

THE RAPIDES FOUNDATION

Facing Challenges:

[New Partners + New Strategies]



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W e l l n e s s . T o g e t h e r .

Mission Statement

THE RAPIDES FOUNDATION IS A

COMMUNITY RESOURCE DEDICATED TO

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF CENTRAL

LOUISIANA CITIZENS THROUGH FINANCIAL

SUPPORT OF WORTHY PROJECTS.

OUR VISION IS TO BE A PERPETUAL

RESOURCE FOR EXPLOITING

OPPORTUNITIES THAT STRENGTHEN

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, EDUCATION,

AND THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES.

OUR MISSION IS TO IMPROVE

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND BRIGHTEN THE

FUTURE THROUGH BUILDING CAPACITY TO

RESOLVE LOCAL CHALLENGES

IN CENTRAL LOUISIANA.



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Transitions

Initiative-Based Health & Well-Being

As the number and size of healthcare conversion foundations increase, so do the variety of approaches towards grantmaking and philanthropy. 1998 marked the fourth anniversary of the establishment of the Rapides Foundation and, importantly, completed its transition from a responsive grantmaking philanthropy to an initiative-driven organization providing financial support in areas of health and well-being formally determined to have the greatest opportunities for improving the quality of life in the Central Louisiana area.

The initiative process reached its initial milestone with the first round of grant awards in October responding to the five health priorities, and continued with the acceptance of the first letters of intent under the Arts and Humanities, Healthy Cenla (Community Development) and Education Initiatives. These initiatives and the umbrella methodology — the strategic grantmaking framework — respond to a Foundation-commissioned study of the health status of Central Louisiana residents, similar analysis of the levels of participation and interest in the arts and humanities, and our work with national experts in school improvement.

This new grantmaking program was adopted at a Board of Trustees retreat held in April. Although there was a temporary moratorium on new grants earlier in the year to plan for the new grants programs, the foundation still granted \$5.7 million, bringing total grant awards since inception to almost \$34 million.

1998 also marked the continued strengthening of the Foundation's participation in the Central Louisiana Healthcare System partnership. Through 50% ownership of acute care facilities in Alexandria, Mamou, Marksville, Oakdale and Winnfield, the Foundation has an active role in supporting healthcare of the highest level of quality for residents throughout Central Louisiana. The Foundation's continued involvement in acute care reflects a legacy of hospital involvement dating back to 1903.

The health of Central Louisiana is determined by many factors. Access to quality healthcare, as well as behavioral and social determinants, has the greatest impact on quality of life, individual and community health. The Foundation has focused its efforts on building community capacity to address the root causes of poor health. Although the Foundation has dedicated substantial financial resources to support innovative and effective projects, community leadership to develop and implement the projects is the essential component to improving health outcomes.

This leadership must be exercised at the community and neighborhood level, in addition to support from organizations and institutions. We wish to affirm the efforts of all those who provide leadership as trustees, directors and staffpersons of the community organizations enabling the quality of life we enjoy in Central Louisiana. We also wish to encourage individuals or groups interested in improving the health and well-being of the community to partner with us.

We hope you find the information contained in these pages to be thought-provoking and we welcome your inquiries and comments.

The Foundation
has focused its
efforts on building
community
capacity to address
the root causes of
poor health.

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Joseph R. Rosier, Jr., President



Harry B. Silver, Chairperson of the Board

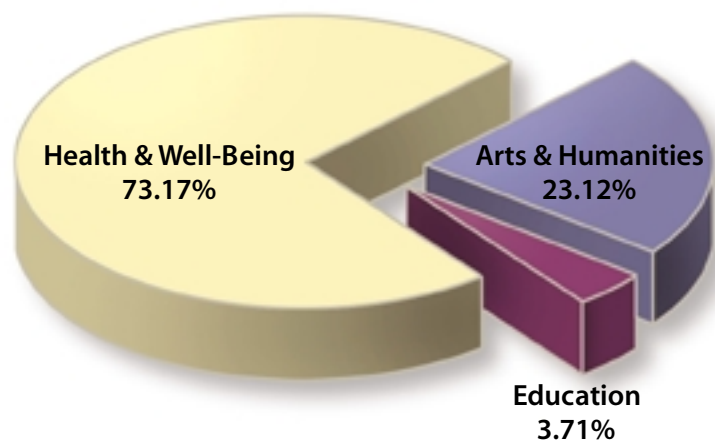


Access and Equity in Grantmaking

As a major foundation for central Louisiana, the Rapides Foundation is engaged in an ongoing dialogue with members of the community, organizations and institutions on ways to best improve the health and well-being of the residents within the 11 parish service area. We recognize, however, that for the majority of the residents of the community, we are judged on the nature and quality of our grants and the dollars accompanying those grants.

The Foundation's formal grantmaking structure is designed to provide equal access for all groups interested in tackling issues in a serious and considered manner. The communications plan to be implemented in 1999 will serve to highlight the Foundation's interest in working with organizations at all stages of development. For example, in 1998, the Foundation provided funding to the start-up of the Bunkie Community Development Corporation and its 10 members working to develop community fitness programs in Avoyelles Parish. During the same time frame, the Foundation funded a five-year child abuse prevention collaborative involving three statewide organizations and two local hospitals. Foundation staff are available to discuss community and organizational interests at anytime.

1998 Requests by Program Area Served (Grant Amount)



Program Areas

Philanthropic Objectives

The Rapides Foundation will develop initiatives and award grants which are judged to advance our philanthropic objectives in three areas of interest:

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

To promote healthy behavior, improve access to quality, affordable healthcare, foster a safe and caring community, and build capacities that enable people to address local concerns.

