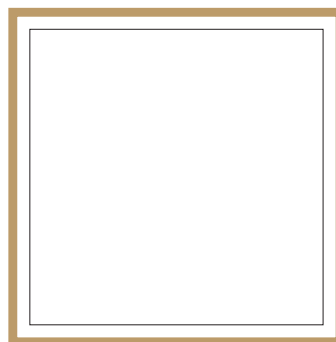


HEALTH CARE

EDUCATION



*Fulfilling Our Promise to Louisiana*

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING

LOUISIANA PUBLIC  
FACILITIES AUTHORITY

2237 South Acadian Thruway  
Suite 650  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

phone: 225-923-0020  
toll-free: 800-228-4755  
fax: 225-923-0021  
email: [info@lpfa.com](mailto:info@lpfa.com)  
[info@lela.org](mailto:info@lela.org)

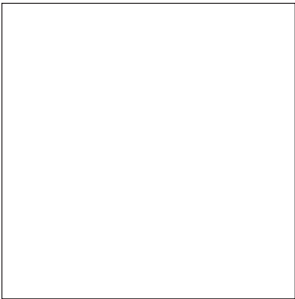
[lpfa.com](http://lpfa.com)    [lela.org](http://lela.org)

Printing and Production Disclaimer:

The public document was published at a total cost of \$8,564. 3,000 copies of this public document were published in this first printing at a cost of \$8,564. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints, is \$8,564. This document was published for the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority, 2237 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 650, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 by Baton Rouge Printing, Inc., to promote public awareness of the programs and services provided by the LPFA to Louisiana and its citizens and to keep the public informed about the operations of the LPFA under authority of Title 9, Chapter 2-A of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provision of Title 9, Chapter 2-A of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

For more information about the printing; the design and content of this document; or public information requests, contact Emily C. Spears at [spears@lpfa.com](mailto:spears@lpfa.com).



**Contents:** **1** Message from Management **2** Empowering Development & Helping Louisiana Thrive **5** Improving Economic Development by Providing Access to Capital **6** The Best of Both Worlds: Creating Jobs & Saving Money **9** 40 Years of Service in Review **13** A Better Place to Live, Work & Play **16** Bond Issues that Improve the Quality of Life in Louisiana **20** The Zero Interest Bond Bank Program Helps Local Governments **24** Providing Zero Interest Loans to Rural Communities **27** Encouraging Student Success with Lela’s College Planning Resources **32** Board of Trustees **33** LPFA Staff



# 40 Years of Service

1974- 2014



The primary mission of the LPFA is to further education, health care, economic development, and job creation in Louisiana in order to make Louisiana a better place to work, live, and raise our families. We fulfill this mission by serving as a conduit issuer of tax-exempt and taxable bonds for Louisiana and its citizens. We also fulfill our mission by offering free college planning resources to students and parents through Lela, the LPFA's education division.







# LPFA

LOUISIANA PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY





# Dear Citizens of Louisiana,

For 40 years, the LPFA has been committed to the health, education and economic well-being of the people of Louisiana. Even in economic downturns, we were there, recognizing that Louisiana's continued growth takes bold ideas, sustained effort and the funds to put plans in motion.

Between 1974 and 2014, we issued more than \$24.1 billion in bonds on behalf of universities, state and local governmental bodies, major health care providers, economic endeavors, college student loans and individual projects.

These investments helped generate more than 323,900 new jobs and \$7.5 billion in additional personal earnings for Louisiana's economy.

In 2014, we closed bond issues totaling more than \$330 million for projects, such as the Louisiana Pellets facility in LaSalle Parish; University of New Orleans Research and Technology Foundation Student Housing Project; St. Anthony's Gardens senior living facility in St. Tammany Parish; and revolving loan programs for the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

We are proud of these major investments, but we are just as proud of our smaller projects in support of Louisiana's largely rural communities. To date, the LPFA has helped more than 249 local governments access more than \$12 million in mostly zero-interest loans through our Bond Bank and Rural Development loan programs, saving communities more than \$1.54 million in interest payments.

In 2014, in addition to fire protection and other critical infrastructure improvements, these loan programs helped finance projects as diverse as the renovation of the historic Catahoula Parish courthouse and the installation of new early children education features at the Children's Museum of Acadiana.

