill workforce gaps identified in the areas of manufacturing and healthcare.

In 2019, the Foundation began researching strategies to address youth and young adults in the 16-24 age range who are neither working nor pursuing an education or training program. The goal will be to get youth engaged in their communities, either by continuing their education or working, which not only affects them from an economic standpoint, but from a health standpoint.

Under this component, the Foundation continues to monitor a $2 million matching grant to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Foundation that is being used by the Central Louisiana Technical Community College to implement the Central Louisiana Manufacturing Technology Center and to add and expand high-quality, state-of-the-art manufacturing programs on campuses.
throughout the region. The grant should strengthen CLTCC’s ongoing pursuit to meet the workforce needs for Central Louisiana by offering technical training programs that produce graduates and employees for high-wage, high-demand jobs in the region.

In 2019 The Rapides Foundation continued to monitor several Healthcare Occupation Grants, which address Cenla’s need for more quality healthcare professionals. The grant provides an opportunity to Cenla’s postsecondary institutions to offer education and training for high-wage employment in their fields of nursing and behavioral health.

BUSINESS CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

This initiative component supports the Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance as the vehicle to build cooperation, coordination, teamwork and social cohesiveness for regional economic development objectives. It does this through a matching grant to CLEDA in support of its regional workforce and economic development activities.

A grant to the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Foundation funds state-of-the-art manufacturing programs on CLTCC campuses throughout the region.
SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

The Social Environment Initiative addresses social capital by supporting leadership and nonprofit development and increased community and civic engagement.

The Social Environment Initiative provides an integrated approach to enhance civic and community opportunities for more effective nonprofit leaders and organizations. Its strategies seek to foster increased community and civic engagement, develop enhanced leadership skills and improve the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations so that they will operate with greater success as they work to improve the health and well-being of Central Louisiana. Community Development Works, a program of The Rapides Foundation, implements most of the activities under the Social Environment Initiative. The initiative consists of two components.

BUILDING NONPROFIT CAPACITY

This component of the Social Environment Initiative builds the capacity of nonprofits by focusing on the skills of the individuals in the organization and on the organization as a whole.

The nonprofit leadership training subcomponent seeks to build the capacity of nonprofit leaders by offering two programs: Cenla Execbuilders is a leadership training program for nonprofit executive directors, and Cenla Boardbuilders offers leadership development for emerging leaders to become active in their communities as members of nonprofit boards.

The staff training subcomponent has the goal of building the capacity of nonprofit staff and volunteers through the Cenla Staff Builders Training calendar, which offers free workshops and webinars on topics related to nonprofit management.

To build the organizational effectiveness of local nonprofits, CDW offers customized technical assistance to nonprofits to expand their governance, organizational development and leadership capacities.

The CDW Learning Lab offers free access to nonprofit resources, potential funding opportunities, statistics, journals and periodicals, as well as other pertinent information to the nonprofit landscape.

COMMUNITY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

The goal of this component is to increase civic and community engagement. This is carried out through My Civic Life, a program that provides high school students with leadership and volunteer service opportunities through their participation in school-based community service clubs called Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC) Clubs. The community service clubs are implemented through the Youth Volunteer School District Grant.

In addition, My Civic Life offers leadership development training for youth volunteers from the YVC Clubs; capacity-building resources for nonprofit partners working with youth volunteers; and an online platform to connect youth with nonprofit partners in their local communities.
As a 26 percent owner of Rapides Healthcare System, The Rapides Foundation provides oversight to the community benefit delivered by Rapides Regional Medical Center. The hospital is committed to providing excellent medical care to its patients, and through an investment in its community benefit programs, RRMC extends its focus by working for the better health of all who live in the area it serves. It provides many free and low-cost services and collaborates with local partners to improve access to care and quality of life.

The hospital employed 2,000 individuals with a payroll of $97.8 million in 2019. It admitted 14,742 patients, delivered 1,659 babies at Rapides Women’s and Children’s Hospital, treated 77,460 patients in its Emergency Department and performed 9,230 surgeries.

RRMC operates multiple HP Long Outpatient Clinics to take on the urgent, specialty and primary care previously offered through the state-run Huey P. Long Medical Center. In 2019, there were 31,727 visits to the clinics, which serve Medicare, Medicaid and uninsured patients. Services include primary care, general surgery, cardiology, orthopedics, gynecology, ophthalmology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, dental care and urgent care.