EDUCATION

To encourage the attainment of knowledge and skills and the practice of responsible citizenship through access to effective learning opportunities.

ARTS & HUMANITIES

To enhance appreciation, presentation and participation in artistic and cultural activities.

Eligibility Requirements

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.

Applicants not currently incorporated as 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations are specifically eligible under this proposal with the understanding that, if the applicant were to be funded, an authorized fiscal agent would serve as a 3rd party in receipt and disbursement of grant funds. Applicants are advised to call early in the process to discuss questions related to this issue.

Grant Exclusions

The Rapides Foundation excludes the following from funding consideration:

- Direct support to individuals
- Private foundations
- For-profit entities
- Conferences or symposia established prior to 1995
- Disease specific organizations seeking support for national programs
- Hospitals
- Projects or programs of religious, fraternal, athletic or veterans groups when the primary beneficiaries of such undertakings would be their members
- Social events or similar fundraising activities
- Telethons
- Operating expenses which are not used for significantly expanding the services of programs currently in operation
- Grant awards for an indeterminate period of time

Grantees who are not in compliance with all terms of existing grant agreement(s) will not be considered for additional funding. There are no preclusions to applying for multiple grants with overlapping grant/project terms; however, the foundation will evaluate the capacity of the applicant to implement and administer multiple programs.



Winnfield Kindergarten School Annex

Good Health = Better Learning

Getting a healthy start in life is so important. Just ask an elementary school teacher, a principal or nurse who works with children each day.

Good nutrition, checkups and immunizations, a safe, disciplined and loving home environment — all are factors that affect a child's learning readiness. When one of more of these factors are missing, it can handicap the education of that child for years to come.

In Winn Parish, a new health advocate project for children is giving an early boost to at-risk pre-school children and their parents, extending education, intervention and friendship beyond the school walls. Through a grant from the Rapides Foundation under its Healthy Children Initiative, the Child Health Advocate Network has been working to ensure that youngsters are ready to learn when it's time to enter Winnfield Kindergarten.

"We frequently see children enter kindergarten with health problems, ranging from premature dental disease to ear infections," explained Principal Andrea Martin. In an area of significantly high unemployment, poverty, and levels of chronic disease, she said, preventative health issues are sometimes not viewed by parents as being critical. Additionally, there is a limited availability of preventative health services for families that may lack transportation or child care.



Winnfield Kindergarten School Annex

Through the child health advocate program that targets three and four year olds, nurse Betsy Thornton works to educate and assist parents with a host of children's health and well-being concerns. She visits families in their homes, bringing a blend of empathy and respect with her tote bag filled with everything from toothbrushes and brochures to books and crayons.

"A lot of what I do involves teaching parenting skills," explained Ms. Thornton, whose program is based at the Kindergarten Annex. She discusses with parents the importance of immunizations, good nutrition and eating habits, discipline, safety, adequate sleep and reading readiness for pre-schoolers.

"She builds a rapport with the families," said Ms. Martin, so they trust her and feel comfortable calling with their concerns and questions.

"I try really hard to be a parent advocate, and try to let them know I understand their problems," said Ms. Thornton. Besides lending her own skills as an experienced nurse and parent, she directs parents to other healthcare, education or social service resources when needed. She works closely with the local health unit, pediatricians and other local agencies. Early results from the project indicate that a non-traditional health promotion organization (a school) can be very effective when aligned with the health services delivery system.

A new health advocate project for children is giving an early boost to at-risk pre-school children and their parents.

There have been some unanticipated benefits from the program, she said. For example, parents are participating more at school as they feel more connected and confident, and children are less apprehensive about becoming first-time students. In 1999, the project will expand to include a local community advisory board.

"We feel that when a child is healthy, when he does come to a formal school setting, he will be ready to learn and can perform better," said Ms. Martin.



Sicily Island Community Health Center

Bringing Healthcare Closer to Home

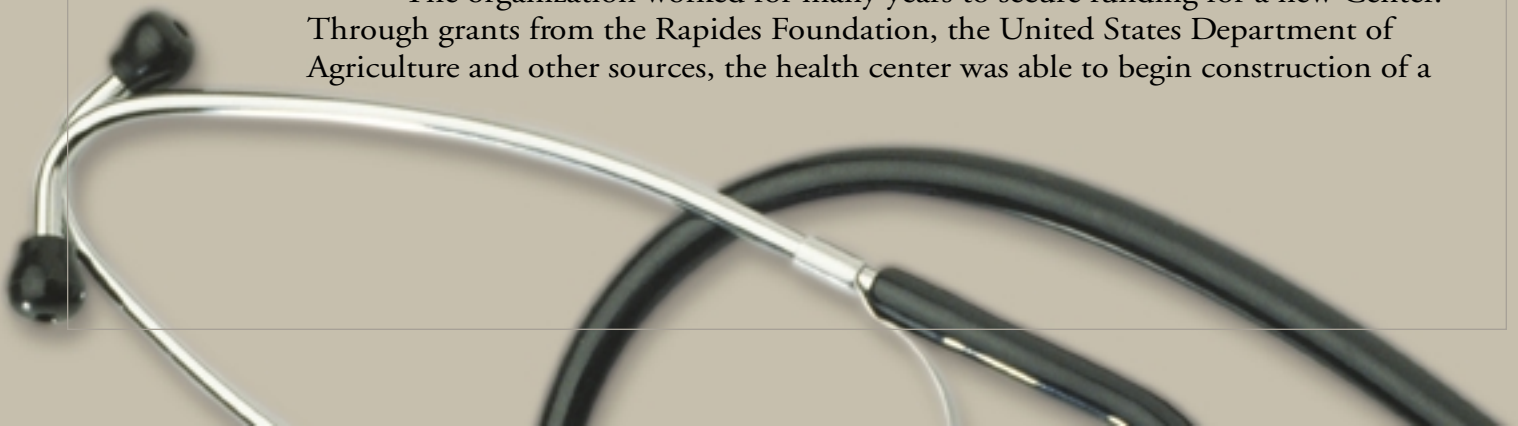


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Access to medical care is a major problem for many rural residents of Central Louisiana. When health services are located many miles away from their homes, the cost and inconvenience of travel means that critical care is delayed, and preventative care is often ignored completely.

