

RESILIENCY



LOUISIANA PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY | 2016 |
ANNUAL REPORT



LPFA
LOUISIANA PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY

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LPFA ISSUED

\$961.8 MILLION IN REVENUE BONDS IN 2016,

making us the largest issuer
of bonds in Louisiana

Dear Citizens of Louisiana,

The Louisiana Public Facilities Authority is committed to making Louisiana a better place to work, learn and live by creating finance solutions for public and private partners. Since 1974, we have helped finance the building and modernization of hospitals, universities, apartment complexes, single-family homes, businesses, public utility facilities and a wide array of statewide and local projects that advance the interests of Louisiana and its citizens.

In 2016, LPFA issued \$961.8 million in revenue bonds, making us the largest issuer of bonds in Louisiana, surpassing even state government. According to The Bond Buyer, LPFA was the seventh-largest issuer of bonds in 2016 in the southeast region, which encompasses Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

LPFA is invested in Louisiana communities, and we demonstrate that through our revolving loan financing programs. In 2016, the Bond Bank Program provided Louisiana local governments with \$2.7 million in low-cost financing, helping them use more of their money on important community projects. Last year, the LPFA Rural Development Program provided communities in Louisiana with \$4.8 million in low-interest interim financing for projects that had been approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Louisiana Education Loan Authority, our education division, helps students pursue a post-secondary education by providing free college counseling, FAFSA completion assistance, and information about educational financing. Beginning in 2017, LELA is offering refinancing options to help graduates and young professionals reduce finance costs on their student loans.

While such statistics and achievements are impressive, we are equally proud of the stories behind the numbers. In 2016, universities in Louisiana saved money by financing student housing and other construction and furnishing needs through LPFA. Utility companies saved money by refinancing hurricane repairs through LPFA. We helped health care facilities with critical financing; and local communities used LPFA programs to save money on street improvements, fire equipment, drinking water facilities, and a youth sports park.

In 42 years, LPFA has issued more than \$26 billion in bonds to move Louisiana forward. We are grateful to our partners and to the citizens of Louisiana as we look forward to continuing the good work to make Louisiana a better place.



Guy Campbell III
Chairman, Board of Trustees



James W. Parks II
President & CEO



EMPOWERING

DEVELOPMENT & HELPING LOUISIANA THRIVE



Founded in 1974 by a private corporation, the **Louisiana Public Facilities Authority (LPFA)** is a financing authority created as a public trust and public corporation pursuant to an indenture of trust.

The State of Louisiana is the beneficiary of the LPFA trust. The LPFA is fully self-supporting, operating solely on revenues generated by fees on bonds issued and programs administered through the LPFA. The LPFA has never asked for or received any tax or other appropriation from the State of Louisiana for its operations.

To finance eligible public and private projects throughout the state, the LPFA acts on behalf of a borrowing entity by serving as a conduit issuer

of special obligation revenue bonds. Entities borrow money through the LPFA, not from the LPFA, using LPFA-issued bonds to access financial markets and capital.

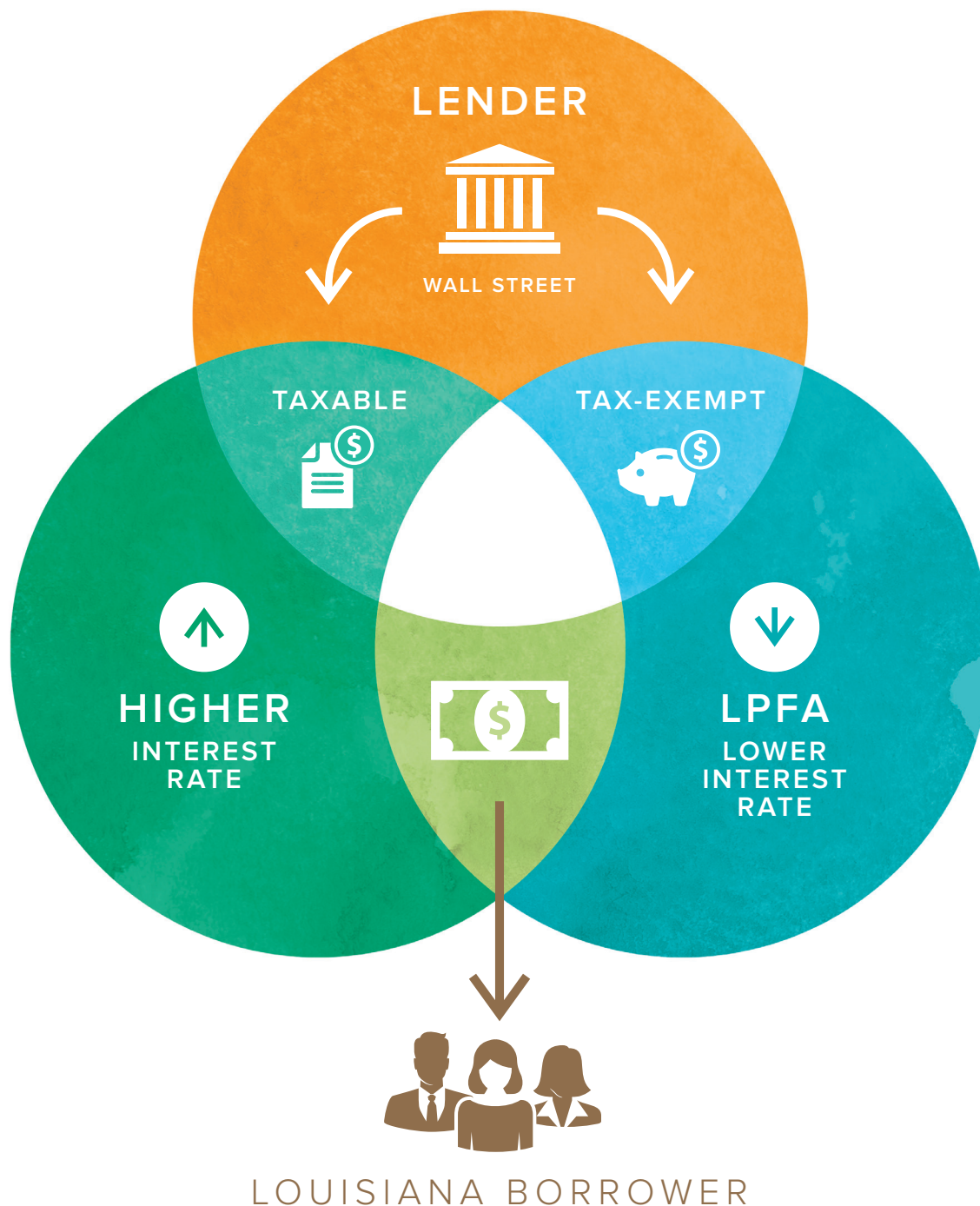
The LPFA complies with state laws regarding public records, public contracts, open meetings, public bids, the Bond Validation Procedures Law and the state Code of Ethics. The State Legislative Auditor performs an annual audit of the LPFA's finances.