The clinics contract with The Rapides Foundation’s Cenla Medication Access Program to provide free or low-cost medications to clinic patients. In 2019, CMAP filled 9,529 free prescriptions through its Central Fill Pharmacy and Patient Assistance Program. An additional 3,162 prescriptions at a reduced cost of $4 or less each were filled through a pharmacy card program offered at the clinics. Eligible patients also received free diabetic testing equipment and supplies through CMAP.

Rapides Healthcare System provided $3.8 million in financial support to the LSU Family Medicine Alexandria Residency Program based at RRMC and sponsored by LSU Health Shreveport. Eighteen residents were in the program in the 2018-19 academic year. Six family physicians graduated at the end of the academic year, bringing the total number of graduates to 125 since the program began in 1997. The hospital also supported 23 residents from Tulane University in the areas of gynecology and ophthalmology and six from LSU Health Sciences Center-Shreveport in the area of oral and maxillofacial surgery.
RRMC is verified as a Level II Trauma Center by the American College of Surgeons. A Level II Trauma Center provides the second highest level of surgical care to trauma patients. The hospital is also certified as a Primary Stroke Center and an Accredited Chest Pain Center from The Joint Commission.

At the end of the year, the hospital completed its new $5.3 million Universal/Trauma Unit to take care of Rapides Regional Medical Center patients. The 18-bed unit occupies the fifth floor of the main hospital tower. The additional beds bring RRMC’s capacity to 380 beds and provide relief to the hospital’s other two ICUs—Medical and Surgical—that have seen significant growth in recent years.

HCA honored RRMC nursing units through its 2019 Units of Distinction Awards, the fifth year RRMC has had multiple nursing units honored for excellence in patient care. RRMC’s Day Surgery unit was ranked No. 3, Labor and Delivery was ranked No. 8 and 3 West was ranked No. 25 among facilities owned by HCA. The 3 West unit has been named in the Top 5 percent of Units of Distinction for each of the five years the award has been in existence.

RRMC’s attention to quality healthcare was rewarded when it was the only hospital in Central Louisiana and one of 18 in the state to receive an “A” rating for patient safety from The Leapfrog Group, a Washington D.C.-based organization aiming to improve healthcare quality and safety for consumers. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades were released in early 2020, reflecting the hospital’s work from 2019. The A grade reflects RRMC’s efforts in protecting patients from harm and meeting the highest safety standards in the United States.

U.S. News and World Report in 2019 recognized RRMC as a high-performing hospital for its treatment of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and Heart Failure. This designation is part of U.S. News and World Report’s annual Best Hospitals rankings, which evaluate more than 4,500 hospitals nationwide. Fewer than a third of all hospitals received any high-performing rating.

RRMC was named a 2019 Guardian of Excellence Award winner by Press Ganey. The award recognizes top-performing healthcare organizations that have scored in the 95th percentile or higher in Patient Experience in Neonatal Intensive Care. The Press Ganey Guardian of Excellence Award is a nationally recognized symbol of achievement in healthcare.

RRMC also has earned Pathway to Excellence designation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, which recognizes a healthcare organization’s commitment to creating a positive practice environment that empowers and engages staff. It is one of two hospitals in Louisiana with the designation.

Rapides Regional Medical Center maintains the following accreditations and certifications that demonstrate its commitment to a higher standard of care:
- Commission on Cancer accreditation
- Certified Cardiac Rehabilitation Program
- Nuclear Medicine Gold Seal Accreditation
- Computed Tomography Gold Seal Accreditation
- MRI Gold Seal Accreditation
- Mammography Gold Seal Accreditation
- Vascular Testing Accreditation
- CAP Laboratory Accreditation
- Gold Level Fit-friendly Worksite.
PHILANTHROPIC OBJECTIVES
PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Rapides Foundation provides funding for projects which effectively address the following Philanthropic Objectives.

HEALTHY PEOPLE

TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND TO PROMOTE HEALTHY BEHAVIORS.

HEALTHCARE ACCESS: The Healthcare Access Initiative fosters the establishment and expansion of primary, behavioral and quality patient-centered services through integration with community health clinics, and addresses screenings, medication access and related medical manpower.

HEALTHY BEHAVIORS: The Healthy Behaviors Initiative addresses tobacco prevention and control, substance and alcohol abuse prevention, healthy eating and active living.

EDUCATION

TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT AS THE PRIMARY PATH TO IMPROVED ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND HEALTH STATUS.

EFFECTIVE SCHOOLS: The Effective Schools component of the Education Initiative focuses on enhancing the instructional core in the nine public school districts within the Foundation’s service area by supporting instructional leadership and professional development.

