

The *of Health*



The Picture



of Health

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M i s s i o n S t a t e m e n t

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.

Throughout this annual report you'll see pictures that tell an important story. Look closely, for these images vividly represent the tremendous work being done by people and organizations in Central Louisiana, as they strive to improve the health and well-being of their communities. And in each of these pictures, you'll see the reflection of our Foundation's role in supporting their efforts.

Much of our support in 2000 was dedicated to funding organizations through the Foundation's Initiative Grants Program – \$14.6 million was awarded for a variety of projects, focusing on selected community health, education, community development and arts and humanities issues. But much more than funding was provided through these Initiatives. The Foundation also made it a priority to help organizations fully develop their projects; providing technical assistance for a wide range of activities, such as organizational development.

Providing that helping hand and technical assistance has been the hallmark of the Foundation's Education Initiative, which provides funding for innovative school projects aimed at improving student achievement. In 2000, \$1.6 million was awarded to 77 schools in our 11-parish service area.

From schools to the places we work, helping people earn a living wage is the focus of a very different Foundation program – the Workforce Development Initiative. The Initiative

was launched this year, offering grant dollars to nonprofit alliances of Central Louisiana companies working together to design and deliver innovative employee training programs.

Partnerships were forged this year for two projects that have been in the planning stages for more than a year – the AED Network and Faith and Health Support Network. The Foundation has partnered with the American Heart Association to place AEDs (automated external defibrillators) in our rural communities, in an effort to deploy these devices to save lives during cardiac arrest. In 2000 the Foundation made its first formal grants under the Faith and Health umbrella, awarding Louisiana College a grant of one million dollars to serve as a technical resource center for church-based health programs.

2000 also saw two of the Foundation's direct charitable projects begin to move closer to full implementation. These are projects the Foundation will initially operate, with the intent to then nurture the programs to become community-owned nonprofit organizations with the Foundation becoming one of many financial supporters. The Community Development Initiative is now initiating programs throughout our service area that will become part of a formal organization for community-building and local leadership development. While improving people's health is the focus of the second direct charitable activity – the Cenla Medication Access Program

or CMAP. Once fully implemented this program will provide prescription medications for more than 12,000 people yearly who couldn't otherwise afford them.

We hope this summary provides you with a strong sense of the many ways in which the Foundation is focusing its efforts to improve the health and well-being of our communities. That is the mission that guides our organization, which comes from our legacy of hospital ownership dating back to 1903. The Foundation is acutely aware of that heritage and continues its support to ensure the highest quality of care at the five area hospitals co-owned with HCA. During 2000 that ownership was reduced from 50% to 26%. This action was taken after Trustees diligently studied the issue, and determined this ownership level will allow the Foundation to preserve the same level of community governing control, while improving the ability to sustain that role in the future. Foundation Trustees and staff are actively involved in the hospitals' governance, to ensure the highest level of community benefit is realized through this ownership.

The old adage "every picture tells a story" certainly rings true for this report on 2000. We believe on the following pages you will see people brimming with hope and commitment – all carrying the same message that we are working together to make Central Louisiana a healthier place to live.



Joseph R. Rosier, Jr.
President and CEO



Gregory L. Nesbitt
Board Chairman

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

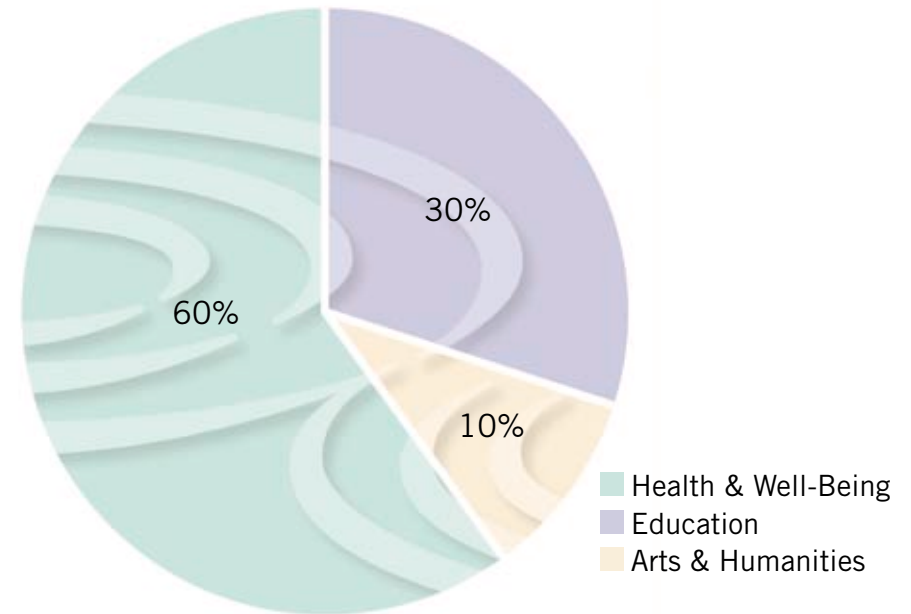
To promote healthy behavior, improve access to quality, affordable healthcare, foster a safe and caring community, and build capacities that enable people to address local concerns.

