

Volunteer Louisiana

2015-16 Volunteer Generation Fund Grantees



VOLUNTEER
LOUISIANA

2015-16 VGF Funded Projects

Community Resource Management: (\$4,000; 100 volunteers (100 nonprofit partners))

Community Resource Management (CRM) will host a nonprofit workshop in June, 2016 to develop the capacity of nonprofit organizations to recruit and engage volunteers in high quality projects. Through a partnership with Rotary of Shreveport Dragon Races, CRM will host a nonprofit fair on September 17, 2016 held at the RiverView Park in Shreveport to display to 2,000 – 3,000 attendees the nonprofits and volunteer opportunities they can access to impact the social needs of their community.

Norwela Council, BSA: (\$2,500; 162 volunteers)

The Norwela Council will recruit 162 volunteer scout leaders from November, 2015 through September, 2016 in Bienville, Claiborne, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine and Webster Parishes. Recruitment activities will take place at area churches, schools and scout meeting locations on various dates. Funding will be utilized to provide training and resource materials for the volunteers along with a networking luncheon with experienced volunteers to exchange best practices and develop new initiatives.

Rebuilding Together Acadiana: (\$5,000; 500 volunteers)

(Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service)

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Block Build will take place in the Monroe Neighborhood of Lafayette, LA from January 17-23, 2016. Activities include repairs to homes for the entire three blocks as well as working with Bridges Ministries to demolish an existing building to make way for their new community center that will serve the needs of the community.

Avoyelles Public Charter School: (\$5,000; 250 volunteers)

“Love Where You Live – Avoyelles” is a youth engagement project to bring attention to litter abatement as well as recycling and environmental stewardship. Students will develop promotional materials to distribute to five local schools as well as local elected officials as awareness and recruitment of volunteers. Once recruited, these volunteers will participate in a parish-wide day of service to be held in the Spring of 2016 that will collect litter and clean up communities.

Vernon Parish 4H Teen Leader Club: (\$1,400; 60 volunteers)

The Vernon Parish 4H youth and leadership volunteers will institute a program that will prepare backpacks with nutritional food and information to be sent home with Vernon Parish students who come from poor and at-risk homes. The goal will be to provide kid-friendly nutrition to needy students, and educate youth and adults on good nutrition. Activities will take place in December 2015 and March 2015.

Arts Council of Central LA: (\$1,340; 40 volunteers)

Project ArtWalk! has been an annual arts festival in Alexandria, but through grant funding, an additional ArkWalk! will be held on May 6-7, 2016. Volunteers will be recruited for set-up/cleanup activities, staffing an information booth, assist sound and entertainment technicians, assist with booths, and promote the festival in the weeks leading up to it.

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Second Harvest of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana: (\$3,000; 300 volunteers)

(Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service)

As part of the MLK Day celebration, volunteers will pack goods at the New Orleans and Lafayette warehouse on January 18, 2016 for distribution through the Mobile Pantry, Backpack, Kids Café, and School Feeding programs. Additionally, 100 volunteers will take part in the gleaning program. Gleaning is the process of harvesting vegetables that remain after the main harvest. Volunteers will be harvesting, boxing and loading turnips for transport from January – March, 2016. Last year, more than 70,000 pounds of turnips were harvested.

Keep Louisiana Beautiful: (\$7,500; 3,000 volunteers)

This year's participants in the Leaders Against Litter (LAL) Campaign and Great American Cleanup will include Assumption, Beauregard, Bossier, Caddo, Calcasieu, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Jefferson, Lafayette, Natchitoches, Orleans, Ouachita, Pointe Coupee, St. James, St. John, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Union, Vermilion and West Baton Rouge Parishes. LAL events will promote litter abatement and education service opportunities with the support of local elected officials. Great American Cleanup activities will take place from March until May, 2016 as planned by the local KLB Affiliate and their partners.

Hope for Opelousas: (\$4,000; 100 volunteers)

The Hill Neighborhood Beautification project will use funding to double the number of volunteers that work to repair local housing in this poor neighborhood. Volunteers will make repairs including replacing windows, doors, siding and painting of houses, clean up yards, trim shrubbery and hedges. These activities assist homeowners to have a presentable home and take pride in their neighborhood again. Service activities will take place from March 6-19, 2016.

Xavier University: (\$5,000; 50 volunteers)

The Students for Xavier University Police Department program will initiate a Campus Citizen Corps type program that will inform students what to do in times of all-hazards emergencies related to crime or disasters. This program is in conjunction with the New Orleans Citizen Corps and will provide training to students and utilize these students as volunteers to assist other students during the Spring Semester.

The Rapides Exploratory Education House (T.R.E.E.): (\$1,100; 20 volunteers)

TREE will expand and update the Rockwell Railway exhibit and double the number of Junior Engineer classes, a program that teaches school children the basics of building a model train layout as well as working with tools from drills to soldering irons, and the history of trains and model train railroading.

LSU; LaSalle Elementary: (\$4,000; 150 volunteers)

As part of the LSU Service Learning program, students have designed an updated playground for the LaSalle Elementary School. The program utilizes the designs develop through the classroom as the basis in seeking funding which, when found, is used to execute the design. Funding will be used to support the recruitment of community and construction volunteers to serve in the spring and early summer, 2016.

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LSU; Geaux Big: (\$5,000; 1,500 volunteers)

On April 16, 2016, students from LSU's Baton Rouge campus will serve in several site locations around the City as part of the LSU Geaux Big annual service challenge. Through partnerships with organizations around the City, projects are developed on and off campus to build a connection between students and the City. Funding will be used to increase the number of volunteers by at least 200.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.: (\$2,125; 100 volunteers)

On April 1 & 2, 2016, The Cane River National Heritage area will recruit and train volunteer docents for tours of historic Natchitoches. The tours provide visitors with an historical review of Natchitoches and Grant Parishes and direct them to local state parks, state museums, cultural facilities, National Park facilities, wildlife refuges, small businesses and private museums.

Slidell Memorial Hospital: (\$5,000; 400 volunteers)

Slidell Memorial Hospital will utilize grant funds to provide training and support to the 100 recruited volunteers for a year of service and 100 summer interns that will serve in various areas of the hospital from December 2015 through August 1, 2016. Funding will provide for the expansion of the partnership with St. Tammany ARC (STARC) as well as providing opportunities to build relationships with the Slidell Women's Civic Club, East St. Tammany Rainbow childcare, Mount Olive Feeding Ministry and East St. Tammany Habitat for Humanity and Keep Slidell Beautiful who will each provide learning and service opportunities for the volunteers.