All LPFA bond issues must undergo review and approval by the State Bond Commission. All bond-issuance fees paid in connection with LPFA bond issues are subject to the review and approval of the State Bond Commission or the Louisiana Attorney General. The annual operating budget of the LPFA is also subject to review and approval by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

The LPFA promotes, encourages and furthers all activities that are or may become beneficial to the State of Louisiana. This includes, but is not limited to, issuing taxable and tax-exempt bonds for:

- Industry and commerce to foster economic growth and stability
- Hospital, extended care, clinical, community health, geriatric, nursing home and medical care facilities
- Educational facilities
- Student loans
- Residential housing
- Projects protecting the people of Louisiana against air, water, noise, ground and other types of pollution
- Public utility facilities and services
- Projects that increase efficiency in the operation of state and local governments
- Cultural and recreational facilities
- Public transportation facilities
- Other activities or facilities that may be deemed a proper public function for the furtherance of the general welfare, health, safety, economic, environmental, governmental, educational, scientific, transportation, recreational and cultural development of the State of Louisiana and its residents







IMPROVING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY PROVIDING ACCESS TO CAPITAL

The LPFA **acts as a conduit** by passing payments from the borrower to the bondholder to reduce the borrower's financing costs.

The LPFA **issues bonds on behalf of a borrower**, allowing the borrower to benefit from tax-exempt borrowing.


LPFA **funds are not at risk in connection with a financing**, and no funds of the State of Louisiana or any political subdivision thereof are at risk. Each LPFA bond contains language to that effect.

The **marketplace determines if the bonds are marketable**, not the LPFA.

Bonds issued by the LPFA are **payable solely by the underlying borrower** from the funds and assets pledged for each individual bond issue. The LPFA does not enhance the credit of the underlying borrower, and no LPFA funds are pledged for the payments of any bond issue.

The LPFA and its bond counsel **analyze each project's eligibility for tax-exempt** bond financing as specified by federal law.

The LPFA **does not assume the responsibility of determining the creditworthiness of a project or borrower**, nor does it assume the resulting legal liability from making such a determination.

