

PROGRESS REPORT

September 2020



- Facilitated ongoing support for Hurricane Laura evacuees and affected areas
 - Help launch a [GoFundMe campaign with Pro Bowler Cam Jordan](#) to raise funds for UW Southwest Louisiana
 - [Began volunteer supervision](#) at the Convention Center evacuee resource center
 - Opened a central supply warehouse, in partnership with GOSHEP, to oversee donation management and deliveries from community supply drives
- Hosted two Hospitality Cares free meal distributions in partnership with the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation, Creole Cuisine Restaurant Concepts, and Blue Runner Foods
- Participated in the National Campaign for Grade-Level Reading [Funder to Funder Conversations](#) series on Sept. 29 featuring United Way SELA President and CEO Michael Williamson
- Announced the opening [United for Early Care and Education phase three](#)
 - Child care providers invited to apply for the third round of free technical and legal support program with a focus on recruiting new child care providers from outlying parishes
 - The W.K. Kellogg Foundation awarded \$95,000 to United Way, \$45,000 of which fund United for Early Care and Education
 - Program partners successfully managing \$2.3 million in public funding for 41 current participants
 - Selected as a top 200 finalist for the State Farm Neighborhood Assist grant
- Launched [phase two of Hospitality Cares Pandemic Relief Fund](#) to expand service offerings to struggling hospitality workers
 - \$2.4 million in crisis grants distributed to 4,800+ hospitality workers
 - UWSELA offers free civil legal aid and counseling in phase II of support in partnership with Southeast Louisiana Legal Services and the Loyola Center for Counseling and Education LCCE
- Disbursed an additional \$380,000 in BET “Saving Our Selves” funding to address food, rent and mortgage needs in New Orleans – Second Harvest Food Bank - \$150,000.00, Ashe Cultural Arts Center - \$80,000, and the J Wayne Leonard Prosperity Center - \$150,000.00 (Rental Assistance applications will begin 9/25)
 - To date, the Prosperity Center received \$163,217.30 in total requests for mortgage assistance and paid out \$72,282.29 to 127 families

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- Announced the [delivery of 35,218 food boxes and household supplies to vulnerable people](#) throughout Orleans Parish through the Ride United Last-Mile Delivery initiative
 - Continued volunteer meal preparation and distribution for 311 homebound individuals in Orleans Parish
- Continued work to secure sustainable investments for year two and three of LA-PRI |in the midst of signing contracts to serve 60 Justice Involved Citizens
 - Jefferson Community Foundation – Michael Williamson, Ronnie Sloan, Mary Ambrose, and Twanda Lewis presented to the Foundation to request an investment of \$15,000 from the Foundation
 - Received a renewal of the Community Coordinator Contracts for Jefferson and St. Tammany Parishes from the Department of Public Safety & Corrections, which is a 3 year grant that will allow UWSELA to pull down over \$123,750, plus an additional \$15,000 a year cash match
 - Began discussion with Jefferson Parish to develop a public service announcement for LA-PRI to air on the parish’s public access channel and other communication channels
- Hosted the Hospitality Cares free headshot event at the Outlet Collection at the Riverwalk in partnership with the Louisiana Hospitality Foundation – provided three free digital headshots to hospitality workers in the region
- Hosted the second installment of the Nancy M. Marsiglia Institute of Justice Alumni Association’s Conversations Series on Thursday, Sept. 24, from 6-7:30 p.m. on Zoom, focused on the Black Lives Matter movement with guest speaker Dr. Maurice Sholas, *Principal*, Sholas Medical Consulting, LLC.
- Received a donation from Tulane Football Head Coach Willie Fritz and wife Susan to support United for Equity Fund
- Volunteered at the Phillips 66 Jambalaya Cook-off to kick-off the workplace’s annual campaign
- Committed funding support, alongside GNOF and Pres Kabakoff, for critical housing and food needs in Orleans Parish
- Recruited volunteers to help with a voter registration and census completion drive-through event at Champions’ Square
- Hosted a virtual Young Leaders United Game-changer series with Operation Restoration to continue conversations around incarceration’s effects on women and children and ongoing inequities and injustices in our community
- Hosted a webinar with Southeast Louisiana Legal Services to provide UWSELA community partners with an update on the federal ban on evictions and steps to take to protect clients from illegal eviction

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- Funded the launch of the Parent Poll, conducted by the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Education, to survey parents with children under five on the impacts of COVID-19 on the accessibility of child care
- Revised the eligibility requirements for the United for Grocery Store Worker Relief Fund to include all grocery store workers living in Orleans Parish - [applications still open here](#)
- Invited by United Way Worldwide to participate in a Board Equity Training Pilot, which will be overseen by the BOT's governance committee
- Convened the first meeting of UWSELA's internal CDEI Committee and began conversations to develop a strategic plan for equity for the organization
- Recognized by the National Campaign for Grade-Level Reading for its Pace Setter award for our work in our school readiness advocacy and summer learning, and in addition, the Kay Fennelly Summer Literacy Institute has been recognized for its 2019 Bright Spot award, highlighting the innovative strategies our Campaign has developed to address summer slide and literacy enrichment in our city's summer programs
 - Began review of year-three results and improvement strategies for the Fennelly Institute
- Began accepting applications to our rental assistance program, in addition to ongoing mortgage assistance program, as a part of our BET community programming within the Prosperity Center
- Met with the Governor's staff, House Speaker Clay Schexnayder, House Appropriations Chair Zee Zeringue, and Senate President Page Cortez during the first week of the Louisiana Special Session to discuss the importance of ECE long term funding
- Met with the New Orleans legislative delegation with city officials to educate them on the needs of children in NOLA
- Reviewed a strategic communications plan to establish a Louisiana Office on Women's Health by the end of 2021 to ensure improved health outcomes for Louisiana women to foster a better quality of life for women and their families
- Worked with the New Orleans City Council to prepare a resolution for October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Participated in an Opioid Addiction conference call with Donna Dees, Emily Madoff of Wolf Popper LLP, and Scott Werner of NextEd Ventures to address policy with regard to the class action lawsuit
- Continued promotion of the 2020 Census to increase Southeast Louisiana's lagging response rate
 - Joined Governor John Bel Edwards in LAUW's Census Day - "CountMe" Zoom TeleConference on September 9, 2020

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- Prepared for the Louisiana Legislative 2020 Second Extraordinary Session, which will convene at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 28, 2020, with final adjournment no later than 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2020
- Continued planning for the UWSELA Regional Forum, “Louisiana Leaders: How Local Governments Can Help ALICE Households Thrive,” on Thursday, October 29, 2020, from 1-2:30 p.m.
- Hosted Facebook live updates
 - 2020-2021 Board of Trustees Chair Cathy McRae & Campaign Cabinet Chair Marcus Brown
 - NAMI St. Tammany (Worldwide Suicide Prevention Day)
 - Ongoing Hurricane Laura donation and volunteer needs
- Conducting one-on-one check-ins with agencies to see how they are faring in the current environment, including financial check-ins and how COVID-19 has impacted their ability to serve their clients.
- Continued review and evaluation of the 2019/2020 final outcome reports
- Submitted our SBA Payroll Protection Program loan forgiveness application through Hancock Whitney Bank
- Completed fieldwork for annual audit