



# Louisiana Department of Children & Family Services

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# HOMELESS INITIATIVE

- The Homeless Initiative is a TANF-funded program which provides services to needy families that stabilize the family and end the cycle of homelessness in Louisiana so children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives
- DCFS contracts with public agencies, non-profit organizations, or for-profit organizations through a request for proposal (RFP) for up to 36 months
- The Homeless Initiative began in FY 07



# HOMELESS INITIATIVE

- DCFS promotes a "Housing First" approach to ending homelessness for families based on two simple principles:
  - The best way to end homelessness is to prevent individuals from becoming homeless and therefore move individuals and families into permanent housing as quickly as possible.
  - Provide services to help individuals and families stay housed, link them to services and long-term supports, and prevent a recurrence.



## HOMELESS INITIATIVE

- Services may include but are not limited to comprehensive case management, educational and employment opportunities for adult participants, community referrals, life skill modules, housing options
- Direct services may include but are not limited to food, clothing, and shelter assistance and will not be provided beyond 4 months



## HOMELESS INITIATIVE

- A needy family consists of a minor child and a custodial parent or caretaker relative of the minor child and is defined as a family who has earned income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level or in which any member receives a:
  - Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP) grant,
  - Kinship Care Subsidy Program (KCSP) grant,
  - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits,
  - Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) services,
  - Title IV-E,
  - Medicaid or Louisiana Children’s Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP) benefits,
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or
  - Free or Reduced Lunch.

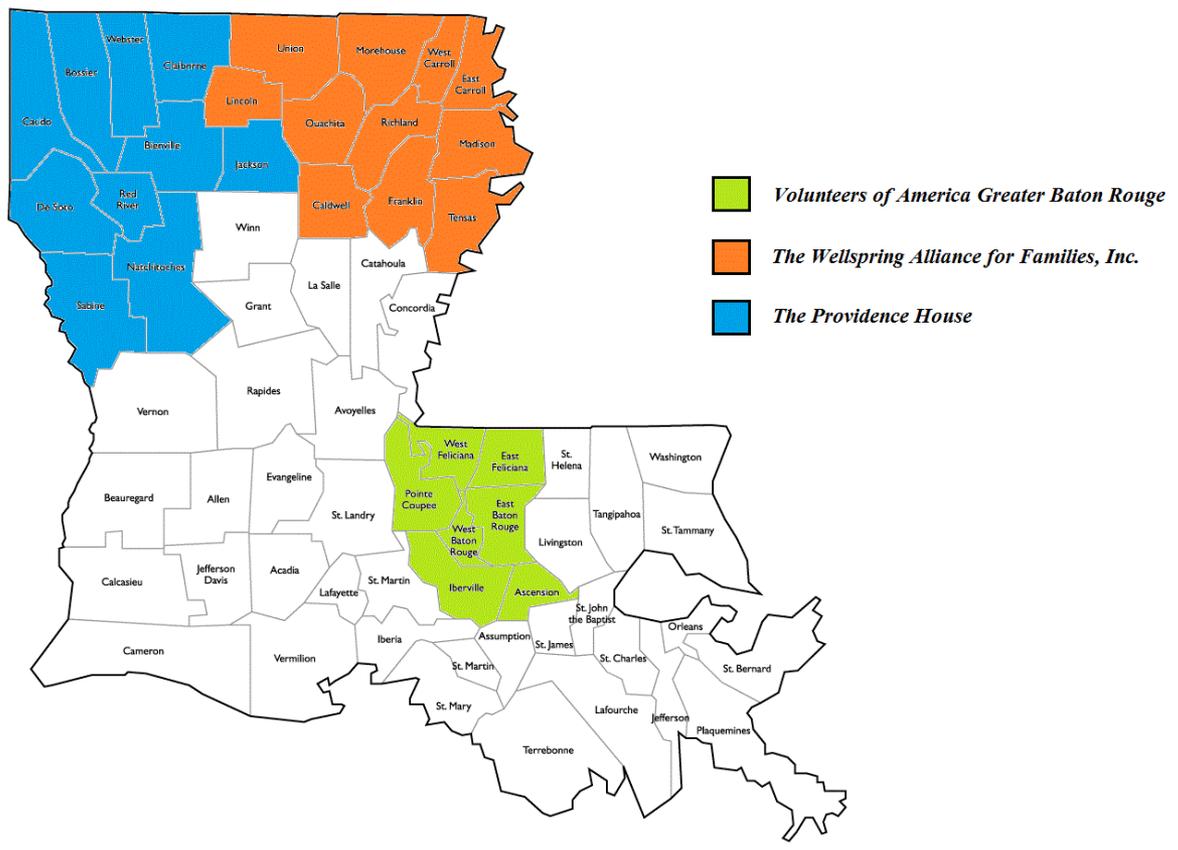


## Contracted Providers

- Volunteers of America Greater Baton Rouge
- The Wellspring Alliance for Families, Inc.
- The Providence House