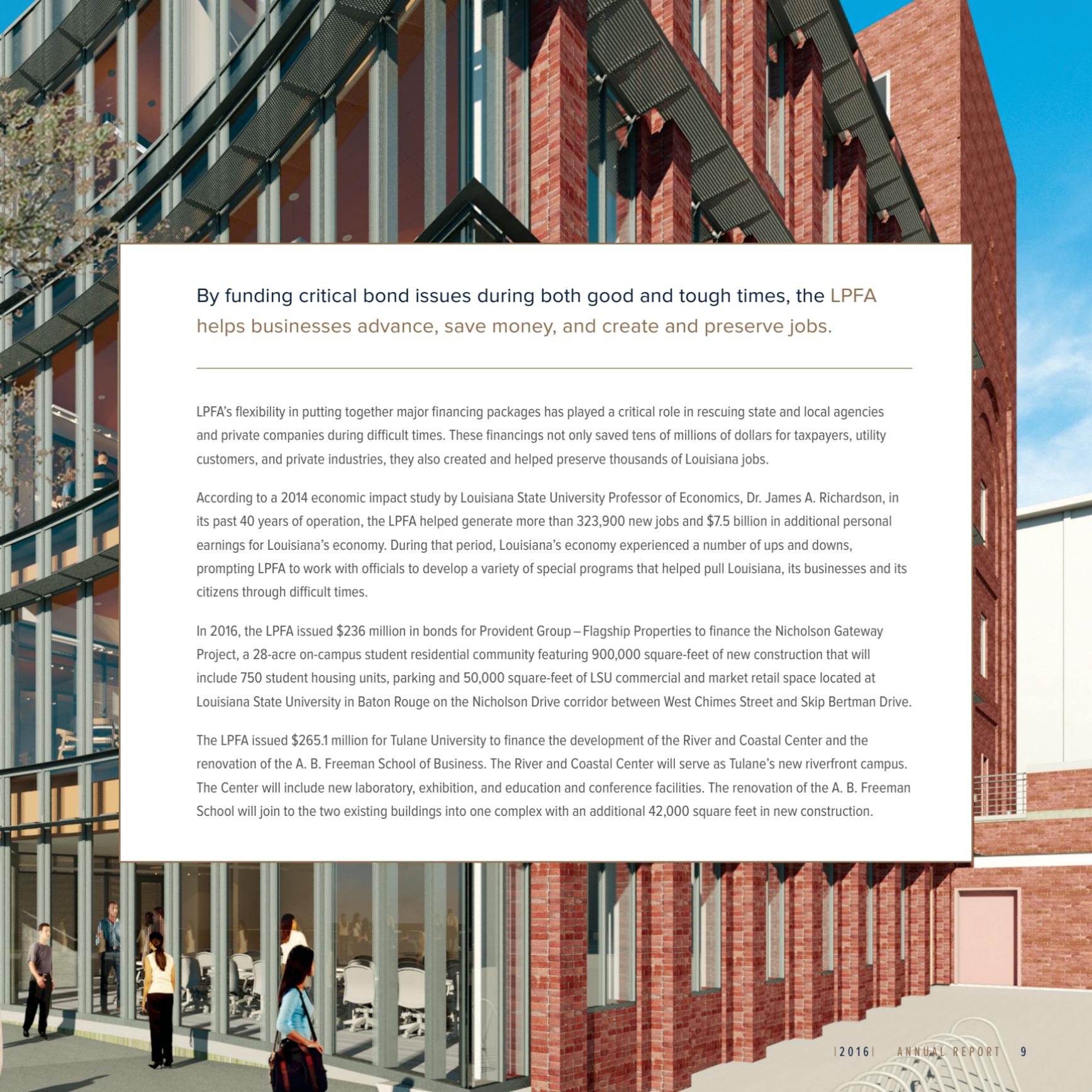


LPFA helped
generate more than

323,900
NEW JOBS

and \$7.5 billion in additional
personal earnings

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS:
CREATING JOBS AND SAVING MONEY



By funding critical bond issues during both good and tough times, the LPFA helps businesses advance, save money, and create and preserve jobs.

LPFA's flexibility in putting together major financing packages has played a critical role in rescuing state and local agencies and private companies during difficult times. These financings not only saved tens of millions of dollars for taxpayers, utility customers, and private industries, they also created and helped preserve thousands of Louisiana jobs.

According to a 2014 economic impact study by Louisiana State University Professor of Economics, Dr. James A. Richardson, in its past 40 years of operation, the LPFA helped generate more than 323,900 new jobs and \$7.5 billion in additional personal earnings for Louisiana's economy. During that period, Louisiana's economy experienced a number of ups and downs, prompting LPFA to work with officials to develop a variety of special programs that helped pull Louisiana, its businesses and its citizens through difficult times.

In 2016, the LPFA issued \$236 million in bonds for Provident Group—Flagship Properties to finance the Nicholson Gateway Project, a 28-acre on-campus student residential community featuring 900,000 square-feet of new construction that will include 750 student housing units, parking and 50,000 square-feet of LSU commercial and market retail space located at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge on the Nicholson Drive corridor between West Chimes Street and Skip Bertman Drive.

The LPFA issued \$265.1 million for Tulane University to finance the development of the River and Coastal Center and the renovation of the A. B. Freeman School of Business. The River and Coastal Center will serve as Tulane's new riverfront campus. The Center will include new laboratory, exhibition, and education and conference facilities. The renovation of the A. B. Freeman School will join to the two existing buildings into one complex with an additional 42,000 square feet in new construction.



A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK & PLAY

Every LPFA project and program is done with the intent of helping the people of Louisiana. Our mission is to make Louisiana a better place to live, work and raise families by furthering education, health care, economic development and job creation in the state.

In 2016, as the LPFA completed its 42nd year of service, we continued to fulfill our mission of fostering economic development and helping to improve the quality of life for our citizens through our financing activities. With its activity this year, the LPFA has issued nearly \$26 billion in bonds since its inception for health care, economic development, universities and the State of Louisiana.