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.



Initiative Summary

Implementation continued for nine Rapides Foundation Initiatives which reflect the priority areas identified by Trustees in 1998. These Initiative areas are:

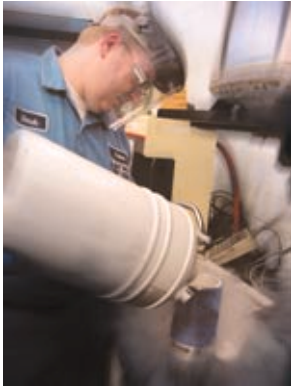
Healthcare Access	Increasing the levels of care available for those with financial and geographic access issues.
Healthy Seniors	Programs to impact the onset and seriousness of chronic disease in order to maintain independence.
Healthy Children	Projects providing support for the developmental and health 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	An effort to work with collaboratives of local non-retail employers to raise skill and knowledge levels of current and future employees. The objective is to produce better jobs and higher wages.

The Leesville High School Health Career Academy helps train students for medical field careers. (standing left-right) Tomasenia Williams, Carolyn Armes, Health Academy Instructor, Amanda Gallion and Kady Cart (patient)



The Picture of Health

Workforce Development



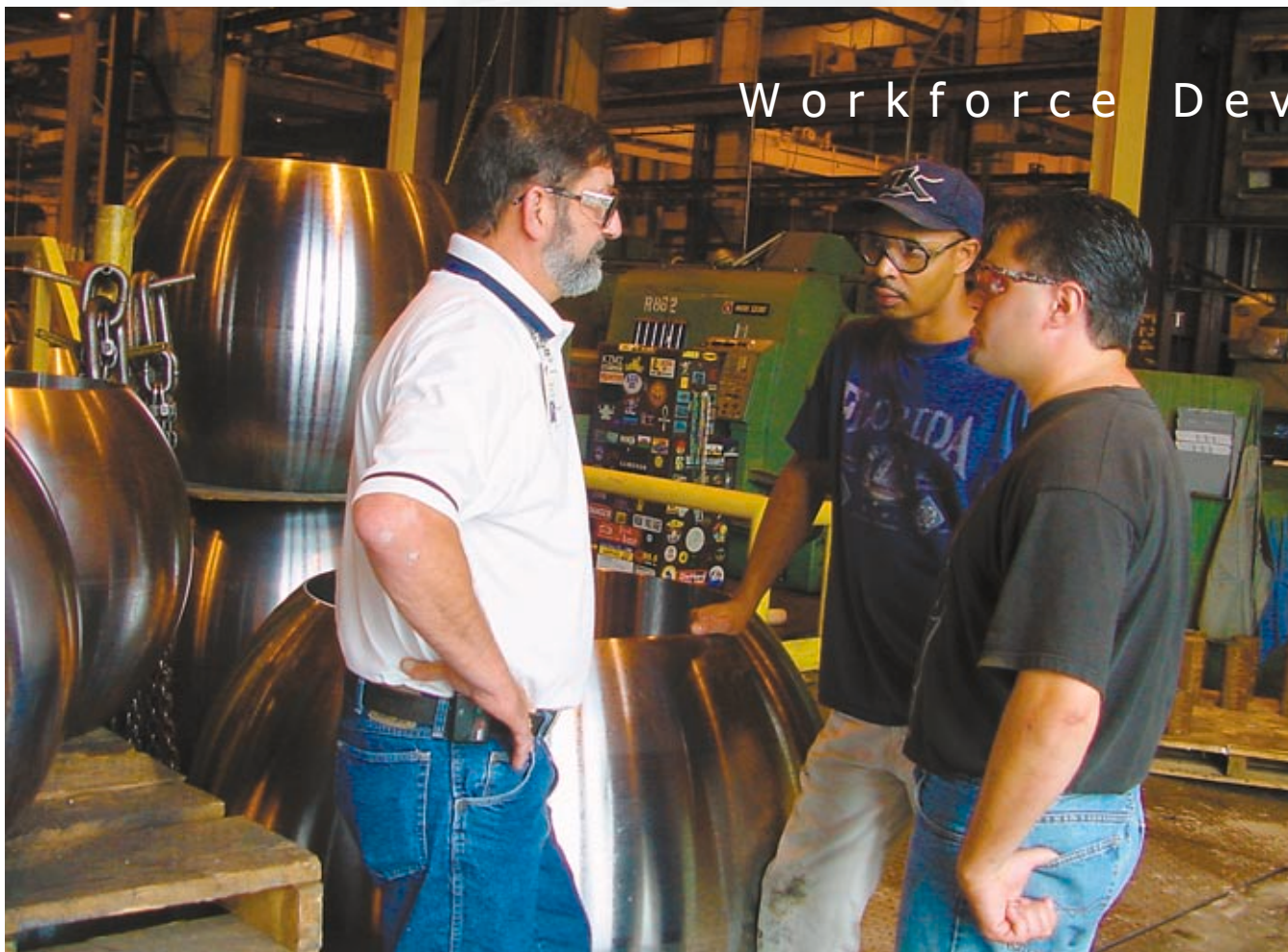
Derek Turner testing carbon black with liquid nitrogen at Cabot Corporation.

