



GREATER NEW ORLEANS FOUNDATION

Nonprofit Preparedness and Planning for COVID-19: The
Changing Nature of Advocacy Due to COVID- 19| May 8th

Bonita Robertson
Director for Civic Leadership



GREATER NEW ORLEANS FOUNDATION 

Housekeeping Notes

- All audience members are muted
- Please use the **Q&A Feature** to submit questions
- If you experience any technology or internet issues, please dial **1-312-626-6799**, the webinar ID is **938 3832 3864**. This will allow you to listen in to the presentation.
- This webinar is being recorded and will be emailed after the session
- A FAQ will also be emailed after the session

Meet Our Experts!



Judy Reese Morse
President & CEO
Urban League Louisiana



Ashley Shelton
Executive Director
Power Coalition



State Representative Royce
Duplessis
Louisiana House of Representatives



Advocacy During the Pandemic

Urban League of
Louisiana



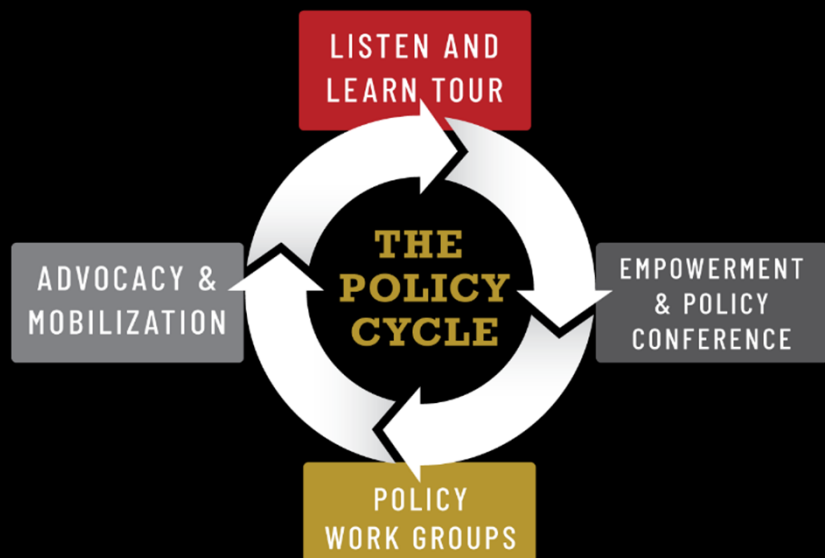
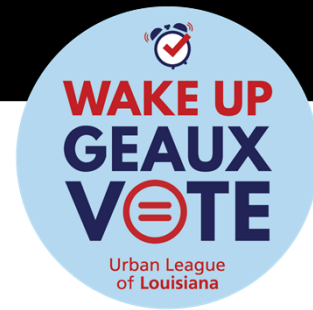
The mission of the Urban League of Louisiana is to assist African Americans and other communities seeking equity to secure economic self-reliance, parity and civil rights.

- Education and Youth Development
- Workforce Development
- Entrepreneurship and Small Business
- Policy and Social Justice Advocacy

Advocacy is in Our DNA

Recent Efforts Include:

- Act 223, State of Louisiana’s match for the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Fund
- Investing locally for maximum matching funds for Early Childhood Education
- SB102, a measure to end “Vitter sentences”
- 2020 Census: VOICE - Voicing Our Information for Census Equity
- Wake Up Geaux Vote



WE DON'T
PAUSE... WE PIVOT.



PROGRAMS AND OFFERINGS IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

- Education Survey and Town Hall
- Virtual Job Fairs
- Virtual Small Business Supports
 - Webinars and Q&A sessions on Economic Injury Disaster Loans and the Paycheck Protection Plan

WE DON'T
PAUSE... WE PIVOT.



ADVOCACY IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

- Digital Census Day and virtual awareness
- Five Tele-town Halls
 - No, We're Not Immune: The Impact of Coronavirus on African-American Whole Health in Louisiana
 - Four Part Series From Disparity to Parity: Examining the Social Determinants Impacting African-American Health
- Reform, Recover, Re-open

Reform, Recover, Re-Open: Essential Strategies for an Equitable COVID-19 Response in Louisiana

PUBLIC HEALTH SECURITY

- ✓ Employees and students should receive the protections of a Citizens Bill of Rights before returning to work and school.
- ✓ Rental and utility assistance programs should continue and expand for renters and landlords during this unprecedented time.
- ✓ We must invest in fresh food initiatives to address food insecurities in marginalized communities.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

- ✓ Workers who are incurring some amount of unavoidable risk from COVID-19 deserve additional hazard pay.
- ✓ We must increase minimum wage to increase the community's purchasing power.
- ✓ We must be honest and relentless in our commitment to develop small businesses.
- ✓ We must lean on innovation to equitably spur our cultural economy.