AS OF 2016, LPFA HAS ISSUED NEARLY

\$26 BILLION

IN BONDS (1974–2016)

Categories	Amount
Health Care	\$8,603,535,596.00
Economic Development	\$6,671,494,800.00
Student Loans	\$2,439,000,000.00
Universities	\$2,970,510,000.00
School Boards	\$1,220,000,000.00
Communities	\$819,085,000.00
Multi-Family Housing	\$676,000,000.00
Single-Family Housing	\$327,000,000.00
Unemployment Compensation	\$1,550,000,000.00
State of Louisiana	\$452,050,000.00
LA Insurance Guaranty Association	\$187,000,000.00
Law Enforcement Duties	\$73,700,000.00



TOTAL

\$25,989,375,396.00

LPFA HAS ISSUED MORE THAN

\$18.98 BILLION


IN PRIVATE ACTIVITY AND INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT BONDS *(1974-2016)*

Parish	Total Financed 2016	Parish	Total Financed 2016
Acadia	\$9,500,000.00	Franklin	\$1,500,000.00
Allen	\$500,000.00	Iberia	\$27,332,100.00
Ascension	\$237,100,000.00	Iberville	\$57,776,000.00
Avoyelles	\$1,600,000.00	Jefferson	\$986,675,721.00
Beauregard	\$4,349,500.00	Jefferson Davis	\$1,000,000.00
Bienville	\$1,250,000.00	Lafayette	\$514,235,130.00
Bossier	\$73,238,011.00	Lafourche	\$59,240,000.00
Caddo	\$571,038,374.00	LaSalle	\$395,800,000.00
Calcasieu	\$151,250,000.00	Lincoln	\$147,381,000.00
DeSoto	\$4,080,000.00	Livingston	\$4,050,000.00
East Baton Rouge	\$3,128,639,086.00	Natchitoches	\$6,100,000.00
Evangeline	\$1,000,000.00	Orleans	\$4,607,309,325.00

A significant portion of the LPFA's economic development work involves helping private entities finance their projects. In the past 42 years, the LPFA has issued more than \$18.98 billion in private activity bonds and industrial development bonds (IDBs) to finance more than 662 projects that have generated more than 325,900 construction and permanent jobs in the state.

Parish	Total Financed 2016	Parish	Total Financed 2016
Ouachita	\$219,959,888.00	St. Martin	\$1,000,000.00
Plaquemines	\$39,495,000.00	St. Mary	\$2,425,000.00
Pointe Coupee	\$1,700,000.00	St. Tammany	\$125,910,000.00
Rapides	\$33,775,000.00	Tangipahoa	\$22,445,000.00
Richland	\$1,100,000.00	Tensas	\$595,000.00
Sabine	\$10,800,000.00	Terrebonne	\$27,820,000.00
St. Bernard	\$9,478,594.00	Union	\$1,000,000.00
St. Charles	\$130,345,000.00	Vernon	\$6,400,000.00
St. Helena	\$1,000,000.00	Washington	\$3,000,000.00
St. James	\$36,840,000.00	Webster	\$8,250,000.00
St. John the Baptist	\$14,505,000.00	West Baton Rouge	\$58,675,000.00
St. Landry	\$23,310,900.00	Multiple Parishes	\$7,216,290,400.00

Total Since Inception **\$18,988,064,029.00**



In 2016, LPFA closed 10 bond issues totaling more than \$962 million. This brings the LPFA's total bond issues over the past 42 years to nearly \$26 billion.

BOND ISSUES THAT IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN LOUISIANA

\$97,045,000

LPFA Revenue Refunding Bonds

Lafayette General Health System Project

Series 2016A – Tax-Exempt

Series 2016B – Taxable

Delivered: January 21, 2016

The proceeds from the bond sale were used for the purpose of financing or refinancing the costs of designing, acquiring, constructing, equipping, furnishing, installing and renovating Lafayette General Medical Center and the cost of acquisition, renovation, and equipping the existing 124-bed hospital and related health care facilities located in Lafayette, Louisiana.

\$2,000,000

LPFA Revenue Bonds

**Department of Health and
Hospitals Drinking Water
Revolving Loan Fund Match Project**

Series 2006 Draw#23

Delivered: February 4, 2016

The proceeds from this bond sale were used to provide the state with matching funds necessary to obtain capitalization grant awards from the United States Environmental Protection Agency in connection with the State's Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program.

\$198,680,000

LPFA Refunding Revenue Bonds

Entergy Louisiana LLC Project

Series 2016A

Series 2016B

Delivered: March 18, 2016

The proceeds from this bond sale helped to refinance a non-shareholder capital contribution to Entergy Gulf States, Inc. (EGS), related to EGS's storm costs in Louisiana due to the severity of the damage caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in an effort for Entergy Louisiana, LLC, and other utilities to maintain reliable and cost conservative sources of electricity. In support of the State's economic recovery, the Louisiana Legislature enacted Act No. 55 of the Louisiana Regular Session of 2007, known as the Louisiana Utilities Restoration Corporation Act, to create a new financing structure to provide utilities with low-cost capital. The bonds, the first bond issues in the world to use this structure, were internationally recognized and are expected to save Louisiana taxpayers more than \$185 million.