Since the late 1970's, the small town of Sicily Island in northern Catahoula Parish has enjoyed the services of a federally recognized community health center. Yet the demands of serving an average of 15,000 patients annually taxed the Center's existing building space and limited the services that could be offered.

The organization worked for many years to secure funding for a new Center. Through grants from the Rapides Foundation, the United States Department of Agriculture and other sources, the health center was able to begin construction of a



Sicily Island Community Health Center

larger facility that includes additional space for exam rooms, physicians' and administrative offices, x-ray, lab and patient waiting areas. While the Foundation is not actively pursuing capital construction projects under its Initiative framework, the grant for the Center's expansion clearly enhances access to health services for this rural population.

Rural residents from Catahoula, Concordia and surrounding parishes have access to both acute and preventative health services at the Center. Patients are charged according to ability to pay, and the Center also provides some prescription drugs free or at cost to qualifying patients.

"We're treating patients that can't be treated anywhere else," because of the area's lack of other medical facilities, explained Emma Tarver, the Center's long-time director.

Agreed the Center's chief financial officer, Renee Ford, "If we weren't here, many of these people would have to travel more than 70 miles to be served."

When patients must be transferred to hospitals in Alexandria or other cities, the Center helps patients with transportation, as well. "We follow through with them," added Mrs. Tarver.

Besides treating patients with a range of health concerns, the Center offers several preventative health and wellness services. The Center, in cooperation with the Louisiana Office of Public Health, offers free mammograms and pap tests to women over 50 who are eligible for assistance, offers family planning services, participates in KidMed services for children and offers free flu shots for older and at-risk patients. In 1999, the Center will begin offering dental services for the first time in many years.

By offering convenient, affordable healthcare close to home, the Sicily Island Community Health Center is making a difference in the lives of the people of its community and is an example of how a small group of committed individuals can impact the lives of thousands.



Hope Development Center



Haven of Hope

A neighborhood resource center for families

“I never specialize in what I don’t have; I specialize in what I have.”

That philosophy, offered by Director Freddie Banks, gives some idea of the foundation on which he has built a new neighborhood resource center for families in the heart of a struggling Alexandria neighborhood.

The Hope Development Center focuses on human assets, rather than liabilities, and works to enhance those assets through a myriad of programs aimed at helping at-risk children and adults improve their health and well-being. Initially a project of the congregation of First Union Baptist Church, the Center includes a children’s daycare center, after-school care and tutoring, job and life skills training and a GED program. It is now administered through the non-profit First Union Development Corporation.

Director Banks, a former teacher and principal, is pastor of First Union Baptist Church and director of Hope Development Center, located at 213 Hope St. in Alexandria. He said the concept for the program developed four or five years ago, when he and his church members began walking the streets in neighborhoods they had identified as high-crime. They saw too many unsupervised children, and ample



Hope Development Center

evidence of how crime, drugs and related problems were degrading a number of low-income, minority neighborhoods in the city. The congregation was compelled to act, targeting an area between Railroad and Texas Avenues in Alexandria.

"I felt we needed to prepare a safe place for children to go in this neighborhood," he recalled. "Many of our children, especially black children, are in trouble. Many lack a stable home life; many of these young mothers have never held a job, and that goes back several generations."

To combat these problems, the members of the First Union Church family developed a plan, acquired buildings and established a separate corporation, with its own board and community advisory council, to run the program. That organization successfully obtained funding from the Rapides Foundation and other groups and individuals to develop an innovative program that emphasizes early intervention, prevention and compassion to produce systemic change. 1999 will bring a new Rapides Foundation funded program that will link the Office of Public Health with the Hope Development Center. A nurse will be stationed at the Center to provide screening, WIC, daycare staff training and links to a medical home.

Children receive quality daycare and meals, as well as after-school care and tutoring, which includes a fully-equipped computer lab. Their parents are able to improve their parenting skills, complete work for a General Equivalency Degree (GED) and learn job skills.

By helping people "on their own turf," said Rev. Banks, "we have brought sanity and respect to this area."

"I believe we can break the cycle by starting with the children. Our job is to give poor folks hope."

The project is an excellent example of an organization recognizing the many factors that lead to poverty and providing the supports necessary to help the community help itself.

"I believe we can break the cycle by starting with the children. Our job is to give poor folks hope."