CAREER AND POSTSECONDARY Readiness: The Career and Postsecondary Readiness component of the Education Initiative focuses on counseling, skill development, credential and advance credit programs.

SCHOOL Readiness: The School Readiness component of the Education Initiative focuses on the support, expansion or establishment of high-quality early childhood programs to support the teacher-child and family-child interactions.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND FAMILY INCOME; AND ENHANCE CIVIC AND COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR MORE EFFECTIVE LEADERS AND ORGANIZATIONS.

ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT: The Economic Development Initiative addresses median household income through workforce development, business startups and expansions, and support of regional economic development.

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT: The Social Environment Initiative addresses social capital by supporting leadership and nonprofit development and increased community and civic engagement.
## 2019 GRANTS LIST

### HEALTHY PEOPLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access Health Louisiana</td>
<td>Healthcare Quality Improvement grant to reduce heart disease mortality and changing fronts of care delivery; prevention, treatment, education, control and rehabilitation through a Team-Based Care approach deployed to modify behavior change tailored to remove financial, cultural and other barriers to access.</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMAP Express/Pharmacy and PAP Program</td>
<td>To provide free or low-cost pharmacy services to uninsured and underinsured patients through a Central Fill Pharmacy and Patient Assistance Program.</td>
<td>$505,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMAP Express/Cancer Screening Project and Community Health Advisor Program</td>
<td>To support efforts to increase cancer screenings by providing a mobile cancer screening unit offering breast, cervical and colorectal screening to uninsured and underinsured patients in the nine-parish service area, and to increase awareness and navigation services through a Community Health Advisor Program.</td>
<td>$165,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HEALTHCARE ACCESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LSU Health Sciences Center – Shreveport</td>
<td>To support a mobile cancer screening unit offering free breast, cervical and colorectal screening to uninsured and underinsured patients in The Rapides Foundation’s nine-parish service area.</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWLA Center for Health Services</td>
<td>Healthcare Quality Improvement grant to improve hemoglobin A1c levels for patients in Allen Parish who are experiencing poor control of their diabetes by expanding their Diabetes Education program into the Oberlin clinic. A Health Educator will provide on-site case management and work one-to-one with diabetic patients with a focus on supporting patients with 9+ hemoglobin A1c levels.</td>
<td>$131,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winn Community Health Center</td>
<td>Healthcare Quality Improvement grant to reduce the number of patients in Winn and Grant parishes with poor control of their diabetes hemoglobin A1c by establishing an evidence-based health coaching program, which has been proven to engage patients in self-management of health conditions and encourage health behavior change.</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2019 GRANTS LIST

HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

CMAP Express/Healthy Lifestyle Program
To provide demonstration and education on proper nutrition and physical activity for good health aimed at fighting obesity in Central Louisiana. $400,000

CMAP Express/Smoking Cessation Project
To support a community-based program that helps to educate people about the importance of stopping smoking and all tobacco products. In partnership with the Smoking Cessation Trust, provide one-on-one and group counseling and medications to assist with quitting tobacco. $42,000

Healthy Behaviors School District Partnership Grants
To implement a work plan of healthy behavior activities designed to prevent and reduce tobacco use, substance and alcohol abuse, and overweight/obesity by focusing on changing policy, social norms and environments in the school district. Activities are conducted district-wide, with the following school districts participating during the 2019-20 school year: Allen Parish, Avoyelles Parish, Catahoula Parish, Grant Parish, Natchitoches Parish, Rapides Parish, and Vernon Parish. $212,650

EDUCATION

The Orchard Foundation
To support the operating costs of The Orchard Foundation in support of The Rapides Foundation’s initiative to improve academic achievement and attainment for Central Louisiana students. $1,100,000/3-year grant

EFFECTIVE SCHOOLS

Effective Schools – School District Grants
To support school district plans during the 2019-20 school year to address professional development for teachers and strengthen leadership capacity for administrators in Allen, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Grant, LaSalle, Natchitoches, Rapides, Vernon and Winn parishes. $1,500,000

The Orchard Foundation/Effective Schools Regional Institutes Grant
To provide regional-level professional and leadership development institutes focused on increasing the capacity of administrators to be instructional leaders and improving teacher effectiveness. $426,448

CAREER AND POSTSECONDARY READINESS

The Orchard Foundation/Career and Postsecondary Readiness Grant
To build and support the region’s capacity to ensure all students have access to regionally relevant career pathways, credentials, advance credit programs and postsecondary opportunities by implementing a three-pronged approach that combines the Cenla Work Ready Network, Career and Postsecondary Coaching services and Cenla Jump Start support. $1,312,965

SCHOOL READINESS

The Orchard Foundation/School Readiness Grant
To enhance and support regional efforts to improve early childhood education and to improve the quality ratings of PreK, Head Start and childcare centers by providing professional development, coaching and mentoring, and curriculum implementation support. $740,000

The Cenla Execbuilders Class of 2019.
The Foundation will award grants to organizations which are tax exempt under IRS Section 501(c)(3) and are not a private foundation as described under Section 509(a). Public agencies that meet additional criteria may also receive grant awards.