\$155,660,000

LPFA Refunding Revenue Bonds

Ochsner Clinic Foundation Project

Series 2016

Delivered: May 12, 2016

The proceeds from this bond sale were used to refund prior bonds and to pay the cost of issuance. As southeast Louisiana's largest nonprofit, academic, multispecialty health care delivery system, Ochsner owns, manages or is affiliated with 25 hospitals and more than 50 health centers across the region.



\$3,000,000

LPFA Revenue Bonds

**Department of Environmental Quality
Municipal Facilities Revolving Loan
Fund Match Program**

Series 2007 Draw 10

Delivered: June 10, 2016

The proceeds from this bond sale were used to provide the state with matching funds necessary to obtain capitalization grant awards from the United States Environmental Protection Agency in connection with the State's Municipal Facilities Revolving Loan Fund Program.

\$2,000,000

LPFA Revenue Bonds

**Department of Health and
Hospitals Drinking Water
Revolving Loan Fund Match Project**

Series 2006 Draw#24

Delivered: June 21, 2016

The proceeds from this bond sale were used to provide the state with matching funds necessary to obtain capitalization grant awards from the United States Environmental Protection Agency in connection with the State's Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program.

\$1,512,000

LPFA Revenue Bonds

**CommCare Corporation –
Whispering Pine Project**

Series 2016

Delivered: June 6, 2016

The proceeds from this bond sale were used to acquire an existing 89-bed nursing home facility located in Plain Dealing, Louisiana and to pay the costs of issuance of the bonds. CommCare Corporation, a Louisiana company founded in 1994, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of the residents at their 11 skilled nursing facilities throughout the state. CommCare provides skilled nursing, rehabilitative and hospice care.



\$235,295,000

LPFA Lease Revenue Bonds

**Provident Group – Flagship Properties, LLC
Louisiana State University Nicholson
Gateway Project**

Series 2016A

Series 2016B

Delivered: September 28, 2016

The proceeds of this bond sale were used to finance the demolition of existing facilities and to finance the design, development, construction and equipment of an on-campus student residential community featuring 900,000 square feet of new construction that will include 750 student housing units, parking and 50,000 square feet of LSU commercial and market retail space. The 28-acre site is located on the Nicholson Drive corridor between West Chimes Street and Skip Bertman Drive.

\$265,115,000

LPFA Revenue and Refunding Bonds

Tulane University of Louisiana Project

Series 2016A

Series 2016B – Taxable

Delivered: November 22, 2016

The proceeds of this bond sale were used to finance the development of the River and Coastal Center and the renovation of the A. B. Freeman School of Business. The River and Coastal Center will serve Tulane's new riverfront campus. The Center will include new laboratory, exhibition, and education and conference facilities. The renovation of the A. B. Freeman School will join to the two existing buildings into one complex with an additional 42,000 square feet in new construction.

\$2,000,000

LPFA Revenue Bonds

**Department of Health and
Hospitals Drinking Water
Revolving Loan Fund Match Project**

Series 2006 Draw#25

Delivered: December 7, 2016

The proceeds from this bond sale were used to provide the state with matching funds necessary to obtain capitalization grant awards from the United States Environmental Protection Agency in connection with the State's Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program.



THE LOW INTEREST LOCAL GOVERNMENT **BOND BANK** **PROGRAM** STRENGTHENS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The LPFA recommitted its long history of service to Louisiana local governments with the creation of this program.

In the fall of 1998, the LPFA Board of Trustees voted unanimously to provide funds to assist local governmental entities in lowering the cost of borrowing for capital expenditures. This program has encouraged partnerships between local governmental entities, local financial institutions and the LPFA.

The concept is simple. When faced with a borrowing need for capital expenditures, local government officials work with local banks to obtain the most favorable loan rates. The LPFA then provides 25 percent of the total borrowing at reduced interest rates and the participating bank provides the remaining portion. LPFA's participation at substantially reduced interest, coupled with competitive bank rates for the remaining portion, results in tremendous savings to Louisiana's local governmental entities. To date, the LPFA has assisted over 272 local government entities with their borrowing needs of more than \$15.2 million, saving these entities more than \$1.99 million in interest payments.

In 2016, the LPFA Bond Bank Program provided \$2.7 million to assist with programs totaling \$10,683,000 in loans outstanding in financial assistance to local government entities, saving them more than \$396,015 in future interest payments. The borrowing entities are as follows:

Beauregard Parish, Hospital Service District No.2 borrowed \$1,177,000 to acquire, construct and install improvements and replacements to its hospital facilities. The LPFA provided \$294,000 at half the market rate of interest, saving \$24,716 in future interest payments. *Delivered: January 14, 2016*

City of Leesville borrowed \$2,000,000 to provide funds for street improvements for the City. The LPFA provided \$500,000 at half the market rate of interest, saving \$33,020 in future interest payments. *Delivered: January 28, 2016*

DeSoto Parish Communications District borrowed \$1,452,000 to construct a communications office building including acquiring equipment, furniture and fixtures. The LPFA provided \$363,000 at half the market rate of interest, saving \$28,764 in future interest payments. *Delivered: February 2, 2016*