Karen Jenkins, Cabot Corporation Compliance and Training Specialist with Joe Henry, Cabot warehouse technician.



Six of the 10 largest non-retail private employers in the area are formal participants in the Foundation's workforce development efforts. Companies like Martco, Alliance Compressors and Cabot Corporation have been enthusiastic supporters of the Workforce Initiative – particularly as the companies are encouraged to define their recruitment, retention and advancement training needs and hire their own training service providers. One unique aspect of the program rests with the requirements for multiple employers to work together in tackling workforce needs of

Workforce Development



Bill Guidry, director of human resources at Cooper-Cameron in Ville Platte, talks to Daniel Wilson (left) and Brian Clarke.

Cooper-Cameron, with two other Evangeline Parish employers, Cabot Corporation and CLECO, Louisiana Technical College - Ville Platte and AFCO Industries of Alexandria are enthusiastic proponents of the benefits of working together to raise employee skill levels through the Foundation's Economic Development (Workforce) Initiative.

common interest. In Year One of the program, five grants were awarded with a Foundation commitment of \$903,000. An additional grant was awarded to Louisiana State University at Alexandria for an employer-driven needs assessment of the healthcare workforce and training/education environment. The Foundation will use this information in 2001 to define its grantmaking strategies in this important employer sector.

AED Network



The Foundation has already committed to placing 175 of these units and is dedicated to supporting the permanent establishment of a volunteer-led network for quick emergency lifesaving response.

Automated External Defibrillator AED network

(left to right) Tony Acosta, PA-C, Winn Parish Operation Heartbeat Chairman; Eric Austin, Winnfield Police Department Patrolman, and Mark V. Shelton, MD / AED Medical Director for Winn Parish.



If you or a loved one are in cardiac arrest and live in rural Central Louisiana, chances are that you may have to wait 15 minutes or more for emergency help to come to you. Unfortunately, help may have come too late, because research shows that treatment must take place within 10 minutes to be successful. Many of our residents become victims of this terrible timetable.

Recognizing the need for fast and effective response to cardiac emergencies, the Foundation has partnered with the American Heart Association to put AEDs (automated external defibrillators) – in the hands of those first on the scene of a



AED Network

Allen Bernheisel of the Pineville Fire Department and Ruby-Kolin Volunteer Fire Department is a member of the local Operation Heartbeat Committee.

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medical emergency – the First Responders living and working in our rural areas. These volunteer firefighters and safety officers are on the scene in minutes of a call for assistance. Starting in early 2001, they will be equipped with AEDs in exchange for a small local matching donation and a commitment to maintain a high level of training for their personnel. The AED, which administers a small shock to revive the victim, is foolproof and is being placed in public places like airports and auditoriums throughout the country. In Phase II of the Foundation/American Heart Association partnership, scheduled for 2002, we will move towards placement of AEDs in many public places around the area.



Community Development



top: Stacey Debevec, executive director of the Pediatric Therapy Center in Alexandria. Pediatric Therapy is currently receiving funds from the Foundation to promote the early identification of developmental problems in young children and to provide direct services for those children not yet eligible for treatment within the existing service delivery system. As a new Rapides Parish nonprofit director, Ms. Debevec will be participating in the Foundation's six month nonprofit management training series.

bottom: Gerald Roberts, county agent for The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service in Evangeline Parish and Community Leadership Program participant.

The Year 2000 served as the program development period for the Community Development Initiative. Based upon our exhaustive 1999 assessment of organizational and individual development needs, we designed the three initial programs of the Initiative.

(1) The Community Leadership program – Two residents of every parish in the Foundation service area have been selected to participate in a year-long program that will bring the group together for six weekends during

Community Development

the calendar year 2001. The group will take part in learning with nationally recognized experts in rural development, economic development, technology and individual leadership development. In this way, the Foundation hopes to build a corps of trained community leaders in each parish. Participation is limited to those selected by the Foundation in recognition of their roles as community leaders.

(2) The Nonprofit Management Series – In response to requests from the Rapides Parish nonprofit community, we are working with Louisiana State University at Alexandria and Louisiana State University (Shreveport) to develop a six month management training series suitable for beginning and experienced nonprofit managers. Admission to the series will be through an application process and limited to 20.

(3) Community Builders Series – In association with Nonprofit Resources, an experienced nonprofit technical assistance provider, the Foundation will sponsor workshops in each parish on grants, program and organizational development. These six-hour workshops are primarily directed at those new to the nonprofit world and provide an excellent base for the development of solid nonprofits.