More information about funding opportunities available from The Rapides Foundation may be found on the Foundation’s website under the “Grants” tab.

A CLIP teacher resident works in a middle school classroom (above) while students participate in a hands-on activity at the annual Students Exploring Career Opportunities expo (below).
The most recent IRS Forms 990 for The Rapides Foundation and its subsidiaries, which provide more detailed financial information, are available on our website at www.rapidesfoundation.org.
The Rapides Foundation marked its 25th anniversary at its sixth annual Symposium, which celebrated the Foundation’s history in its dual role as part owner of Rapides Regional Medical Center and a leading health grantmaker in Central Louisiana.

Held every September to recognize the creation of The Rapides Foundation on September 1, 1994, the Symposium is an annual gathering around a topic of importance related to the work of the Foundation.

The anniversary event was attended by current and former board members, staff and grantees.

2019 Board Chair Anna Moreau welcomed guests to the event, and two panel groups – featuring founding, former and current trustees and board chairmen – shared their experiences and the events that shaped the Foundation’s work.

President and CEO Joe Rosier, who has led the Foundation from the beginning, presented a commemorative video and highlighted the Foundation’s beginnings, its ongoing work in fulfilling its mission and its goals for the future.

“We are excited about the future for Central Louisiana, and we pledge that The Rapides Foundation is dedicated to researching the critical issues to find solutions for positively impacting the health status of our communities,” Rosier said. “By working together, we believe Cenla will be a healthier place to live and work.”

To view the 25th anniversary commemorative video and special edition book, visit the Newsroom on the Foundation’s website.
Laura J. Clark

It is with deep sadness that we report the death of Foundation Trustee Laura Clark in September 2019. Laura began her term on the Foundation’s Board of Trustees in 2016, and provided leadership through service on the Executive Committee in 2018 and 2019.

Laura said many times that teaching was her calling and began her career as an educator in Vernon Parish in 1981 as a sixth grade teacher. She served the school district in many different roles as a teacher and administrator until her retirement.

The experience Laura brought to the table as a trustee provided important insight and valuable knowledge to the Foundation’s work in Education, as well as across its other work.
2019 THE RAPIDES FOUNDATION STAFF

Joseph R. Rosier, Jr., CFA, CPA (Inactive)
President and CEO

Shondrika Collins
Receptionist

Abid Dyer
Accountant & Building Services Coordinator

LaWanda Franklin
Executive Assistant to the President

Matthew LaBorde, MBA
Program Officer

Pat LaCour
Accounting and Systems Manager

Tammy Moreau
Director of Communications

Brooke Morrow
Programs Assistant

Kathleen Nolen, MBA
Director of Administration

Akeshia Singleton, MBA
Director of Evaluation

Trayce Snow
Senior Program Officer

Ashley Stewart, MPH
Director of Programs

CENLA MEDICATION ACCESS PROGRAM

Wendy Roy, MHA
Executive Director

Jackie Bronson
Community Health Advisor

Kevin Brown, PharmD
Pharmacist in Charge

Kira Davidson, RDN, LDN
Healthy Lifestyle Program Coordinator and Registered Dietitian

Kayla Edwards
Cancer Screening Specialist

Courtney Keys
Administrative Assistant and Data Clerk

Lydia Kozlowski
Exercise Specialist

Kayla Laborde
Pharmacy Technician

Britney Tracy, MS, RDN, LDN
Registered Dietitian

Crystal Watts
Patient Assistance Program Supervisor

Kelly Bentley
Sunnie Broussard
Cheryl Chambers
Mindy Hancock
Joni Longlois
Dawn Rajewski
Patient Assistance Program Specialists

THE ORCHARD FOUNDATION

Marjorie Taylor, Ed.D.
Executive Director

Frannie Beebe
Program Manager for K-12

Jennifer Cowley
CLIP Field Coordinator

Jamila Farris
Early Childhood Program Assistant

Flora Keys
Senior Administrative Assistant

Rebekah Simpson
Program Manager for Early Childhood

Felicia Walker
Training Specialist

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKS

Felicia Walker
Training Specialist