West Carroll Parish Goodwill Fire District borrowed \$100,000 to construct a fire station including acquiring equipment, furniture and fixtures. The LPFA provided \$25,000 at half the market rate of interest, saving \$1,046 in future interest payments. *Delivered: May 24, 2016*

Claiborne Parish Law Enforcement District borrowed \$2,950,000 to refund prior bonds and to provide additional funds for facility improvements and equipment. The LPFA provided \$500,000 at half the market rate of interest, saving \$33,589 in future interest payments. *Delivered: August 2, 2016*

Town of Sterlington borrowed \$2,000,000 to improve, maintain and repair public streets, including related drainage and utilities; and to acquire, maintain, operate and equip a new youth sports park and tournament complex. The LPFA provided \$500,000 at half the market rate of interest, saving \$187,936 in future interest payments. *Delivered: August 11, 2016*

Town of Henderson borrowed \$925,000 to construct, acquire and improve solid waste collection and disposal system. The LPFA provided \$231,000 at half the market rate of interest, saving \$39,626 in future interest payments. *Delivered: August 19, 2016*

City of Marksville borrowed \$500,000 to improve the waterworks system including equipment and fixtures. The LPFA provided \$125,000 of the total borrowing at half the market rate of interest, saving about \$17,954 in future interest payments. *Delivered: September 1, 2016*

Acadia Parish Fire District No. 10 borrowed \$349,000 to purchase a fire truck and other related firefighting equipment. The LPFA provided \$86,000 of the total borrowing at half the market rate of interest, saving about \$14,345 in future interest payments. *Delivered: September 20, 2016*

Avoyelles Parish borrowed \$230,000 to acquire, construct and improve the waterworks system. The LPFA provided \$57,000 of the total borrowing at half the market rate of interest, saving about \$15,020 in future interest payments. *Delivered: December 12, 2016*




HELPING LOUISIANA GROW THROUGH LOW INTEREST LOANS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES

In 2000, the LPFA Board of Trustees unanimously voted to assist rural communities by creating a program that would help rural communities cover the cost of infrastructure projects.

Much like the LPFA Low Interest Bond Bank Program, this program buys down interest rates. Projects slated for Rural Development financing – such as sewer systems, water treatment plants, and other construction – usually need interim financing before receiving permanent financing from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Program. The LPFA portion of the interim financing is provided at half of the commercial bank's interest rate.

How does it work? The entity submits an application with the U.S. Rural Development Program for funding assistance for the project. Once approved, the entity then negotiates an interest rate for 60 percent of the loan value with their local financial institution, the LPFA then provides up to 40 percent of the interim funds at one-half of the interest rate charged by local financial institutions. The LPFA's low interest, coupled with the bank's competitive rates, lowers the entity's borrowing cost, resulting in a savings to the rural entity and its taxpayers.

To date, rural entities and communities have borrowed more than \$185 million of which LPFA has funded \$33.4 million, saving Louisiana's rural entities more than \$902,270 in interest payments since the program's inception.



In 2016, entities borrowed more than \$18.425 million of which the **LPFA Rural Development Program provided \$4.764 million in interim financing loans**, at zero or low interest, to the following communities:

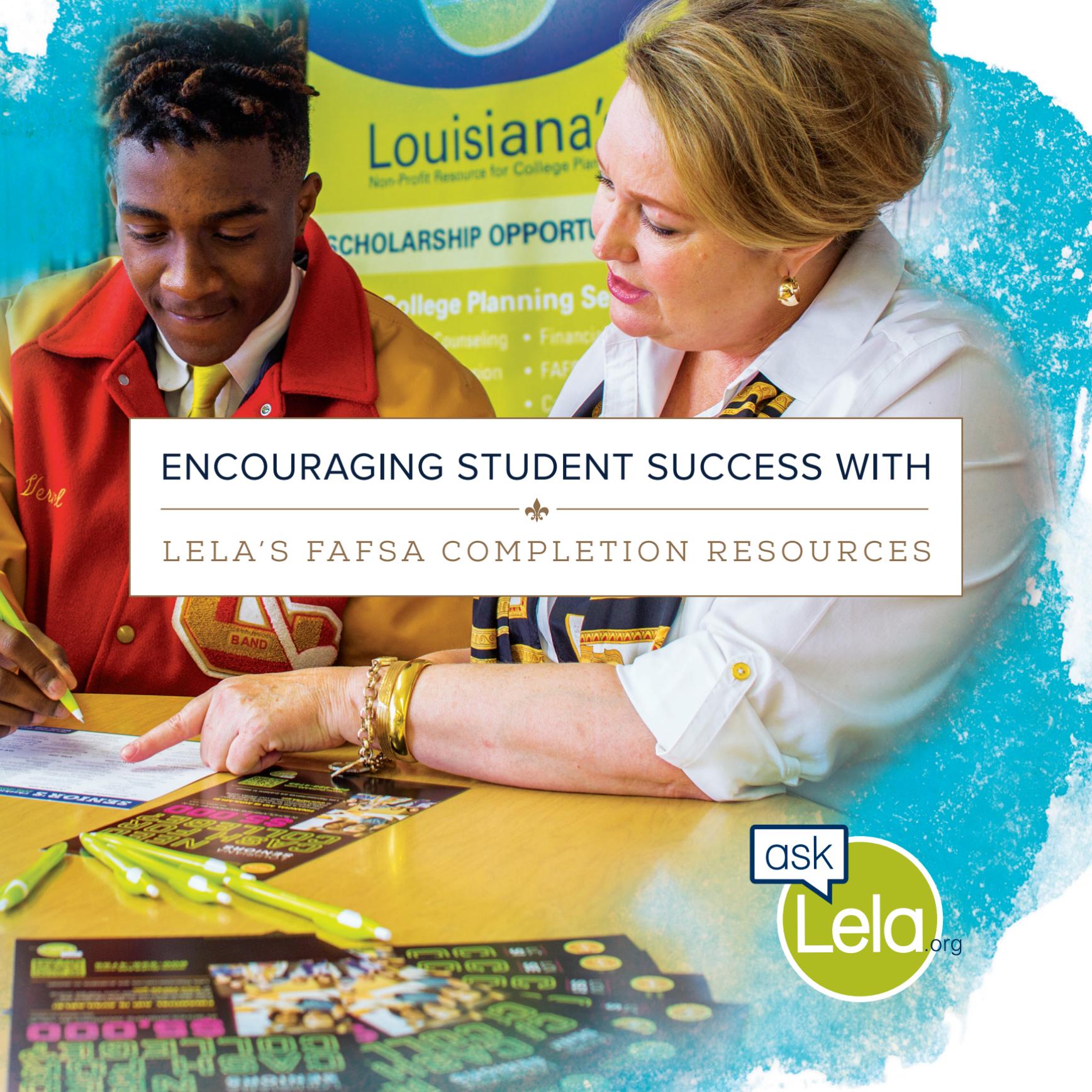
Town of Erath borrowed \$3.13 million for the purpose of constructing and acquiring improvements to the sewer system in the Town. The LPFA provided \$994,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest, saving the Town \$22,057 in future interest payments.