Education has always been a major part of our mission. In 2014, the Louisiana Education Loan Authority greatly expanded efforts to increase access to higher education by opening its College Planning Center in Baton Rouge. Through the center, as well as Lela's publications, scholarships and outreach efforts, the staff provided resources and direct college-planning assistance to tens of thousands of students.

Reflecting on the past 40 years, we are proud of Louisiana's achievements, and the pivotal role we played in advancing its progress. We will continue to work with our leaders, businesses, and individuals to help realize Louisiana's potential. We are looking forward to what the next four decades will bring and the role we play in advancing its progress.

Sincerely,



**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. An auditing firm selected by the State Legislative Auditor performs an annual independent audit of the LPFA's finances and submits its findings to the State Legislative Auditor.

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



Public utility facilities and services



Projects that increase efficiency in the operation of state and local governments



Projects protecting the people of Louisiana against air, water, noise, ground, and other types of pollution



Cultural and recreational facilities

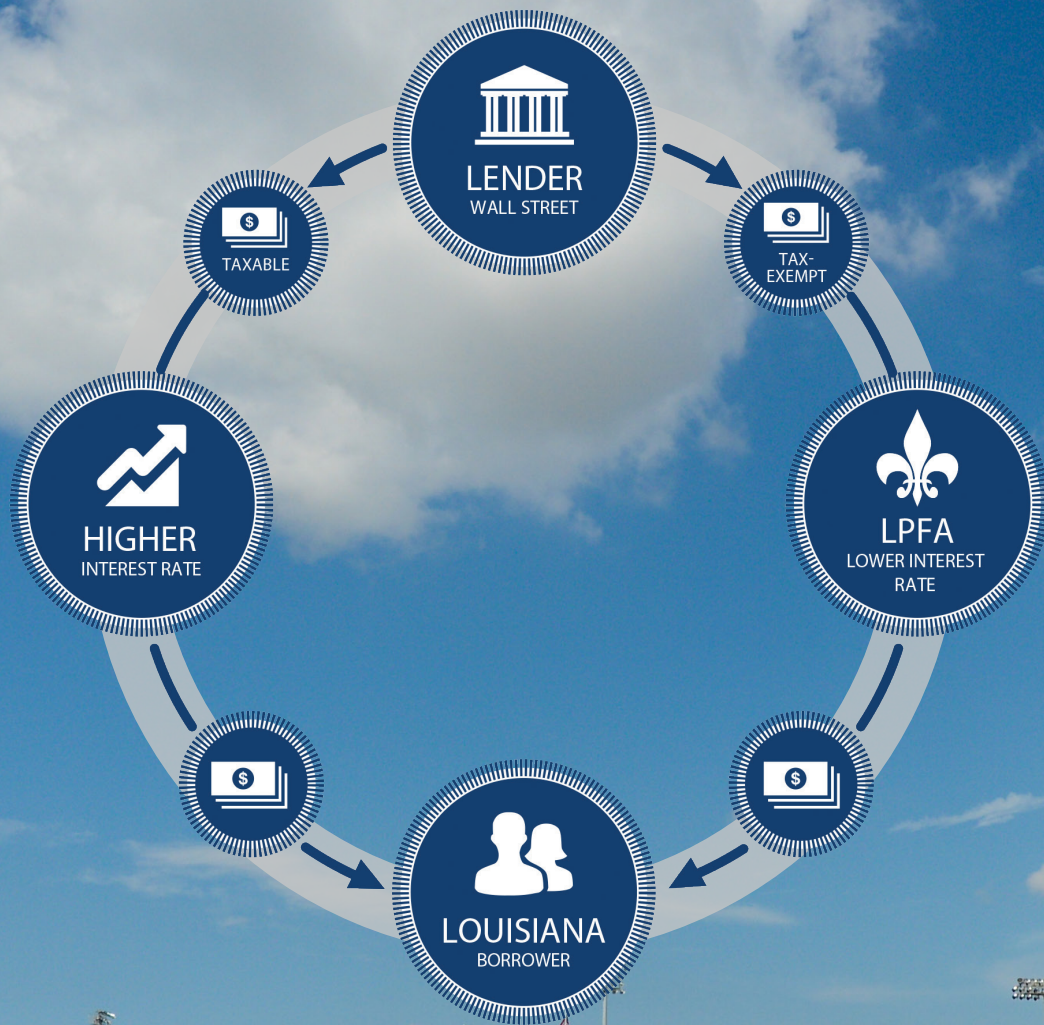
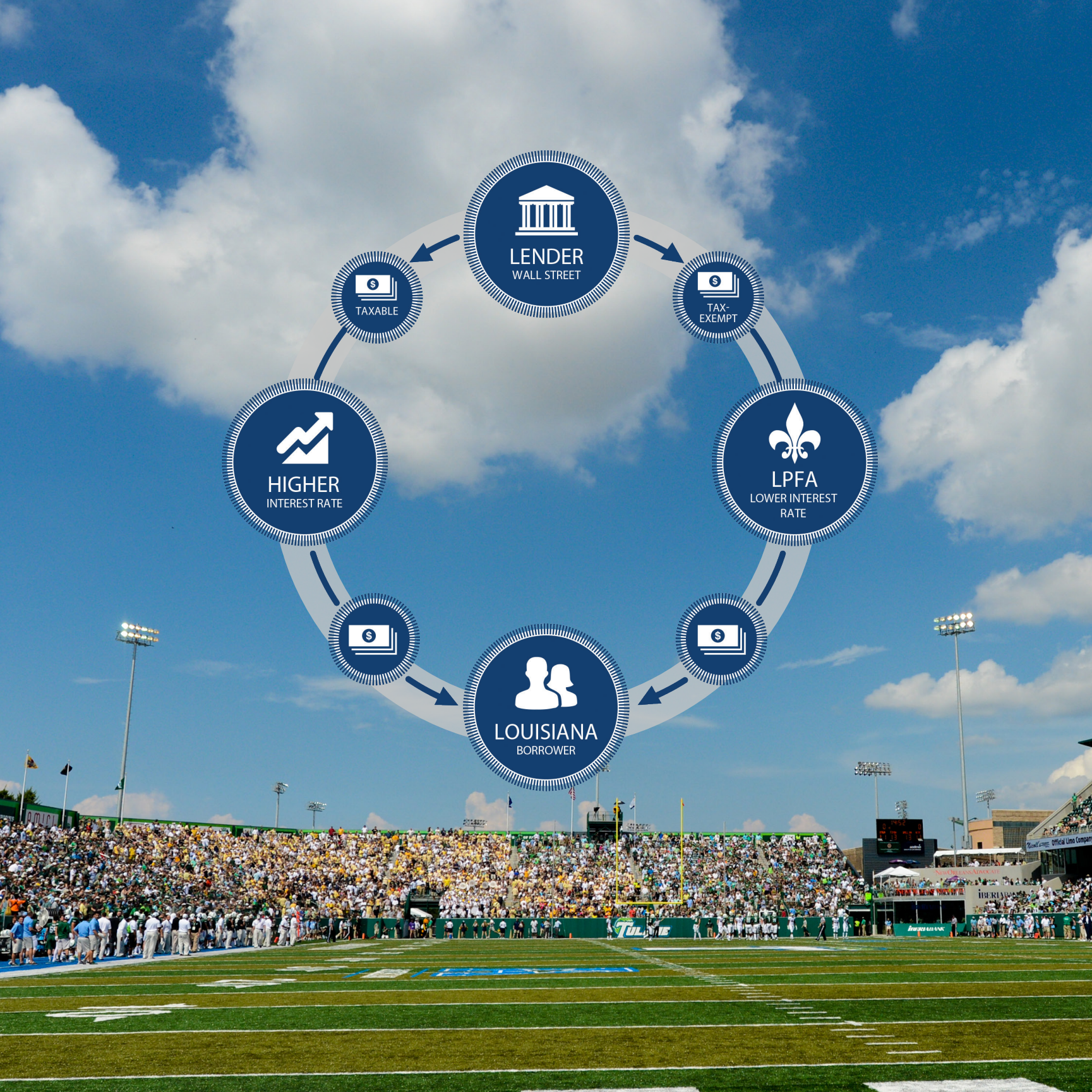


Public transportation facilities



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's Financing Role

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.



# The Best of Both Worlds: Creating Jobs & Saving Money

## The LPFA Provides Support During Good and Tough Times

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.

In its past 40 years of operation, Louisiana State University Alumni Professor of Economics Dr. Richardson reported in his 2014 Impact Study that 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 2014, the LPFA issued \$83 million in bonds for Louisiana Pellets, Inc. in an effort to create new jobs while improving environmental quality in Louisiana.