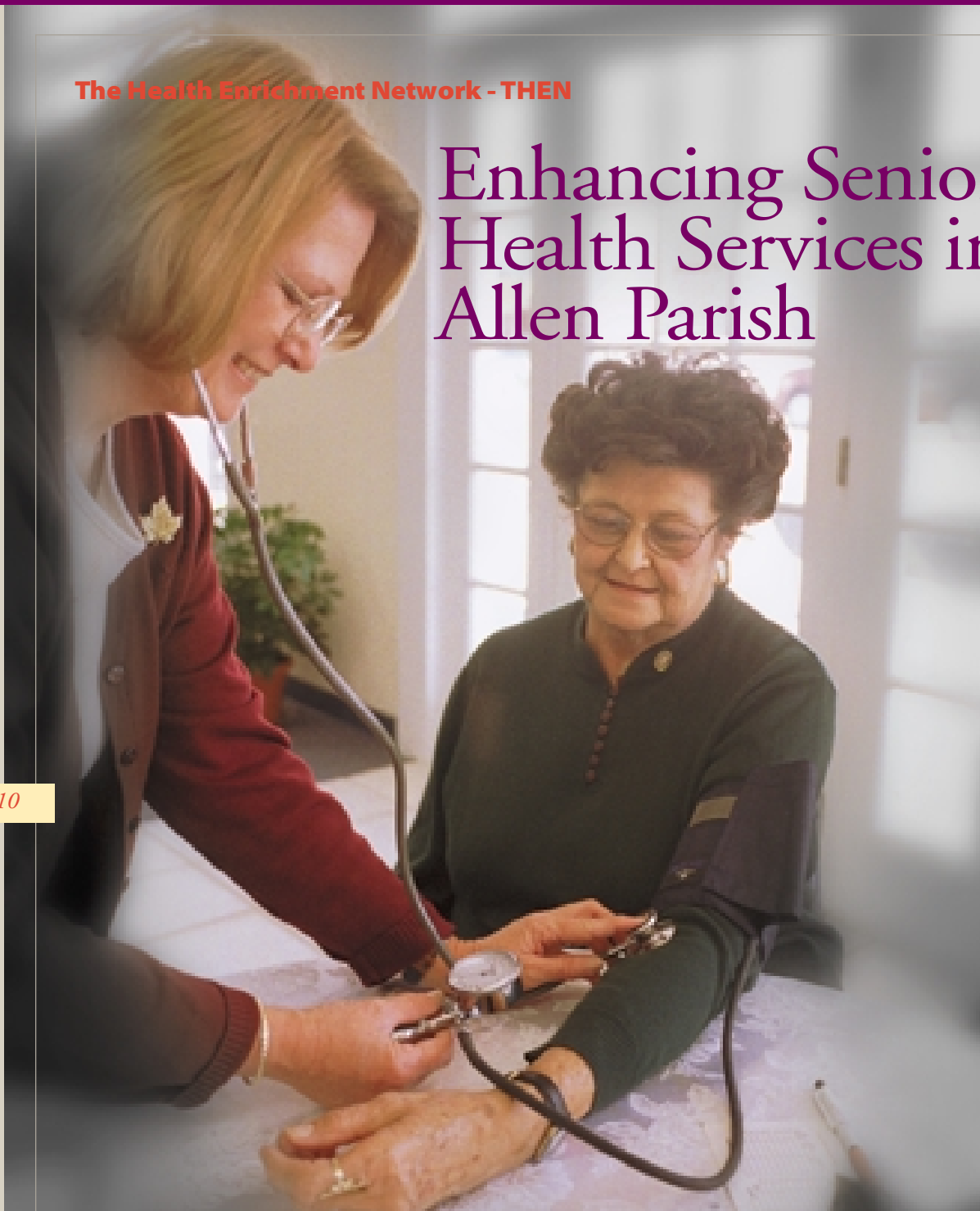
Director Freddie Banks



The Health Enrichment Network - THEN

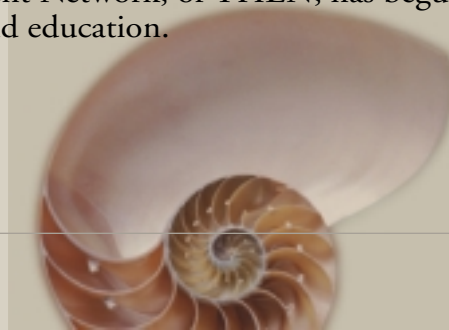
Enhancing Senior Health Services in Allen Parish

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A need to get more older adults involved in health and wellness programs in Allen Parish has launched a new collaborative effort among senior service agencies in that parish.

With the help of a five-year grant from the Rapides Foundation under the Healthy Seniors Initiative, The Health Enrichment Network, or THEN, has begun work to coordinate and enhance senior health and education.



The Health Enrichment Network - THEN

THEN is developing under the auspices of the Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center, which provides health, information and educational services to a 13-parish area of southwest Louisiana. Connie Sanders, director of health education programs for SWLAHEC, is coordinating the project. Jeanne Solis-Daigle is executive director.

“The goal of the program is to improve the health status of senior citizens in Allen Parish, a group which is a growing percentage of the population in this largely rural parish,” said Ms. Solis-Daigle. “Because of where they live, healthcare access and transportation are issues of concern for seniors in the region,” she added.

A needs assessment, coupled with the involvement of local physicians who recognized the benefits of health and wellness programs for their older patients, gave impetus to the idea of a new, collaborative program.

“The Health Enrichment Network is bringing everyone together and mobilizing services for seniors in Allen Parish,” said Dr. George Mowad, a board member of THEN. The program is cooperating with existing senior programs within Oakdale Community Hospital and the parish sheriff’s office to avoid duplication of services. “It’s a worthwhile project,” added Dr. Mowad. “Everybody’s excited about the opportunity to reach out, work together and expand services.”

THEN is designed to be a consortium that brings together representatives of all the local health and human service providers that deal with health issues of senior citizens. By partnering, officials believe that resources and ideas may be pooled to improve services to this target group.