Columbia Heights Water District borrowed \$2.788 million to construct improvements, extensions and replacements to the District's waterworks system. The LPFA provided \$410,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest, saving the District \$6,560 in future interest payments.

North Caddo Hospital Service District borrowed \$3.8 million to construct, expand and improve the District's hospital facilities. The LPFA provided \$760,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest, saving the District \$8,233 in future interest payments.

Winn Parish Law Enforcement District borrowed \$7.9 million to finance the acquisition and construction of a detention center and its equipment, fixtures and furnishings. The LPFA provided \$2 million of the total borrowing at 1.15 percent interest, saving the District \$36,417 in future interest payments.

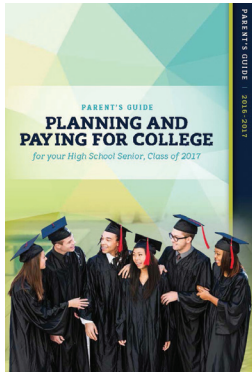
Town of Franklinton borrowed \$3.937 million to improve the sewerage system of the Town. The LPFA provided \$1.594 million of the total borrowing at 1.07 percent interest, saving the Town \$25,263 in future interest payments.



ENCOURAGING STUDENT SUCCESS WITH

LELA'S FAFSA COMPLETION RESOURCES





In 2016, the Louisiana Education Loan Authority (Lela), LPFA's education division, continued to **expand access to higher education in Louisiana** by assisting students and parents as they pursued their educational goals. More resources were dedicated to exclusively **help students and parents access funds to pay for college** through Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion.

Through its innovative outreach initiatives to increase FAFSA completion in Louisiana, Lela affirms that the key to ensuring access to higher education is to plan effectively and apply for financial assistance early. It is important to have a plan for both a student's academic success and financial success.

Completing the FAFSA is one of the many challenges college-bound students face and can even deter students from pursuing post-secondary education. From limited access to parental or guardianship information to non-traditional socioeconomic factors, many students become overwhelmed with questions and often feel discouraged when completing forms and submitting required information to apply to college.

In an effort to better inform parents of their responsibilities involved in applying for financial aid, specifically, in completing the FAFSA when they have a dependent high school senior, Lela focused its resources to help families overcome these challenges. In 2016, the Lela team coordinated the design and distribution of a ***Parent's Guide: Planning and Paying for College for your High School Senior, Class of 2017*** which was funded through the NCAN FAFSA Completion Challenge

Grant for the City of Baton Rouge high schools, in partnership with the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Aid (LOSFA), National College Access Network (NCAN) and the Kresge Foundation. The guide provided parents a detailed checklist for planning and paying for college in addition to key tips and resources to make it easier to apply for a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID and to file the FAFSA.

In response to the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education's (BESE) new financial aid access policy to require Louisiana's high school seniors of 2018 to apply for federal aid or choose to opt out, Lela engaged in several initiatives in conjunction with this effort in 2016. Rapides Parish School District asked Lela to partner to support its parish-wide initiative to implement 100 percent FAFSA completion in its schools, in advance of the policy effective date. The Lela team worked to assist several Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) teachers in this district to help them develop a campaign and timeline to inform school counselors, teachers, students and parents about the importance for FAFSA completion in order to help them attain their 100 percent goal. This initiative served as the first of its kind in the state.