The bond issue for Louisiana Pellets, Inc. provided a catalyst for the construction of its 393,000 square foot facility in Urania, La., near the Kisatchie National Forest to produce wood pellets from paper and pulp mill wood waste – providing a renewable energy source in Europe to help alleviate its dependence upon coal.

The new facility will create 210 construction jobs in addition to 80 direct and 250 indirect jobs, with an annual payroll of \$4.5 million to support the state's economy.

The LPFA has issued bonds to finance construction of three wood-pellet manufacturing facilities – one each in Morehouse Parish, Allen Parish and, in 2014, LaSalle Parish – furthering economic growth and environmental sustainability in Louisiana.





# LPFA has issued more than **\$24 Billion in Bonds** (1974-2014)

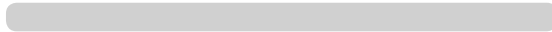
Health Care: \$7.7 billion



Economic Development: \$6.2 billion



Student Loans: \$2.4 billion



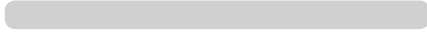
Universities: \$2.4 billion



Unemployment Compensation: \$1.6 billion



School Boards: \$1.2 billion



Communities: \$819 million



Multi-Family Housing: \$676 million



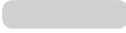
State of Louisiana: \$438 million



Single-Family Housing: \$327 million



LA Insurance Guaranty Association: \$187 million



Law Enforcement Duties: \$74 million





In 1974, we made a commitment to the people of Louisiana to utilize our capabilities and resources to further education, health care, economic development and job creation to make Louisiana a better place to live and work. For the past 40 years, the LPFA has strived to fulfill that promise, funding the future of Louisiana with renewed commitment, each year forward through everything we do.

# Fulfilling



1974

**\$7.7 MILLION**

**ST. CHARLES  
GENERAL HOSPITAL**

The LPFA is created by a private corporation as a public trust with the State of Louisiana as its beneficiary to finance the construction of St. Charles General Hospital.

**\$19.5 MILLION**

**ST. JAMES PLACE**

This bond issue provided funds to construct St. James Place, a 212-unit residential health care living facility for the elderly in Baton Rouge.

1981



1987

**\$1.3 BILLION**

**STATE OF LOUISIANA  
UNEMPLOYMENT  
COMPENSATION**

Record \$1.3 billion LPFA bond sale restores Louisiana Unemployment Compensation Fund, enabling the state to continue paying benefits while saving taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars.





# Our Promise to Louisiana

**\$16.4 MILLION**

**SUPERTOP STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM**

The TOP Program becomes SuperTop and expands to offer discounted student loans directly to students as well as referral banks. This was the first low-cost student loan program in Louisiana.

1995



**\$75 MILLION**

**TIGER ATHLETIC FOUNDATION**

This bond issue enabled the Tiger Athletic Foundation to complete the third major addition to LSU Tiger Stadium since its west upper deck was built in 1978.

2012



2008

**\$996.1 MILLION**

**LOUISIANA UTILITIES RESTORATION CORP.**

These bonds helped finance the hurricane recovery costs incurred by the Utilities after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. This was the first bond issue in the world to use this structure.



2014

**\$83 MILLION**

**LOUISIANA PELLETS, INC.**

This bond issue financed the construction of a 393,000 square foot facility in Urania, La. to produce wood pellets from paper and pulp mills wood waste - providing a renewable energy source for Europe.



## Lela College Planning Center & Outreach Activities ( 2010-2014)



92,200 Direct Contacts  
with Students and Parents



51,000 Student Data  
Profiles



2,700 FAFSA Completion  
Assistance and Events



930 One-on-One  
Counseling Sessions







## 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 2014, as the LPFA completed its 40th 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.









## The LPFA has issued over **\$17.08** billion in private activity and industrial development bonds (1974-2014).

A significant portion of the LPFA's economic development work involves helping private entities finance their projects. In the past 40 years, the LPFA has issued more than \$17.08 billion in private activity bonds and industrial development bonds (IDBs) to finance more than 644 projects that have generated thousands of construction and permanent jobs in the state.