THEN’s objectives are to 1) coordinate accessible services for senior citizens to improve healthy lifestyles and health status, 2) develop a year-round, accessible exercise program targeting older adults and 3) develop a non-profit organization in Allen Parish to support a health services network. The absence of a parish-wide not-for-profit organization has traditionally hampered efforts to secure state and federal funds for health programs. The initiation of THEN is one example of the Rapides Foundation emphasis on development of sustainable infrastructure for health and well-being program implementation.

THEN is designed to be a consortium that brings together representatives of all the local health and human service providers that deal with health issues of senior citizens.



Initiative Highlights

1998 marked the implementation of eight of the nine Rapides Foundation initiatives reflecting the priority areas identified by the Trustees early in the year. These initiative areas are:

Healthcare Access - Increasing the levels of care available for those with financial and geographic access issues.

Healthy Seniors - Programs to impact the onset and seriousness of chronic disease in order to maintain independence.

Healthy Children - Projects providing support for the developmental and health needs of children ages 0-3.

Healthy Futures I - Impacting adolescent risk behaviors like smoking, alcohol and drug abuse, and obesity.

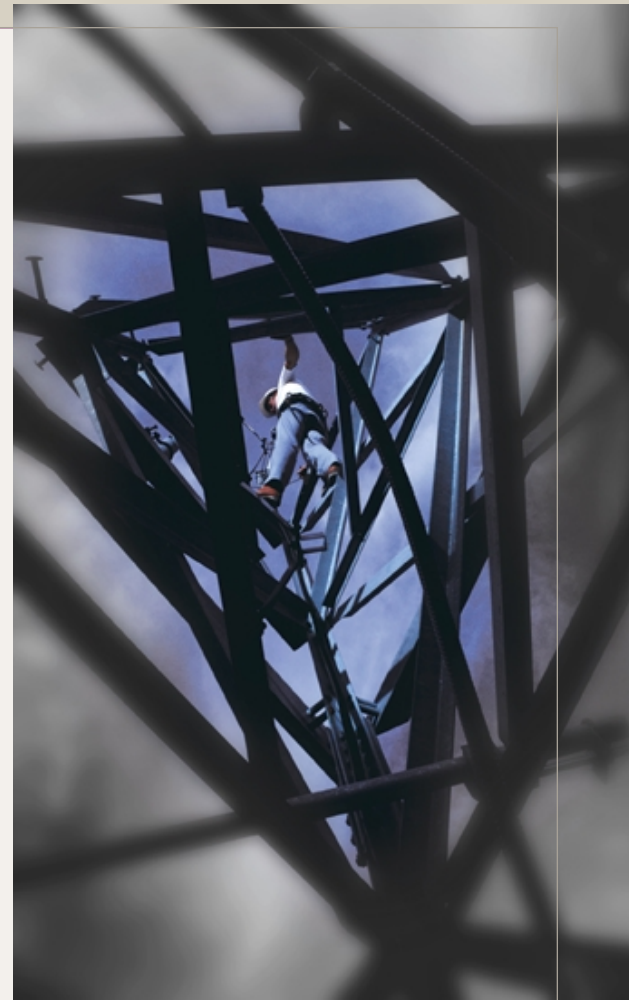
Healthy Futures II - Impacting the elevated rates of teen pregnancy in Central Louisiana.

Arts and Humanities - Programs to provide arts education, develop new audiences and stabilize existing organizations.

Education - A special grants program supporting teacher training, curriculum development and implementation, and other projects to improve the learning environment.

Healthy Cenla - Building leadership and community ownership on the local and neighborhood level.

Economic Development - To be developed and implemented in 1999/2000.



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Education Initiative Invests in Teachers

Led by Dr. Ken Tewel, the Education Initiative began with a September kick-off meeting attended by over 90 schools.

These schools became the first cohort to participate in the new Rapides Foundation Education Initiative aimed at providing teachers and principals with the resources needed to upgrade the skills of the teaching corps and to improve the environment for teaching and learning. Each school in the Foundation's 11-parish service area is eligible to receive grants of up to \$25,000 during each of the next five years to sustain, deepen and extend their first year efforts. The Education Initiative encourages schools to choose a single goal and to keep at it until implementation of a new teaching strategy or new program is complete. Only then, research shows, can we expect student performance to improve.

The Rapides Foundation will continue to assist Education Initiative schools by building networks with those working on similar efforts. The Foundation's goal is to improve the quality of life in Central Louisiana. Investing in building the skills and knowledge of teachers, we believe, helps us achieve that goal.