As 2001 moves along, we anticipate adding other program components and an in-house program manager to the mix. Dianne Williams, our longtime senior program consultant in this area, continues to provide us support and insight.



College Drive Baptist Church in Pineville, LA will become the Louisiana College Faith and Health Resource Center.

Health

From early in the Foundation's history, we have recognized that local congregations of faith are extremely important components of the health and human services delivery system. Whether distributing food to the needy, visiting the old and infirmed, or working with teen mothers, the Central Louisiana faith community is one of the frontline forces contributing to the health and well-being of local residents.

Beginning in 1999, Dr. John Hatch and other experts in the area of faith and health began meeting with local religious leaders to identify areas of interest and local structures for program implementation. In 2000, the Foundation made its first formal grants under the Faith and Health umbrella. Three grants were made to predominantly African-American associations of churches and a three year grant went to Louisiana College, a local Baptist-affiliated undergraduate institution, to serve as the training and technical support center for faith-based health programs. These grants initially focus on improving diet and exercise habits and lifestyles. Combined with a number of other faith-based efforts, including work with HIV/AIDS education, access to healthcare, early child development and affordable housing, the Foundation is looking to the faith community to be partners and standard bearers for community change.

2001 will bring continued development of these programs with permanent staffing of the Louisiana College Faith and Health Institute. Full-time staffing will mean an ability to broaden the efforts to include many different faiths in the various health programs and to extend the reach to the 11-parish Foundation service area. While many of the rural communities may be small in population, we know that they are strong in faith.



Judy Richardson, a nurse at Friendship House administers a blood sugar test to Mrs. Ruby Tanner. Friendship House, an established adult daycare organization, is receiving Foundation-funding to provide enhanced healthcare services to its clients and to serve as a regional resource for start-up adult day centers throughout the area.



The Rapides Foundation Service Area





Dr. Jerry White, University of Louisiana - Lafayette School of Nursing, (standing left) project director for the Northern Evangeline Parish Health Ministry Network with Sandra Book (standing right), community coordinator, help share health ministry activities in their seven different church congregations. The project is also planning a medication assistance program for residents of north Evangeline parish. This project is a good example of how organizations use the mini-grant program to cultivate and pilot new programs in rural areas where a traditional health and social services infrastructure may not exist.



(top) Huey P. Long Medical Center Director of Outpatient Pharmacy - CMAP Program, John Robichaux, RPh, checks computerized medication records.

(left) Karen Wilber, Certified Pharmacy Technician checks medication stock in the pharmacy.

Cenla Medication Access Program

Beginning with the earliest needs assessments conducted by the Foundation, lack of access to affordable medication has continued to be a constant source of concern across our various constituencies, among them consumers, healthcare professionals, and elected officials. In 2000, we conducted a year-long period of study concluding that the Foundation could reach the largest numbers of needy residents through a two component program working with the existing health and human services delivery system. We call this program CMAP, for Cenla Medication Access Program.

As a result, in 2001 Huey P. Long Medical Center will open an outpatient pharmacy at England Airpark as part of the CMAP Program funded by the Foundation. The Internal Medicine Clinics at the Airpark provide the majority of primary care services for low-income and moderate income persons ineligible for Medicaid. This represents the first venture of its kind in the state. We hope to provide chronic care medications for over 10,000 persons each year through a managed program of medication education, discount purchased medication at special government pricing and streamlined access to manufacturer's "free" programs.

We recognize that many older adults are particularly hard hit by medication costs. For those low-income adults with private physicians, we will establish a prescription card system with a low co-pay and medication education provided by a Foundation-employed pharmacist. The program will use existing community-based sites for enrollment, where local people are at ease and rely upon existing community-based pharmacies for the actual dispensing of medication. We will serve at least 2,500 of our neediest residents with this part of the program.



(left-right) Heather Richard reads with her son Devin and teacher's aide Lucy Roy with 'Parents as Partners in Reading' in Allen Parish.

'Parents as Partners in Reading' is sponsored by READ, an Allen Parish organization, working toward enhancing adult literacy.





Consondra Futch (top right) home repair coordinator for Inner City Revitalization Corporation and her volunteer crew from Nutrena Feeds in Lecompte, built a wheelchair ramp for Fannie Smith (center). The work crew consisted of (top-bottom) Olester Davis, Danny Chew, Basil White and Ed Groves. Foundation funds are used as a matching challenge grant for the purchase of project materials.





Members of the Alexandria Metropolitan Foundation Small Business Incubator Committee are (left-right) Frank Rice, vice-chairman, Ronald Smith, chairman, Thomas David and Robert Thompson. The Metropolitan Foundation has benefited from technical assistance provided through the Foundation's Workforce Initiative to develop business and strategic plans for both the incubator and the Metropolitan Foundation itself.