*Full explanation of recommendations available at urbanleaguela.org under News and Publications



Ashley Shelton

Executive Director
Power Coalition



Update on Legislative Session, Upcoming Elections, and Census

- The legislature reconvened on **May 4**
- The budget is the top priority for most legislators. But the deadline is July 1st. We don't know how the pandemic-induced recession will impact our state's finances, so it's prudent to wait as long as we can.
 - Will bills that don't deal directly with essential functions/services get heard fairly or at all?
- We are looking at:
 - Gov. using emergency powers to **extend Paid Sick Leave** and/or remove state preemption of PSL
 - Expediting **unrestricted Vote by Mail** legislation or move it through executive order
 - Instituting new **ability to pay framework** for criminal fines and fees
 - Campaigns for our collective list of policy demands from nonprofit partners statewide
- **Louisiana's Presidential Primary** was postponed until **July 11, 2020**. Municipal elections were postponed until **August 15, 2020**. **Early Voting** will be **June 26-July 4, and August 1-8**.
- The New Orleans City Council is only meeting to deal with essential services/immediate problems.
- The **Census** has extended the non-response follow-up period through **August 14, 2020**, and will begin door-to-door enumeration on May 28th, two weeks later than originally scheduled.



2020 Legislative Priorities

- **Paid Sick Leave**
 - Federal CARES Act Sick leave does not apply for up to 106 million Americans
- **Vote by Mail**
 - Over 65% of Americans support Vote By Mail according to recent polls
- **Redistricting Proposals**
 - Redistricting Transparency Website
 - Non-partisan redistricting advisory group
 - End to prison gerrymandering
- **Ability to pay framework**
 - Require judges, during or immediately after imposing a sentence in a case in which the defendant entered a plea in open court, to inquire whether the defendant has sufficient resources or income to immediately pay all or part of the fine and costs

CENSUS 2020: Real Time Response ORLEANS PARISH



When our people are missing from the census, resources and political power for our communities get assigned to somewhere else — somewhere that already has more money, more privilege, and more power.

Orleans Parish Response Rate



Response Rate



Complete your Census online today: my2020census.gov

CENSUS 2020: Real Time Response EAST BATON ROUGE



When our people are missing from the census, resources and political power get assigned to somewhere else.

Response Rate



Response Rate



Complete your Census online today: my2020census.gov

Power Coalition's Policy Demand Document

Roadmap to RECOVERY

Louisianians have suffered through more than our fair share of disasters. And while disasters are devastating on their own, our response, recovery, and relief efforts have often compounded the tragedy by diminishing or ignoring our most vulnerable communities, particularly poor communities and communities of color.

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to expose the structural and systemic racism that plagues our society, particularly in Louisiana and the South. This has been the case for centuries, and was the result of thousands of decisions made by local, state, and federal authorities, in both the public and private sectors. Organizations and advocates, including the ones who are signed onto this document, have spent years trying to address those issues through policy and direct service, which is why we are in the best position to speak to them now.

Our collective response to this disaster needs to be different than it has been in the past. We must center people, especially our most vulnerable populations, in every way we approach this response and recovery effort. The policies laid out in this document will help us achieve that goal immediately, but they should also serve as a roadmap for the kind of long-term reforms we need to enact if we want to build and sustain a more equitable and just society here in Louisiana, in the country and around the world.

www.PowerCoalition.org



Avoid a Housing Crisis



Protect Workers, Children & Families



Protect Health and Safety in Jails, Prisons, Juvenile Facilities and Immigrant Detention Centers



State Budget



POWER COALITION
For Equity and Justice



VOOTE
Protect Democracy

Protect Workers, Children & Families

Approximately 250,000 unemployment claims were filed in Louisiana in the first few weeks of the pandemic's spread, and we know our most vulnerable workers and families will be hit the hardest by the resulting economic fallout. Many workers don't earn enough to save up for a crisis, aren't offered paid sick leave, and don't have access to affordable healthcare. As we're clearly seeing during this crisis, these are essential workers. We should treat them that way.

Average UNEMPLOYMENT Calls Per Day

● = 100 calls

BEFORE COVID-19

250

→

AFTER COVID-19

7,750

- Governor Edwards should use his emergency powers to enact statewide paid sick leave or give local governments the ability to enact local paid family and sick leave policies (they are currently banned from doing so)
- Raise the state minimum wage and/or give local governments the freedom to raise local wage floors so more workers will have the means to fuel local economies and combat the impact of this recession
- Expand access to unemployment insurance so that workers can receive the maximum benefits under Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)
- Provide grants and small business loans to child care providers who have closed their businesses or suffered financial losses during the pandemic
- Immediately apply for a waiver to remove the five-year waiting period for lawfully residing immigrant children to become eligible for Medicaid
- Ensure full equity, especially racial equity, during school closures by collecting data about how schools, teachers, and students are interacting during this time of distance learning, and providing children who are falling behind with extra instruction to make up for that gap



POWER COALITION

For Equity and Justice

Vulnerable Populations



- The most at-risk occupations for job loss during the crisis tend to be lower earning and with people with fewer liquid assets
- Black-White gaps in financial outcomes are largest in Louisiana



Looking Forward

- Vulnerable populations have been hit the hardest by this crisis so they are where we need to focus our recovery
- We must ensure safe ways to participate in upcoming elections
- 15% of jobs are not coming back
 - What does it look like to train and teach a new workforce

State Representative Royce Duplessis

District 93
Louisiana House of Representatives



Q&A



Next Steps

- This recording and the slides will be emailed to you
- visit our COVID-19 page for resources and our other webinar recordings:
<https://www.gnof.org/covid19-nonprofits/>
- Please take our survey and give us your feedback. This will help us continue to bring you all relevant content and help us improve!