Lela also was an active part of the Louisiana Department of Education's (LDE) Financial Aid Workgroup which combined the resources and expertise of more than forty representatives from local education agencies, higher education, non-profits, government agencies, and financial aid service providers throughout the state to support LDE's implementation of BESE's financial aid access policy.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



In 2016, the U. S. Department of Education issued two fundamental changes to the financial aid application process. Students were able to apply for financial aid for the upcoming school year on October 1, instead of January 1 of the following year. With this new early FAFSA release date, students and parents were able to apply 90 days earlier than in the past. Additionally, families were allowed to utilize their prior-prior year tax information instead waiting to file taxes prior to filing the FAFSA. These changes tremendously helped to reinforce Lela's direction already in motion to dedicate and expand more resources toward FAFSA completion.

Lela launched a Lela FAFSA Completion Scholarship initiative to provide Louisiana students who have completed their FAFSA an opportunity to receive a \$1,000 scholarship to help alleviate some of the added expenses students face during college. Students apply through Lela's website and a scholarship recipient is chosen through a random drawing process each month-end, during October through May.

PROVIDING FREE FAFSA COMPLETION SERVICES FOR LOUISIANA STUDENTS

Lela launched its **FAFSA Completion campaign** which included the launch of a Lela toll-free FAFSA HELPLINE, one-on-one FAFSA completion workshops, and targeted communication for FAFSA Completion.

The Lela FAFSA HELPLINE provides immediate response to questions students and parents have while completing and filing the FAFSA. Students and parents can call 1-844-Go-FAFSA to reach Lela's College Planning representatives for assistance.

Lela also provided free college planning counseling for students and parents to help complete the paperwork required to secure grants, loans and scholarships through its College Planning Center. There, students and families took advantage of free, one-on-one counseling; computer and Internet access; a resource library and help in completing essential forms to receive federal and state college aid. All services through the Center are provided free of charge for Louisiana residents. In 2016, more than 11,700 students and parents were provided assistance through Lela's services. Lela representatives assisted over 4,600 families in completing the FAFSA and held over 150 Lela hosted FAFSA completion workshops throughout the state. Additionally, over 45,000 students and parents received valuable information in the FAFSA Completion College Planning Guides.

Through its FAFSA Completion workshops, Lela works with high schools across the state, in addition to offering an array of resources for Louisiana high school students and parents through its website, askLela.org, featuring the new FAFSA Completion and College Planning Guide and College Planning Checklist for Juniors and Seniors.



PROMOTING COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND PARTNERSHIP

11,700

students and
parents

assisted through
Lela services

4,600

families

assisted in
completing the
FAFSA

150

hosted

FAFSA
workshops

45,000

Lela Planning
Guides

sent to schools
across Louisiana



Bridging the gap between students and available resources is the key to funding college and, for many students, is the key to attending college. To help link students with available resources, Lela continued to partner with several organizations in the state.

In 2016, Lela continued to provide key financial aid information to approximately 65 Career Compass Career Coaches during their annual statewide planning meeting. Lela also distributed more than 15,000 information packets for Career Compass, tailored to support high school senior students heading into post-secondary education. Career Compass coaches provide coaching services in 36 school districts in Louisiana. They are a valuable partner in helping Lela reach our students and parents in Louisiana.

Lela and the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts (GRFA) continued to support each other in the effort to provide students with an arts-integrated curriculum and to provide scholarship opportunities to defray the cost of college for graduating seniors.

In conjunction with this effort, Lela assisted the foundation by sponsoring scholarships through grant funding for their 2015-2016 GRFA Art Contest. More than 15 junior and senior students in Louisiana received scholarships and supplies for submitting exceptional art capturing the

contest theme: Louisiana Celebrates Carnival. The winning art was commissioned by the Krewe of Orpheus as their official 2017 poster.

Lela shares the GRFA's commitment to making sure that higher education is accessible and affordable for all students so that they may continue to pursue their education.

Lela, through LPFA grant programs, continued to support the 100 Black Men of Louisiana's ACT Prep Workshop outreach effort, which provides students with support and instruction to help prepare them to take the exam for college admission.

The 100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge provide the workshop as a part of its ACT Prep Academy. The purpose of the Academy is to inform families on the higher education preparation process, familiarize students with the structure and format of the ACT, support subject content with test-taking tips and strategies to improve their composite ACT score to receive TOPS, and build confidence within students when taking the ACT.





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THANK YOU



We greatly appreciate the financial partnerships and relationships we have developed with the citizens of our state for the past 42 years. We will continue to fulfill our mission by promoting equity, integrity and diversity to build better communities for the people of Louisiana.

Sincerely,

LPFA Board of Trustees and Staff



FINANCIALS



LPFA's complete financial statements for 2016 are available on our website at lpfa.com upon release by the Louisiana Legislative Audit Office. Please click on the News and Events tab and select LPFA Annual Reports to view our 2016 Financial Statement. This is an example of how the LPFA uses technology to cut costs, prevent waste, and foster efficiency. For a printed version of these statements, contact the LPFA.



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