



2013 Accomplishments

Improving Food Access

- TBR launched and guided 13-member Food Access Policy Commission with Mayor Kip Holden's office to develop an action plan around bringing grocery stores to low-income, low food-access neighborhoods.
- Led the Scotlandville Mobile Pantry (in partnership with the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank) which served 6,000 families (nearly 20,000 individuals) with 250,000 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables, with more than 1,100 TBR volunteers participating.

Bringing Accountability to Public Transportation Reform

- TBR Transit Accountability process led to overhaul of CATS management and board, including a new CEO and five new board members.
- Won Metro Council vote to create enhanced qualifications and vetting process for CATS board candidates.
- Helped form and chaired CATS Board Qualifications Review Committee, to recruit and interview all potential CATS board members. Result has been strongest CATS board candidate pool in City's history.
- New Transit route plan was approved by Metro Council in November 2013, which will implement transit reform plan from 2012 vote and cut trip times nearly in half.
- Won a new transit route to a healthcare clinic in North Baton Rouge, which had no transit service.

Strengthening Public Education

- Launched the "Alliance Schools" Education Strategy with Progress Elementary.
- Set a goal to identify 100 new VIPS reading and math friends. Recruited 118 new volunteers in one month.

"Our Faith in Action" Contextual Scripture Study

- Developed ten scriptural reflection sessions around the theme of "the call of scripture to act today in the world in Baton Rouge."
- Launched Our Faith in Action Scripture Study at a Citywide Assembly on Pentecost Sunday with 500 people.
- Led what may be one of the largest-scale, community-based scripture study programs in the nation. More than 20 groups have met monthly for seven months.

Building a Statewide Network

- Launched Together Louisiana with our sister organizations, at a Statewide Issues Conference with 400 faith and community leaders from across the state.
- Conducted an education campaign around the Governor's proposed tax swap plan, which would have resulted in a significant redistribution of the tax burden from higher to lower income tax-payers. (The plan was dead after the first week of the session.)
- Conducted an education campaign about the healthcare crisis in Louisiana and Medicaid Expansion.
- Held an event at the State Capitol with more than 400 people, around the theme "Negotiate, Mr. Governor" to encourage Governor Jindal to open negotiations around drawing down Medicaid Expansion funding to cover low-income, uninsured residents.

Civic Education Campaigns on Pressing Issues Facing Our Community

- Developed a civic academy around payday lending and held two large-scale gatherings to engage people's experiences and share our analysis of the industry and options for ending predatory payday lending.
- Developed a civic academy around work, wages and the Louisiana economy, with a focus on the unacceptably low wages of many city-parish employees.
- Developed educational presentation about the effects of the effort to create a separate city in southeast Baton Rouge and form a breakaway school district.