Education Initiative



top: Tomasenia Williams with Carolyn Armes, health instructor with Leesville High School's Career Academy.

left: Chance McGlothlin with Tamela Phillips, business academy instructor at Leesville High School.

The Business and Health Academies are just two examples of projects facilitated and supported through the Education Initiative.



These thirty-three Cycle 2 schools are participating in The Rapides Foundation Education Initiative. The program aims to provide teachers and principals with the resources needed to upgrade the skills of the teaching corps and to improve the environment for teaching and learning. The schools are eligible to receive up to \$25,000 annually for a period of 5 years.

EDUCATION GRANTS

ALLEN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Fairview High School

To improve student achievement in reading and math through Reading Renaissance, Math Renaissance and other strategies.

Kinder Middle School

To improve student performance in math through new teaching strategies and the expanded use of technology.

Oakdale High School

To implement a career education program. Included will be a change in the school's schedule to longer instructional blocks.

Oberlin High School

Beginning in grades 7-8, use the Accelerated Reader to improve the ability of teachers to respond to student needs and to develop appropriate intervention strategies.

AVOYELLES PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Avoyelles High School

To provide teacher training in use of technology throughout the curriculum.

Bunkie Elementary School

To improve student test scores through the integration of technology into the curriculum, developing interdisciplinary units and thematic teaching.

Mansura Middle School

To assist teachers in effectively utilizing state mandated benchmarks to improve instruction. The focus will include content knowledge and use of technology.

Marksville High School

To provide the training necessary for teachers to incorporate technology into curriculum and instruction.

Plaucheville Elementary School

To integrate the use of technology into daily lessons and to develop and then implement the use of thematic units as the foundation for curriculum.

CATAHOULA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Jonesville Elementary School

To provide training for teachers for hands-on, minds-on strategies in math, science and social studies.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA

Holy Savior Menard Central High School

Development of a comprehensive professional development program that includes standards alignment and integration of technology into the curriculum. It will include opportunities for application, critiquing, and on-going evaluation that is directly linked to improved student achievement.

St. Mary's Assumption School

To train teachers in the use of technology so that students use higher order thinking skills in solving problems across all curriculum areas.

St. Mary's Catholic School

To provide teachers with new skills that improve student achievement in reading and writing. The school will focus on aligning curriculum and use coaching and project-centered learning activities with a writing emphasis.

St. Rita Catholic School

To improve student achievement through improved instruction in mathematics.

CONCORDIA PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Vidalia High School

To provide teachers with training in the use of technology as a tool for more effective instruction in all curriculum areas.

LASALLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Goodpine Middle School

To improve student performance by equipping paraprofessionals in the use of more individual and small group instruction in all subject areas.

Jena High School

To increase student achievement through the use of technology and to provide training for teachers on the full integration of technology throughout the curriculum.

LaSalle High School

To increase student achievement through the use of technology and to provide training for teachers on the full integration of technology throughout the curriculum.

NATCHITOCHE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

NSU Elementary Lab School

To improve student achievement through the use of new brain research on how young people learn. It will include changes in class scheduling, assessment methods, new strategies for teachers and expanded use of technology.

RAPIDES PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Alexandria Junior High School

To plan for and implement a modified middle school model with an emphasis on improving math and reading scores.

Alexandria Senior High School

To build staff knowledge in new strategies and teaching techniques, develop a relationship with the business community and increase communications with parents all focused on improving student achievement.

Arthur F. Smith Junior High School

To implement the middle school concept with training for teachers in academic teaching teams, advisory programs, and interdisciplinary teaching.

Buckeye High School

To implement technology instruction and learning strategies to improve student critical thinking skills. The focus will be on math.

Cherokee Elementary School

The school will redefine curriculum content and skills by grade level and the connections among them using the Basic School model. The objective is to improve student higher-thinking skills and test scores.

E. C. Hayes School for Exceptional Students

To provide training for special education teachers in new strategies and techniques for special education students.

Hayden R. Lawrence Middle School

To improve student writing skills through staff training in new standards and approaches of teaching writing skills.

Plainview High School

To provide staff training to improve student achievement in math.

VERNON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

East Leesville Elementary School

To create an integrated curriculum plan for science and social studies through extensive writing and problem solving/critical thinking.

Evans High School

The school will address the new teaching methods required in order to make the most effective use of time under block scheduling.

Leesville Junior High School

To implement the middle school concept and to provide teachers with additional training in understanding adolescent development and individual learning styles.

Pickering Elementary School

To provide staff training to deepen and expand the writing curriculum.

West Leesville Elementary School

To implement a school-wide focus on literature and reading as a means of improving student achievement.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Grace Christian School

To implement a professional development program to build technology skills and to integrate technology use in the classroom so that student learning involves higher thinking skills.

Education Technical Assistance (One year)

Eighth District Association Development Board

10,000

Pilot project to support faith-based student achievement program.

Emma R. Williams Education Foundation

5,000

Planning and organizational development for this Natchitoches community-based group.