Parish	Total Financed	
Acadia.....	\$9,500,000	Ouachita.....\$219,959,888
Allen.....	\$500,000	Plaquemines.....\$39,495,000
Ascension.....	\$237,100,000	Pointe Coupee.....\$1,700,000
Avoyelles.....	\$1,600,000	Rapides.....\$33,775,000
Beauregard.....	\$4,349,500	Richland.....\$1,100,000
Bienville.....	\$1,250,000	Sabine.....\$10,800,000
Bossier.....	\$71,726,011	St. Bernard.....\$9,478,594
Caddo.....	\$571,038,374	St. Charles.....\$130,345,000
Calcasieu.....	\$151,250,000	St. Helena.....\$1,000,000
DeSoto.....	\$4,080,000	St. James.....\$36,840,000
East Baton Rouge.....	\$2,689,014,086	St. John the Baptist.....\$14,505,000
Evangeline.....	\$1,000,000	St. Landry.....\$23,310,900
Franklin.....	\$1,500,000	St. Martin.....\$1,000,000
Iberia.....	\$27,332,100	St. Mary.....\$2,425,000
Iberville.....	\$57,776,000	St. Tammany.....\$ 125,910,000
Jefferson.....	\$949,592,255	Tangipahoa.....\$22,445,000
Jefferson Davis.....	\$1,000,000	Tensas.....\$595,000
Lafayette.....	\$417,190,130	Terrebonne.....\$27,820,000
Lafourche.....	\$59,240,000	Union.....\$1,000,000
LaSalle.....	\$ 258,000,000	Vernon.....\$6,400,000
Lincoln.....	\$147,381,000	Washington.....\$3,000,000
Livingston.....	\$4,050,000	Webster.....\$8,250,000
Natchitoches.....	\$6,100,000	West Baton Rouge.....\$58,675,000
Orleans.....	\$ 4,341,809,325	Multiple Parishes.....\$6,291,325,400
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,084,533,563</b>



# Bond Issues that Improve the Quality of Life in Louisiana

In 2014, LPFA closed 8 bond issues totaling more than \$330 million. This brings the LPFA's total bond issues over the past 40 years to more than \$24 billion.

## **\$1,200,000**

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

Series 2006 – Draw Request No. 19  
Delivered: April 3, 2014

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.

## **\$2,600,000**

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

Series 2007 – Draw 8  
Delivered: May 1, 2014

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.

## **\$83,000,000**

LPFA Solid Waste Disposal Facility  
Revenue Bonds

**Louisiana Pellets Inc. Project**

Series 2014A  
Series 2014B - Taxable  
Delivered: August 5, 2014

The proceeds from this bond sale helped finance the construction and equipping of a solid waste disposal facility which processes wood waste to manufacture biomass wood pellets. The plant is located in Urania, Louisiana.









**\$1,200,000**

LPFA Revenue Bonds

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

Series 2006 – Draw Request No. 20  
Delivered: August 7, 2014

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.

**\$162,085,000**

LPFA Revenue Bonds

**Hurricane Recovery Program**

Series 2014  
Delivered: August 12, 2014

The proceeds from this bond sale were used to repair, renovate and replace vital public infrastructure damaged or destroyed by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and for the purpose of making improvements related to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program of the State.

**\$36,000,000**

LPFA Revenue Refunding Bonds

**University of New Orleans  
Research and Technology Student  
Housing Project**

Series 2014  
Delivered: August 28, 2014

The proceeds from this bond sale were used to finance, plan, design, construct,

furnish and equip a new residence facility for use by the University of New Orleans.

**\$43,000,000**

LPFA Revenue Bonds

**St. Anthony's Gardens Project**

Series 2014  
Delivered: September 4, 2014

The proceeds from this bond sale financed the cost to acquire, construct and equip a senior living community with up to 160 independent living units, 56 assisted living units and 36 memory care units in an age-restricted setting, designed to accommodate the changing needs and preferences of residents.

**\$1,250,000**

LPFA Revenue Bonds

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

Series 2006 – Draw Request No. 21  
Delivered: December 18, 2014

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 Zero Interest Bond Bank Program Helps 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 15 percent of the total borrowing at zero interest and the participating bank provides the remaining portion. LPFA's participation at zero 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 **249** local governmental entities with their borrowing needs of more than **\$12 million**, saving these entities more than **\$1.54 million** in interest payments.







In 2014, the LPFA Bond Bank Program provided **\$369,000** in financial assistance to local government entities, saving them more than **\$22,853** in future interest payments. The borrowing entities are as follows:

**Claiborne, Webster Parishes Evergreen Fire Protection District** borrowed \$350,000 for the purpose of acquiring and constructing fire protection facilities and equipment, including the purchase of a fire truck. The LPFA provided \$52,000 and zero percent interest, saving the District more than \$3,752 in future interest payments.

