**Department of Community Services** 

St. Charles Parish Council

Joan Diaz Monday, June 21, 2021



## **Department Overview**

- Develop and Implement Supportive Services to Residents in Crisis
- Resources to build Self Sufficiency
- Improve Quality of Life for low-income residents
- Provide specialized programs for youth at risk

## **Comprehensive Continuum of Services**

- Emergency Assistance to Residents in Crisis
- Homeowner occupied repairs
- Adaptive modifications and ramps for disabled clients.
- Build Self Sufficiency through supportive services and life skills
- Educational and Enrichment Programs for Youth
- Resource and referral to partner agencies



## Leveraging Resources Through Community Partnerships

- St. Charles Social Concerns-emergency services
- Catholic Charities-Money Matters
- St. Charles Borromeo Labor of Love-home repairs
- Volunteers of America- accessibility ramps
- Second Harvest Food Bank (onsite)
- Matthew 25 Food Bank
- Safe Space St. Charles
- St. Charles Parish Library
- Mount Zion Baptist Church
- LA Department of Children & Families
- 2,214 Volunteer hours by community members



## **2020 Major Initiatives**

- Utility Assistance through Low Income Home Energy Program regular and supplemental COVID funding
- Safety Net Services-utility bill, rent, medicine, shelter through local funding and donations
- Supplemental resources for clients through CARES ACT
- Community "Lunch and Learn on the Go" series
- Emergency home repairs for elderly and low income
- Community Based Programs for Youth at Risk
- Department Information Management and client tracking.

#### **Client Data**

Applied for Assistance	1,426
Female	1094
Rent	732
Singe Household	768
Single Parent Female Household	437
Fixed: SSI/SSA or Pension	865
Returning Clients	1122

# Programs By the Numbers

Program Area	Funding
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	\$112,166
Low Income Home Energy (LIHEAP	\$383,000
CARES Act (CSBG supplement)	\$143,500
Cares Act (LIHEAP Supplement)	\$101,400
USDA Housing Preservation Grant (HPG)	\$110,000
HUD HOME Annual allocation	\$150,000
Community Services Subgrants/Donations	\$20,000
United Way Ramp Funding	\$100,000

## **Community Center Programs**

- After School Drop in
- Summer Enrichment
- Lunch and Learn
- Life Skills
- Adult Enrichment Programs
- After School Tutoring
- Youth Symposium
- Tween/Teen Program

St. Rose

Killona

Boutte Outreach

## 2020 Community Needs Assessment

#### • Emergency Assistance:

• Expand resources and increase access to safety net services

#### Emergency Shelter and Support:

 Build partnerships to support domestic violence victims and families in transition to improve self-sufficiency

#### • Income Management:

• Build skills in family financial literacy: budgeting to improve self-sufficiency

#### Nutrition:

 Growing need for supplemental food support in the community; increase access to holiday giving programs for elderly and working families

#### Home Repairs:

 Expand volunteers, funding and partnerships to accommodate for the growing need to health and safety home repairs

## Client Survey Feedback

I get treated with the utmost respect

Customer service was very pleasant and very comfortable.

Very helpful as always and very considerate about my needs.

I'm so grateful for all the support that has been given to my family during these hard times

The ladies are very, very helpful and courteous.

Great attitude and very patient.