Grants

1998 Grants List

AARP Tax Aide Program - Electronic filing equipment for use by volunteer tax preparers in service to the elderly	\$24,000
Alexandria Affordable Housing Corp - Perform repairs on homes of low-income elderly homeowners	20,000
Alexandria Fire Department - Purchase handicapped accessible Fire Safety Exhibit	25,000
Allen Parish Police Jury - Medical equipment for Oberlin and Oakdale Health Units	18,565
Alzheimer's Association Cenla Branch - Training safety workers, clergy and senior centers to identify and assist persons with Alzheimer's	
Arna Bontemps Museum and Cultural Arts Center - Technology upgrade	17,580
Avoyelles Society for the Developmentally Disabled - Partial funding of expansion of their Center in Marksville (2 year grant)	100,000
Ballet Alexandria - Support of Francofete performances	9,800
Blue Ribbon Task Force on Education - Support of working groups	12,500
Boys and Girls Clubs of Central LA - Implementation of a Family Support program in collaboration with 8 area Housing Authorities (5 year grant)	215,000
Bunkie Community Development Corp. - Organizational development and planning	10,000
Caring Peoples Free Pharmacy - Distribution of medications to the medically indigent (3 year grant)	128,240
Catahoula Parish School District - Implementation of a school-based risk-reduction curriculum (5 year grant)	250,000
Cenla Area Agency on Aging - Development of cost-effective senior wellness programming for implementation throughout Cenla (2 year grant)	50,000
Cenla Pride - Work with Alexandria neighborhoods to organize and build resident involvement	6,000
Central Louisiana Area Health Education Center - In association with the local chapter of the American Heart Association, implementation of two anti-smoking programs targeting youth in a multi-parish area (2.5 year grant)	90,000
Central Louisiana Coalition to Prevent Homelessness - Development of evaluation tools for the Phoenix Point transitional housing project	26,391
Central Louisiana Community Theatre - Installation of audience services technology	5,000
Central Louisiana Foundation - Development of implementation plan for diversity programming	10,000
Central Louisiana Foundation - Feasibility study of LSUA 4 year expansion	25,000
Children's Museum Task Force - Preliminary planning efforts towards developing a children's museum	4,108
Extra Mile Region VI - Strategic planning for the organization	20,950
Family Playhouse - Rental and rehab of performance space	25,000
Governor's Office of Women's Services - Development of job training in non-traditional jobs	9,800
HNB/LSUA Leadership Training Partnership - Leadership training for managers of not-for-profit organizations	12,000
Hope Development Center - Renovation of space for Welfare-to-Work Programs	10,000
Junior League of Alexandria - Implementation of a program of non-violence training in Alexandria sixth grade classrooms	12,000
LaSalle Community Action Association - Renovation of recreational and tutoring space at HeadStart campus in Clayton	25,000

Grants

1998 Grants List

Leesville Development Center - Planning activities to facilitate client movement from sheltered workshops to community employment	\$14,750
Legal Services of Central Louisiana - Technology Upgrade for client services	10,000
Louisiana Special Education Center - Total Quality Management training for employees	9,000
LSUA Library - Local History Preservation Project	15,000
Mt. Zion Development Corporation - Partial support for the renovation of the Madrid Apartments in Alexandria for use as an affordable senior citizens housing complex	100,000
Natchitoches Council on Aging - Partial funding for expansion of senior center	70,000
Ninth Judicial District Court - Educational programming for juveniles under court supervision	2,500
Northwestern State University - Develop community collaboratives on teen pregnancy prevention	6,888
Nu Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau - Workshop on better integrating professional nursing into the community	3,500
Oakdale, City of - Upgrades to Civic Center sound system and lighting	23,000
Pediatric Therapy Center - Early identification of children at-risk for developmental disabilities through a program of provider education and training (3 year grant)	75,000
Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana - A project to provide trained mentors and extensive in-home parenting support for post-partum mothers. In collaboration with Steps to Success and Volunteers of America (5 year grant)	500,000
Rapides Exploratory Education House - Feasibility study for Children's museum	25,000
Rapides Habitat for Humanity - Salary support for a construction supervisor for affordable housing work in Rapides Parish (3 year grant)	90,051
Resident Councils of the Natchitoches City Housing Authority - Organizational development work for resident Councils	20,000
Resident Councils of the Rapides Parish Housing Authority - Organizational development work for resident councils in Boyce	10,000
River Oaks Square Arts Center - Visiting artist workshops at 12 area schools	4,240
St. Augustine Historical Society - Development of photographic database on Creole history	16,325
Shepherd Ministries - Development of strategic plan	25,000
Southern University and A&M College - Implementation of model teen pregnancy prevention programs in Bunkie and Ville Platte (5 year grant)	250,000
Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center - Development and implementation of a Prevention Resource Network targeted to prevent chronic illness in Allen Parish seniors (5 year grant)	354,557
Tom Peyton Memorial Arts Festival - Support of arts festival featuring Louisiana culture	2,500
United Way of Central Louisiana - Fiscal agent for Cenla Health Fair	4,000
Volunteers of America - Feasibility study for hospice for homeless and mentally ill	5,000
Volunteers of America - Enhanced Medicaid application access in Jena, Leesville and Alexandria (5 year grant)	131,250
Winnfield Kindergarten Annex - Implementation of a nurse-led risk-identification program targeting 3 and 4 year-olds	53,500
Working Peoples Free Clinic - Operation of a volunteer-based healthcare clinic for the medically indigent and purchase of a site for the project (1.5 year grant)	300,000
Young's Temple Church of God in Christ - Planning for implementation of a volunteer nurse-led visitation program targeted towards low-income elderly	10,000

Communications

In 1998, plans were put in place for a number of communications projects to be implemented in 1999. While they have different specific objectives, the goal of all the components of the communications efforts is to effectively highlight local health and well-being issues and to provide access to the foundation's staff and programs in an equitable manner. The 1999 communications plan includes:

- Web site with the latest program information and links to research on health and well-being information
- A quarterly issue-specific newsletter
- Television spots highlighting the foundation's initiative areas
- Quarterly publication of grant awards in the Alexandria Daily Town Talk
- Establishment of 1-800 number for rural callers
- Informal question and answer sessions in each parish
- Continuation of grant announcement workshops