**Franklin Parish Fire Protection District No. 2** borrowed \$105,000 to purchase a new fire truck that can pump 1,500 gallons of water per minute, three times as much as the 40-year-old truck this vehicle replaced. The LPFA provided \$15,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the District more than \$1,717 in future interest payments.

**Tensas Parish** borrowed \$238,000 to purchase the building and property to house the nonprofit Saint Joseph Arts, Inc., which provides cultural opportunities for the community. The LPFA provided \$35,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the Parish \$4,245 in future interest payments.

**Allen Parish Road District No. 4** borrowed \$55,000 to purchase a backhoe with a bulk lift to move pallets or small items for the Village of Waterproof. The

LPFA provided \$8,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest.

**Beauregard Parish Fire Protection District No. 4** borrowed \$500,000 for the purpose of acquiring two new tanker trucks to protect property in the area, just outside of DeRidder. The LPFA provided \$75,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest, saving the District more than \$4,374 in future interest payments.

**Catahoula Parish** borrowed \$325,000 for the purpose of replacing the roof of the historic Catahoula Parish Courthouse and the roof of its 1973 addition. The LPFA provided \$48,000 of the total borrowing.

**Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 1** borrowed \$225,000 for the purpose of constructing a larger fire station, located in Albany, LA, to equip the department to better handle the increased call volume from its expanded response to emergency medical calls. The LPFA provided \$33,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest, saving the District \$2,306 in future interest payments.

**Jackson Parish Recreation District** borrowed \$400,000 to purchase 177 acres of property on La. Hwy 4 to expand the Parish's recreation sports complex to include an open-air pavilion to use for possible rodeos, 4-H livestock shows and other events. The LPFA provided the parish with \$6,000 of the total borrowing at zero-percent interest, saving the District \$1,078 in future interest payments.





**Town of Grand Coteau** borrowed \$150,000 for purchase of adding a new 700 gallon-per-minute water well and new water lines to the system to support new commercial and residential expansion. The LPFA provided \$22,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest. This saved the Town more than \$1,607 in future interest payments.

**Town of Abita Springs** borrowed \$500,000 for the purpose of paving, resurfacing and improving the Town's streets. The LPFA provided \$75,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest, which saved the Town more than \$3,774 in future interest payments.

# Providing Zero 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 Zero 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 zero percent interest.

How does it work? The entity submits an application with the US Rural Development Program for funding assistance for the project. Once approved, the LPFA provides up to 20 percent of those interim funds at zero interest, in partnership with local financial institutions, which provide the remaining portion of the financing. The LPFA's zero interest, coupled with banks' competitive rates, lowers the entity's borrowing cost, resulting in savings to the rural entity.

To date, rural entities and communities have borrowed more than \$156 million, of which LPFA has funded **\$26 million**, saving Louisiana's rural entities more than **\$774,000** in interest payments since the program's inception.

In 2014, the LPFA Rural Development Program provided **\$4 million** in interim financing loans, at zero interest, to the following communities:

**City of Springhill** borrowed \$6.1 million for the purpose of constructing and acquiring improvements, extensions, renovations and replacements to the City's waterworks and sewerage system. The LPFA funded \$1.22 million of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the City \$32,112 in interest payments.

**West Allen Water District** borrowed \$3.3 million to replace 34 miles of water lines with newer, larger capacity lines, and installing more than 20 miles of additional pipes to expand service to new customers; and to build a 125,000-gallon storage tank in the Beau Allen area. The LPFA provided \$658,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the District \$24,938 in interest payments.

**Mire-Branch Water Corporation** borrowed \$1.4 million for the purpose of constructing a new operations and management building on La. Hwy 1100 in addition to installing lines to serve 50 to 100 customers and to convert all customers' existing water meters to electronic meters. The LPFA funded \$286,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the Water Corporation \$10,844 in interest.







**Town of Independence** borrowed \$1.15 million, the first borrowing in a three-part series, for the purpose of making improvements to its waterworks system including the construction of a water tank, renovations to the existing water tanks, replacements and upgrades to existing water wells and water lines, in addition to repairing lines and manholes within the Town's sewer system. The LPFA funded \$230,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the Town \$13,076 in interest.