Hope Development Center

10,000

Board training and support for this faith-based early childhood education center.

READ

8,000

Pilot program working with adult literacy for Head Start parents in Allen Parish.



Members of the Avoyelles Parish Summer Theatre Camp rehearse a scene from the musical "Oliver." One priority area for arts funding is to develop arts-oriented skills with rural and underserved young people.



Arts and Humanities Initiative Grants

Arts and Humanities Council of Avoyelles (1 year) To conduct a cultural assessment and continue organizational development activities.	25,000
La Commission de Avoyelles (2 years) Capital and operations support for the establishment of a museum and wellness center in the Big Bend/Moreauville area.	80,000
The Rapides Exploratory Education House (TREE House) - (3 years) Matching support for operations for this Cenla based children's museum.	150,000
Arts and Humanities Mini-Grant and Technical Assistance (1 year)	
Arts Council of Central Louisiana Development of a writer's guild in Cenla.	4,000
Arts Council of Central Louisiana Program development for an arts in schools effort.	10,000
Ballet Alexandria Development of strategic plan for organization.	7,500
City Park Players Collaborative performance with the Kuumba Center on African-American history.	7,885
LaSalle Arts Council Parish-wide cultural assessment.	10,000





Morgan Cooper (top) and Gloria Coppage (left) get checkups from Sharifa Baker, M.D. at the St. Mathews Baptist Church Wellness Clinic in Rapides Station. Dr. Baker is with the LSU Family Practice Residency in Alexandria - a program initiated by the Foundation to develop increased primary care access. The St. Mathews clinic is one example of the Foundation's commitment to faith-based health programs.

Health and Well-Being Initiative Grants

Healthcare Access Initiative

American Heart Association (2 years)	150,000
Staffing, training materials and marketing for placement and use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in a five parish area. AEDs are portable devices used to provide local and immediate response in the event of cardiac arrest. The Rapides Foundation will provide \$410,000 for purchase of 175 AEDs for local fire departments and other First Responders.	
Central Louisiana Area Health Education Center (2 years)	350,000
Implementation of a major hospice education initiative and related subsidies for indigent hospice care.	
Central Louisiana Area Health Education Center (1 year)	185,000
Primary research on the use of the healthcare system by rural and low-income persons in Rapides, Grant, LaSalle and Winn Parishes.	
Kuumba Center (2 years)	50,000
Implementation of health and wellness programs at two predominantly African-American Catholic congregations.	
Louisiana College - Division of Nursing (3 years)	1,000,000
Establishment of a technical support and outreach center for faith-based health and wellness programs.	
Sisterhood of Central Louisiana (2 years)	80,000
Operations support for efforts in HIV/AIDS education in South Alexandria.	



Patricia Allen, co-executive director with Central Louisiana Restorative Services/Sisterhood shares AIDS educational information.

Healthy Children Initiative

Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana (1.5 years)	135,281
Expansion of current hospital and home-visiting program for new mothers to include Huey P. Long Medical Center.	

Healthy Seniors Initiative

Community Senior Citizens Multipurpose Resource Center (2 years)	80,000
Implementation of various health and wellness activities for older adults in South Alexandria.	
Eighth District Baptist Association (2 years)	120,000
Implementation of health and wellness programs targeting chronic disease within multiple African-American congregations.	
Friendship House Adult Daycare Center (3 years)	120,000
Enhancement of healthcare and marketing services and establishment of the agency as a regional resource for adult day services development.	
United Educational Missionary Baptist Association (2 years)	120,000
Implementation of health and wellness programs targeting chronic disease within multiple African-American congregations.	

Healthy Futures I Initiative

American Lung Association (3 years)	150,000
Implementation of the N-O-T program. N-O-T is one of the few programs showing success nationally in getting adolescents to stop smoking. To be conducted at seven Rapides Parish schools.	
Tulane University School of Public Health (3 years)	363,354
Establishment of an integrated program of dietary and physical activity enhancement in six Avoyelles Parish elementary schools.	

Health and Well-Being Mini-Grants & Technical Assistance (1 year)

Alexandria Metropolitan Foundation	10,000
Feasibility study for the development of a small business incubator in Cenla.	
American Heart Association	10,000
Implementation plan to lead a major effort to educate, train and equip the community in the use of portable Automated External Defibrillators.	
American Lung Association	10,000
Implementation plan for a major middle school-based smoking cessation program in Rapides Parish.	
Cenla Healthcare Ethics Coalition	6,500
Support for training and pilot programming for one year old coalition of healthcare, faith community and other leaders examining local policies on end-of-life issues.	