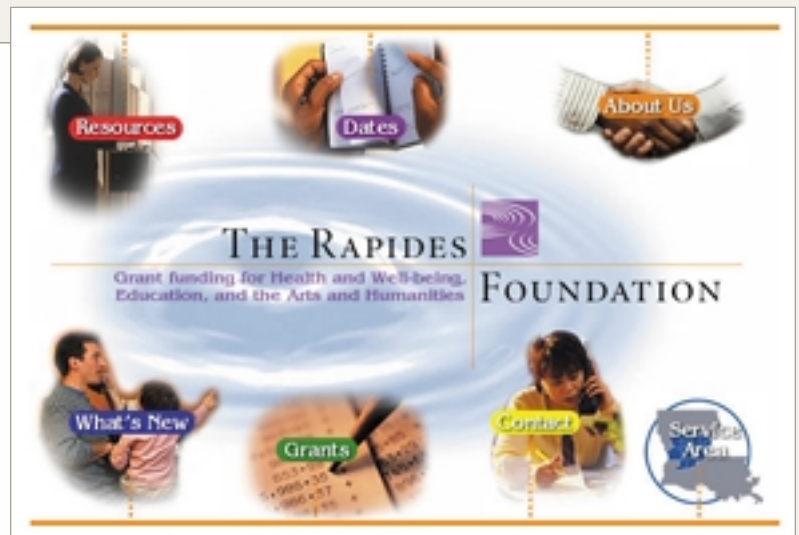
Coming in 1999

In 1999, the Rapides Foundation will be working in a number of new areas.

Community Development - Development of a model to support the training and leadership development needs of local organizations, groups and residents. This initiative responds to the shortage of financially and organizationally stable not-for-profits in Central Louisiana and the challenge of helping groups move from an idea phase to effective program implementation.

Economic Development - Development of a strategy for support of a targeted training and marketing methodology that efficiently and directly responds to the needs of local employers.

Faith and Health - As we work towards improving the health and well-being of Central Louisiana residents, we will be actively looking to engage area congregations in working with the physical health needs of their members and their neighborhoods through various nursing programs, health and wellness programs and volunteer clinics. These strategies are being implemented throughout the country and are showing great promise in supplementing the existing delivery systems.



COMBINED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1998, 1997 AND 1996

	TWELVE MONTHS 1998*	TWELVE MONTHS 1997*	TWELVE MONTHS 1996
CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED ASSETS:			
INVESTMENT INCOME:			
Income on cash and long-term investments	\$3,770,534	\$3,353,528	\$3,551,617
Gains and losses on securities	9,867,201	10,868,037	2,975,222
Equity in earnings of jointly owned companies	2,635,079	9,327,925	12,787,972
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	\$16,272,814	\$23,549,490	\$19,314,811
INVESTMENT EXPENSE	623,187	584,867	440,660
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	15,649,627	22,964,623	18,874,151
CONTRIBUTIONS	200,241	428,729	339
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Grants	4,005,075	3,779,800	15,444,569
Development	204,367	512,326	33,419
Administration	754,352	557,749	403,762
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TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$4,963,794	\$ 4,849,875	\$15,881,750
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INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS			
FROM OPERATIONS	10,886,074	18,543,477	2,992,740
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENSES FROM DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS			(1,142,717)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	10,886,074	18,543,477	1,850,023
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NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	180,327,262	161,783,785	159,933,762
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NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$191,213,336	\$180,327,262	\$161,783,785

***UNAUDITED**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 1998, 1997 AND 1996

	TWELVE MONTHS 1998*	TWELVE MONTHS 1997*	TWELVE MONTHS 1996
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$4,852,240	\$10,906,102	\$16,860,118
Accounts receivable	38,320	40,283	2,078
Prepaid expenses	22,233	17,625	17,625
Furniture and equipment	75,172	51,779	60,728
Assets whose use is limited	689,022	563,114	690,914
Long-term investments - marketable securities	107,230,902	92,164,778	64,000,364
Investments - at cost plus equity in			
Undistributed earnings	<u>86,157,503</u>	<u>87,034,883</u>	<u>93,575,636</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$199,065,392</u>	<u>\$190,778,564</u>	<u>\$175,207,463</u>
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$109,409	\$140,460	\$107,865
Due to partnership	991,754	965,819	1,142,716
Retirement plan payable	171,390	171,389	163,769
Payroll, payroll taxes and benefits payable	9,583	6,481	1,720
Grants payable	6,195,675	8,775,428	11,607,942
Annuity obligations	<u>374,245</u>	<u>391,725</u>	<u>399,666</u>
Total Liabilities	\$7,852,056	\$10,451,302	\$13,423,678
Net Assets - Unrestricted	<u>191,213,336</u>	<u>180,327,262</u>	<u>161,783,785</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$199,065,392</u>	<u>\$190,778,564</u>	<u>\$175,207,463</u>
*UNAUDITED			

Trustees, Staff and Advisors

Trustees

Harry B. Silver - Board Chairman

Chairman - Weiss & Goldring

James R. Byrd

City Marshall

Richard L. Crowell, Jr.

Partner - Crowell Lumber

Vanda L. Davidson, M.D.

Physician

Wesley W. Davis, M.D.

Physician

M. Lawrence Dreup, M.D.

Physician

JoAnn W. Kellogg

Community Volunteer

Gail C. Little

*Manager- Software Development
Time Trend, Inc.*

Robert C. Morrison, M.D.

Physician

Gregory L. Nesbitt

President & CEO, CLECO

Gregory B. O'Quin

*Registered Investment Advisor Rep.
Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp.*

Bernard E. Patty, III, M.D.

Physician

Robert T. Ratcliff

*President & Owner
Ratcliff Construction Co.*

Daphne R. Robinson

*Assistant District Attorney
Rapides Parish*

Jane B. Texada

Educator - Pineville High School

W. Foster Walker, III

President, Walker Oldsmobile

Paul M. "Mac" Davis, M.D.