**Town of Independence** borrowed \$1.43 million, the second borrowing in a three-part series, for the purpose of making improvements to its waterworks system including the construction of a water tank, renovations to the existing water tanks, replacements and upgrades to existing water wells and water lines, in addition to repairing lines and manholes within the Town's sewer system. The LPFA funded \$285,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the Town \$10,802 in interest.

**Town of Independence** borrowed \$2.63 million, the third borrowing in a three-part series, for the purpose of making improvements to its waterworks system including the construction of a water tank, renovations to the existing water tanks, replacements and upgrades to existing

water wells and water lines, in addition to repairing lines and manholes within the Town's sewer system. The LPFA funded \$526,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the Town \$14,465 in interest.

#### **Vermilion Parish Waterworks**

**District No. 1** borrowed \$2.75 million for the purpose of acquiring and constructing improvements and extensions to the waterworks system throughout the District. The LPFA provided \$550,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the District more than \$13,500 in interest.

#### **St. Helena Parish School Board**

borrowed \$500,000 for the purpose of renovating the school's existing auditorium and to construct a new football stadium, field house and eight-lane track on the high school campus. The LPFA provided \$90,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the School Board \$4,068 in interest.

**Town of Lecompte** borrowed \$784,000 for the purpose of renovating the Town's five-decade-old plant in an effort to meet government health and safety standards. The LPFA funded \$156,000 of the total borrowing at zero percent interest which saved the Town \$3,640 in interest.







# Encouraging Student Success with Lela's College Planning Resources

In 2014, Lela, LPFA's education division, continued to expand access to higher education for the students of Louisiana by assisting students and parents as they pursued their educational goals.

Through its innovative outreach initiatives to increase financial aid awareness and financial literacy, the Louisiana Education Loan Authority (Lela) affirms that, in addition to academic success, the key to ensuring access to higher education is to plan effectively. It is important to have a plan for both a student's academic success and financial success.

Committed to helping students succeed, Lela continued to provide students with the appropriate college planning resources to secure financial assistance. The foundation of the process is the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

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 2014, to help students overcome these challenges, Lela focused on helping students and parents with FAFSA completion while providing hands-on, one-on-one counseling for students and parents as well as conducting FAFSA Completion workshops on high school campuses. Lela offers an array of resources for Louisiana high school students and parents through its website, askLela.org, such as its College Planning Checklist for Juniors and Seniors and the Louisiana Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (LASFAA) Louisiana Guide to College Costs.

## COLLEGE PLANNING CENTER OPENED FOR LOUISIANA STUDENTS

Spring is college decision time for high school seniors and their parents. In Early 2014, Lela committed itself to helping with





one of the most challenging parts of the process: completing the paperwork required to secure grants, loans and scholarships.

Lela, the education division of the LPFA, expanded its services spring 2014 by opening a College Planning Center in Baton Rouge.

There, students took advantage of free, one-on-one counseling; computer and Internet access; a resource library and help in completing essential forms, such as the FAFSA, which is required for TOPS Scholarships, in addition to federal and state college aid. All services through the Center are provided free of charge for Louisiana residents.

In addition to connecting with more than 15,000 fans on Facebook, Lela also used Facebook to provide scholarships and share its outreach efforts with the community.

#### REACHING COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENTS AT EACH LEVEL

In 2014, Lela once again partnered with NextStepU to create its second college planning guide as a one-stop resource for college-bound students.

In partnership with Career Compass of Louisiana, Lela provided more than 10,000 copies of the Guide to Louisiana high school students in addition to providing 20,000 copies through direct distribution and via the Lela website.

As a result, Lela counseled close to 200 families and provided instructional guidance to more than 16,000 students as they encountered questions regarding the next steps to access higher education.

In addition, numerous families contacted

Lela last year, of which 1,800 students were assisted in completing the FAFSA and the necessary forms and paperwork to apply for college.

By partnering with Louisiana high schools, Lela provided resources to more than 35,000 students. In many cases, Lela's one-on-one counseling services helped students with unique circumstances address the questions they faced during the application process. Lela's College Planning & Client Services representatives worked with numerous students. Some of the students worked full-time and supported their parents or younger siblings.

Lela also assisted students, some of whom were first-generation college students and students from single-parent households, with dreams of going to college but without a clear plan of where to start or how to pay for college.

Lela also continued to reach out to Louisiana's education community and to support key partnerships to provide a network of support for students and parents at each educational level.