Charles F. Smith Community Development Corp. (1 year) Board and programmatic development for this Sonia Quarters-based organization interested in affordable housing development.	10,000
Evangeline Community Action Agency Start-up funding for a parish-wide medication access program working with local pharmacists and physicians to access manufacturer's indigent drug programs and provide emergency relief for residents with chronic disease.	10,000
Kuumba Center Training support for new Board of Directors for this community center located south of downtown Alexandria.	1,055
Kuumba Center Operations support during Year 1 of program development.	6,216
Louisiana College Division of Nursing Survey of region-wide nursing continuing education needs.	10,000
Louisiana College Division of Nursing Planning for establishment of Faith and Health support program for congregations interested in health issues.	10,000
Mamou (Town of) Matching funds for establishment of health resources center at city-owned facility.	5,000
PBWS Organizational and planning support for this Jena-based group focusing on adolescent risk issues.	10,000
Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana Development and training for staff on Nurturing Model of parental support.	6,583
Refugee Resettlement Center Training and support on healthcare terminology and healthcare systems delivery for interpreters working with the refugee community.	5,000
Southern Mutual Help Association Development of strategic plan for affordable housing promotion in Avoyelles and Evangeline Parishes.	10,000
St. Mathews Baptist Church Start-up funds for church based health clinic.	10,000
True Vine Missionary Baptist Church Volunteer-led clean-up of vacant lot next to Acadian Sixth Grade Center and conversion to park maintained by local neighborhood group.	10,000
University of Louisiana at Lafayette School of Nursing Pilot church-based health promotion program in Evangeline Parish.	10,000
Volunteers of America Development of a strategy for implementation of an Assertive Community Training program targeting homeless mentally ill adults.	10,000



Carla Moreau and Bill Beebe are CATCH Instructors at Riverside Elementary School in Simmesport. CATCH is a total children's health program being implemented by the Tulane School of Public Health at six Avoyelles Parish elementary schools. It involves specialized exercise, diet and wellness programs to build healthier lifestyles at an early age.

Economic Development (Workforce) Initiative Grants

Louisiana State University at Alexandria (1 year)	67,975
Planning effort in conjunction with local healthcare employers to determine long-term healthcare professional training and hiring needs.	
Louisiana Technical College (Natchitoches) - (1 year)	108,000
Collaborative effort with Martco and Trus Joist for pre and post-employment training.	
Louisiana Technical College (Ville Platte) - (3 years)	400,000
Collaborative effort with AFCO Industries, Cabot and Cooper-Cameron to implement customized employee assessment and training activities.	
North Louisiana Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center (1 year)	50,000
Collaborative effort with Rapides Regional Medical Center and CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Hospital to pilot career ladders for housekeeping and food service workers in order to improve retention and recruitment efforts.	
Northwestern State University (2 years)	190,000
Collaborative project with Martco, Alliance Compressors and Boise Cascade to support employee skills assessment and indicated training for employees in electrical and mechanical maintenance areas.	
Northwestern State University Continuing Education Department (2 years)	155,000
Collaborative effort with Alliance Compressors and ConAgra to implement a joint recruitment, training and advancement program.	

Responsive Grants

Inner-City Revitalization Corporation (3 years)	40,000
Partial support of home maintenance program for low-income seniors focusing on safety and accessibility repairs.	

Direct Charitable Programs

Programs of importance to be initiated and operated by the Foundation with intent of creating independent nonprofit organizations.	
Cenla Medication Access Program (CMAP) - (3 years)	4,600,317
A comprehensive program of medication access and education for low-income residents.	
Community Development Works (3 years)	1,178,000
A comprehensive program of leadership development, nonprofit management training and grassroots organizational development.	

Combined Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

As of or for the Year Ended December 31,	2000	1999	1998
CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED ASSETS:			
INVESTMENT INCOME:			
Income on cash and long-term investments	\$5,163,449	\$3,827,477	\$3,770,534
Gains and losses on securities	1,590,770	8,204,814	9,866,595
Earnings of jointly owned companies	<u>2,775,862</u>	<u>7,260,663</u>	<u>2,696,810</u>
 TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	 \$9,530,081	 \$19,292,954	 \$16,333,939
INVESTMENT EXPENSE	<u>1,633,172</u>	<u>1,365,874</u>	<u>621,501</u>
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	7,896,909	17,927,080	15,712,438
CONTRIBUTIONS	25	35	200,241
PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Grants	4,544,947	4,405,185	4,005,074
Development	580,567	389,814	266,587
Administration	<u>292,471</u>	<u>377,147</u>	<u>688,105</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	<u>\$5,417,985</u>	<u>\$ 5,172,146</u>	<u>\$4,959,766</u>
INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	<u>2,478,949</u>	<u>12,754,969</u>	<u>10,952,913</u>
EXPENSES FROM DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS	(51,048)	(25,554)	(25,935)
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	<u>2,427,901</u>	<u>12,729,415</u>	<u>10,926,978</u>
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>204,104,309</u>	<u>191,374,894</u>	<u>180,447,916</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$206,532,210</u>	<u>\$204,104,309</u>	<u>\$191,374,894</u>