Director Emeritus, Physician

Roane Hathorn

*Director Emeritus
Retired - Rapides Bank*

W. Donner Rodemacher

*Director Emeritus
Retired - CLECO*

Staff

Joseph R. Rosier, Jr., CPA, CFA

President/CEO

Allen J. Smart, MPH

Program Officer

Patricia M. LaCour

Grant Administrator

Cedric W. Lowrey, M.D.

Medical Director (retired August 1998)

Loretta T. Magee

Administrative Secretary

Cindy F. Middleton

Accountant

Margaret Daniel

Secretary

Advisors

Leonard Dawson, M.S.P.H.

*Clinical Professor Emeritus
School of Public Health
University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill*

Kenneth J. Tewel, Ph.D.

*Program Professor
Programs in Education and Technology
Nova Southeastern University*

Wolf, Keens & Co

*Arts & Humanities
Program Advisor*

Foundation Program Officer Joins Staff

Allen J. Smart joined the foundation in August of 1998 as the foundation's first Program Officer. He is responsible for the development, promotion and support of foundation-supported initiatives. He holds graduate degrees from the University of Illinois at Chicago (MPH-Community Health) and the University of Michigan (MA - Telecommunication Arts) and an undergraduate degree from Macalester College (BA - Philosophy).

In Memoriam

James L. Meyer

It is with much regret that we report the passing of James L. Meyer, Foundation Trustee, in May of 1998. Mr. Meyer, a civil engineer and engineering consultant with Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix and Hixson, served as a Trustee from the inception of the Foundation in 1994 and prior to that, as a Board member for nine years of Rapides Regional Medical Center. As chairperson of the England Authority, he was instrumental in the internationally acclaimed conversion of England Air Force Base from a closed military installation to a locally controlled multi-use commercial, industrial and residential complex.



In Recognition of Dr. P. K. Kaimal

We wish to recognize the contributions of Dr. P. K. Kaimal as a Trustee of the Foundation from 1996-98. Dr. Kaimal, a cardiologist, served as the designated representative put forth by the Medical Staff of Rapides Regional Medical Center. His term concluded at the end of 1998.

1998 Board of Trustee Appointments

Ms. Daphne R. Robinson began service as a member of the Board of Trustees in January of 1999. Ms. Robinson is an Assistant District Attorney in the Rapides Parish District Attorney's Office and is solely responsible for the prosecution of all of the juvenile cases in Rapides Parish. She is a graduate of Tougaloo College, Jackson, Mississippi in English and the American University College of Law in Washington, DC.

Dr. M. Lawrence Drerup also began service as a Trustee in January of 1999. He is the newly designated representative of the Rapides Regional Medical Center Medical Staff. Dr. Dreup is an Alexandria native and a Board Certified Neurosurgeon, Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the International College of Surgeons.

Application Process

Qualified organizations requesting funds through the Initiative or Responsive Grant Program should submit a Letter of Intent prior to the indicated deadline. Letters of Intent will be reviewed and the applicants will be notified if a full proposal is desired for further evaluation. Applicants will be notified of selection decisions approximately 30 days after the deadline for the Letter of Intent.

Applicants requesting funds for Mini-Grants (up to \$10,000) or Technical Assistance (up to \$10,000) can submit at anytime and a decision will be provided in 60 days or less.

First Stage: Letter of Intent (Initiative and Responsive Grants)

Before submitting a Letter of Intent under any of the grant programs, an applicant should request from the foundation a brochure which details complete requirements and guidelines. Applicants are also encouraged to discuss their project with a foundation Program Officer.

In a Letter of Intent applicants will be asked to address the following:

- Organizational mission
- Problem or need
- Risk factors
- Desired outcomes
- Strategy
- Sustainability

Selection Criteria

Applications for funding through the Grant Program are selected based upon criteria developed to reflect the foundation's mission, philanthropic objectives and guiding principles. We encourage results-oriented projects that ...

- Address a problem or need reflected within the geographic area being targeted and affecting community health in the Rapides Foundation service area.
- Identify the risk factors or root causes of the problem and effectively address the risk factors or

root causes of the problem and ultimately the problem itself.

- Increase the capacity of people and organizations to sustain community health improvements.
- Identify and measure desired project outcomes including milestones which indicate progress in resolving the indicated problem or need.

Second Stage: Project Proposal (Initiative and Responsive Grants)

If your Letter of Intent is favorably reviewed, you will be asked to submit a complete Project Proposal on or before the announced proposal deadline. You will have about 60 days to complete the full proposal. This second stage of the application includes a complete business plan with project description, workplan and timeline, staffing and other resource requirements, and an evaluation plan. A project budget and narrative describing the assumptions for preparation of the budget will be a part of the proposal. You will be provided an outline for the proposal requirements as well as a budget worksheet and instructions when you are notified that your Letter of Intent has been favorably reviewed. Project proposals should be submitted only at the request of the foundation.

Evaluative Criteria

Proposals submitted at the request of the foundation will be evaluated based upon additional criteria developed to indicate overall project feasibility. We seek innovative proposals that have a practical nature and that ...

- Receive community acceptance and support, and that support the values of the community.
- Can be effectively implemented in the proposed time frame by the applicant(s) who possess(es) the knowledge, skills, training and background necessary to administer the project.
- Employ strategies which are proven or otherwise hold a reasonable expectation for success.
- Include sufficient resources with the requested grant funds to launch the project and that indicate sustainability beyond the period of foundation funding.

Grant Cycle Deadlines

Please contact the foundation for grant cycle deadlines or visit our web site at www.rapidesfoundation.org.



THE RAPIDES FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 11937 Alexandria, LA 71315-1937
318-443-3394 • 1-800-994-3394 • www.rapidesfoundation.org