#### SUPPORTING COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND PARTNERSHIP

##### FINANCIAL AID AWARENESS

For the ninth consecutive year, Governor Bobby Jindal proclaimed February Financial Aid Awareness Month. In support of the Governor's proclamation, Lela conducted its annual statewide campaign Financial Aid Awareness Month (FAAM) during February 2014 to provide information and increase awareness among the public about





financial aid opportunities and to provide assistance throughout the financial aid application process.

Each year, Lela provides its expertise to Louisiana students and parents to provide support as they transition into their educational endeavors. In 2014, Lela participated in more than 300 financial aid related workshops and events across the state. Through FAAM workshops, statewide mailing to high schools, electronic messages, and social media, Lela provided all Louisiana seniors with an opportunity to receive \$10,000 in scholarships in addition to its annual “Cash for College” essay contest.

### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Lela offers a number of scholarship opportunities for Louisiana students to help alleviate the cost of college. In 2014, Lela awarded more than \$25,000 direct scholarships through its Quarterly Scholarship, Facebook Quarterly Scholarship, Holiday

Art Scholarship, FAAM Scholarship and the Financial Literacy Scholarship.

Lela also sponsored over \$50,000 scholarship and program awards through its partnerships with numerous organizations in Louisiana such as 100 Black Men of Baton Rouge, the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts, the NAACP, Jump\$start, Career Compass of Louisiana, College Application Week, Beta Convention, Boys State, Girls State and the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) Trailblazers.

### CAREER COMPASS OF 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 Career Compass of Louisiana. Through its partnership with Lela, Career Compass is able to help ensure access to higher education through application fee











assistance, scholarship assistance, ACT preparation and hands-on assistance with the college or post-secondary enrollment process despite any student's background or learning aptitude.

In 2014, Lela provided key financial aid information to approximately 60 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. The packets also included an opportunity for students to receive a scholarship award to use toward the post-secondary school of their choice.

#### GEORGE RODRIGUE FOUNDATION OF THE ARTS

Lela and the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts (GRFA) continue 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.

Lela assisted the foundation by sponsoring scholarships through grant funding for their 2014 GRFA Art Contest. More than 15 junior and senior students in Louisiana received scholarships totaling more than \$45,000 for submitting exceptional art capturing the contest theme: Louisiana's Natural Beauty, in partnership with the Audubon Nature Institute. GRFA featured the winning art on a commemorative poster to celebrate the wonders of Louisiana's natural beauty.

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.

By supporting the George Rodrigue Foundation, Lela augments the Foundation's efforts and positively encourages Louisiana students to pursue their post-secondary education in addition to offering assistance to lower the cost of college by increasing scholarship opportunities available to students.





## Board of Trustees

left to right:

Eric Liew  
Camille A. Cutrone, *Vice Chairman*  
Lorin J. Crenshaw  
Guy Campbell III, *Chairman*

Peter Egan, *Secretary-Treasurer*  
Craig A. Cheramie  
Dale Benoit

## Thank You

We greatly appreciate the financial partnerships and relationships we have developed with the citizens of our state for the past 40 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*







## LPFA Staff

### Back Row (left to right):

Emily C. S. Spears, *Webmaster & IT Manager*  
Stacye L. Bradford, *Executive Assistant*  
Kayla Thomas, *Administrative Assistant*  
Roosevelt J. Leonard, *Operations Assistant*  
Christie K. Smith, *College Planning & Client Services*  
Ann Carmichael, *College Planning & Client Services*  
Becky Harmon, *Accountant*  
Geraldyn King, *Administrative Assistant*

### Front Row (left to right):

Brinda White, *Assistant Vice President*  
Martin Walke, *Vice President of Economic & Program Development*  
James W. Parks II, *President & CEO*  
Tricia A. Dubroc, *Vice President of Student Loans & Administration*  
Joni M. Leggio, *Assistant Vice President*

### Not Shown:

Kentra Davis, *Compliance Analyst*  
Rachel Simmons, *Receptionist (2015)*





## Financials

LPFA's complete financial statements for 2014 are available on our website at [lpfa.com](http://lpfa.com). Please click on the News and Events tab and select LPFA Annual Reports to view our 2014 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.

## 40th Anniversary Video

As we celebrate 40 years of service to the citizens of Louisiana, please join us by viewing the 40th Anniversary video via this link <http://tinyurl.com/LPFA2014>. If you have any trouble viewing the video or for a copy of the DVD, contact the LPFA.

*Thank*



*You*