Statement of Financial Position

As of or for the Year Ended December 31,	2000	1999	1998
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$16,533,699	\$6,456,635	\$4,908,269
Prepaid expenses	19,858	22,233	22,233
Furniture and equipment	292,845	90,960	75,172
Assets whose use is limited	499,575	510,578	520,256
Long-term investments - marketable securities	150,578,786	114,131,656	107,224,999
Investments - at cost plus equity in			
Undistributed earnings	<u>43,332,727</u>	<u>89,903,004</u>	<u>86,313,347</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>\$211,257,490</u>	 <u>\$211,115,067</u>	 <u>\$199,064,276</u>
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	105,362	129,889	109,410
Due to partnership	0	1,015,308	991,754
Retirement plan payable	49,820	4,227	4,445
Payroll, payroll taxes and benefits payable	5,636	872	5,138
Grants payable	4,202,183	5,487,181	6,195,675
Annuity obligations	<u>362,279</u>	<u>373,282</u>	<u>382,960</u>
 Total Liabilities	 \$4,725,280	 \$7,010,758	 \$7,689,382
 Net Assets - Unrestricted	 <u>206,532,210</u>	 <u>204,104,309</u>	 <u>191,374,894</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$211,257,490</u>	<u>\$211,115,067</u>	<u>\$199,064,276</u>

The Rapides Foundation Staff



front row:

Vicki Bernard

Director of Communications

Margaret Daniel

Receptionist/Secretary

Cindy F. Middleton

Accountant

Flora S. Keys

Grant Technician

Patricia M. LaCour

Grant Administrator

back row:

Joseph R. Rosier, Jr., CPA, CFA

President/CEO

Yvette Desrosiers-Alphonse, MPH

Program Officer

Allen J. Smart, MPH

Senior Program Officer

Loretta T. Magee

Executive Assistant

Ingrid Davis

Accountant

2000 Board of Trustees Appointments

Kathleen Nolen began service as a Trustee in January of 2001. She is Treasurer of CLECO.

Regionald K. Seastrunk also began service as a Trustee in January of 2001. He is Equal Employment Opportunity Manager, Ft. Polk, Louisiana.

Special Recognition

We wish to recognize the contributions of Board Member Gregory B. O'Quin. Mr. O'Quin began his service on the Board in 1991 and his term concluded in 2000.

Trustees

Gregory L. Nesbitt - Board Chairman

*President & CEO, CLECO
Retired from CLECO, April 2000*

James R. Byrd

Alexandria City Marshall

Vanda Davidson, M.D.

Physician

M. Lawrence Drerup, M.D.

Physician

JoAnn W. Kellogg

Community Volunteer

Gail C. Little

*Manager - Software Development
Time Trend, Inc.*

Alfred Mansour, Jr., M.D.

Physician

Robert C. Morrison, M.D.

Physician

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*

Joseph R. Rosier, Jr.

*President & CEO
The Rapides Foundation*

Harry B. Silver

Chairman - Weiss & Goldring

Jane Texada

*Educator
Community Volunteer*

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

Director Emeritus, Physician

Roane Hathorn

*Director Emeritus
Retired - Rapides Bank*

Advisors

Leonard Dawson, M.S.P.H.

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

John Hatch, Dr.P.H.

*Program Staff, Health & Human Services
General Baptist State Convention
of North Carolina
Kenan Professor Emeritus
UNC School of Public Health, Chapel Hill*

Kenneth J. Tewel, Ph.D.

*Associate Professor of Education (ret.)
Program in School Administration
and Supervision
Queens College of the City University
of New York*

Gina Upchurch, Rph, MPH

*Executive Director, Senior PHARMAssist
Clinical Assistant Professor - UNC at
Chapel Hill School of Pharmacy
Adjunct Instructor - UNC Chapel Hill School
of Public Health*

Dianne Williams

*Organizational, Leadership and Rural
Community Development Consultant
Little Rock, Arkansas*

J. Trent Williams

*Principal
Regional Technology Strategies, Inc.
Chapel Hill, North Carolina*

Wolf, Keens & Co

*Arts & Humanities
Program Advisor
Cambridge, Massachusetts*

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 any time and a decision will be provided in approximately 60 days.

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 a brochure from the Foundation 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

Contact the Foundation for grant cycle deadlines or visit our web site at www.rapidesfoundation.org.

Communicating Our Mission

During 2000 the Foundation made a major commitment in this area with the establishment of a Communications Department, and the hiring of a full-time professional to staff this effort. Among the many goals of this department is to assist grantees on communications efforts, as well as provide timely information for the various audiences who need to access information about the Foundation. A variety of mediums were used to effectively communicate our mission to Central Louisiana

To accomplish this department's objectives a number of communications strategies were utilized in 2000:

- Grantee training sessions
- Continuation of grant announcement workshops
- Publication of quarterly issue-specific newsletters
- Continued development of web site to include latest program information plus links to health and well-being sites — www.rapidesfoundation.org

Foundation communications will continue to play a key role during the year 2001. An extensive research component is being designed to gather information for a comprehensive strategic marketing plan which will be implemented in the coming year.





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