# Service Delivery Area





## Volunteers Of America Greater Baton Rouge SFY 16

- Serves 7 parishes
- Funding Amount – \$98,299
- Service Goal – approximately 46 families
- Actual Numbers Served – 43 families as of 4/30/16



# Volunteers Of America Greater Baton Rouge SFY 16 Services

1. Intake/needs assessment, eligibility determination, short-term stabilization, and housing placement
2. Intensive case management
  - Provides emergency financial assistance and supportive services (limited to 4 months) and follow up for 12 months to help the family sustain housing



# Volunteers Of America Greater Baton Rouge SFY 16 Budget

- Salaries & Fringe:
  - Program Director
  - Program Supervisor
  - Case Manager
  - Case Manager
- Travel:
  - Includes mileage for home visits, trainings, case conferences, meetings, client transport, and other local service-related trips.



# Volunteers Of America Greater Baton Rouge SFY 16 Budget

- Operating Expenses:
  - Telephone
- Supplies:
  - Postage and office supplies
- Financial Assistance (Limited to 4 months):
  - Rental and Utility Payments
  - Transportation
  - Food
  - Clothing
- Administrative and Indirect Costs (Limited to 10%)



# The Wellsprings Alliance for Families, Inc. SFY 16

- Serves 11 parishes
- Funding Amount – \$264,288
- Service Goal – approximately 68 families
- Actual Numbers Served – 64 families as of 3/31/16



# The Wellsprings Alliance for Families, Inc.

## SFY 16 Services

1. Intake/needs assessment and eligibility determination
2. Intensive case management
  - Housing search and placement (Landlord Engagement)
  - Emergency financial assistance and supportive services (limited to 4 months)
  - Life Skills Classes: household budgeting, money management, accessing a free personal credit report, parenting skills, tenant/landlord responsibilities, etc.



# The Wellsprings Alliance for Families, Inc. SFY 16 Budget

- Salaries & Fringe:
  - Program Director
  - Project Director/Case Manager
  - Case Manager
  - Phone Screening & Data Tracking
  - HMIS Data Entry
  - Client Services Coordinator



# The Wellsprings Alliance for Families, Inc. SFY 16 Budget

- Operating Expenses:
  - Building rent, printing/media outreach, utilities, telephone, travel, training, postage, office supplies, repair/maintenance, computer maintenance
- Financial Assistance:
  - Rental deposits, monthly rental assistance and utility payments (Limited to 4 months)
- Administrative and Indirect Costs (Limited to 10%)



## The Providence House SFY 16

- Serves 10 parishes
- Funding Amount – \$264,288
- Service Goal – approximately 150 families
- Actual Numbers Served – 171 families as of 4/30/16



## The Providence House SFY 16 Services

1. Emergency Shelter (30 to 90 days)
  - Intake, assessment, stabilization
  - All necessities provided, including daily meals, counseling, children's educational program, after-school tutoring, childcare, etc.
  - Engagement in work and/or education activities
  - Behavior modification program, drug testing, etc.
  - Budgeting: prepare and maintain a budget and budget goals



## The Providence House SFY 16 Services

- Family Life Skills: 12 lessons that cover budgeting, parenting, resumes, credit, job search, health, nutrition, housing, and responsibilities to the community
- Work to Learn: educational program for adults for pre-HiSET (high school equivalency) training and job readiness skills
- Resettlement Fund: required to save 50% of all income



## The Providence House SFY 16 Services

2. Project Next Step (Off-site Apartment Program)
  - Apartments are leased based on earning potential of the family at graduation (affordable or unsubsidized)
  - Furnished with donated items
  - Families continue to work the program in a realistic environment until they are ready to graduate
3. Permanent Housing at Graduation
  - The lease and all furnishings transfer to the family
  - The family receives their resettlement funds
  - The family receives their graduate funds



# The Providence House SFY 16 Budget

## – Salaries:

- Director of Accounting
- Director of Programs & Shelter Operations
- Programs Coordinator
- In-House Case Manager
- Project Next Step Case Manager (2 Case Managers)
- Intake Specialist
- Family Advocate (3 Advocates)
- Director of Education



## Department of Children & Family Services

To view Homeless Initiative RFPs issued by the department:

- Visit our website: [www.dcfslouisiana.gov](http://www.dcfslouisiana.gov)
- Click on ***Service Providers*** in the left side panel then click on ***Requests for Proposals*** in the main panel

For additional contract information, contact Julie Starns at  
225-342-0862

# Questions?