Where there is great need, our goal is to work quickly and help those most vulnerable.

**INITIATIVES**

**ALLEN, BEAUREGARD, CALCASIEU, CAMERON & JEFF DAVIS PARISHES**

We initiate projects independently when human services needs identified as critical in our focus areas remain unaddressed.

**EDUCATION**

**LITERACY KITS**
With assistance from school systems, the kits are distributed to children across Southwest Louisiana. Each kit includes books and volunteer-designed props or games, to make the reading interactive.

**WRITESTART PROJECT**
Provides school supplies, admin fees and necessary support to children and teachers in need. Providing supplies year-round ensures teachers and students can focus on learning.

**BORN LEARNING TRAIL**
Bilingual interactive signs installed on trails or playgrounds that offer engagement and learning opportunities for young children and their families or caregivers.

**SUMMER OF SERVICE**
Specifically designed teen volunteer program has human services projects each summer that focus on community members most in need and illustrate the value of serving.

**SUCCESS BY 6**
Newest Education Initiative will address the lack of access to quality early education childcare for ALICE families.

**ECONOMIC MOBILITY**

**VITA**
**VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE**
IRS certified United Way volunteers offer free income tax prep for low-income individuals, persons with disabilities, the elderly and limited English speaking taxpayers.

**CAL-PRI**
**CALCASIEU PRISONER RE-ENTRY**
This vital program is a link between formerly incarcerated individuals and the resources available to help them succeed with a new life in the job market and community.

**MATCHED SAVINGS**
This program teaches saving and budget habits for those working toward the purchase of a liquid asset. Participants are encouraged to build a down payment with a dollar match upon graduation.

**BANK ON SWLA**
Partnerships with banks and credit unions work to ensure low-income households have access to safe and affordable financial products and services.

**HEALTH**

**SINGLECARE PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT PROGRAM**
A partnership focused on improving the health of individuals, families and communities by helping to make prescription medications more affordable.

**CRISIS CHAT**
An online chat for anyone who is going through a difficult time, having thoughts about suicide or just needs to talk. It is confidential and operated by professionally-licensed crisis intervention specialists.

**UNITED AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING**
A coalition with stakeholders, policy makers and others interested in addressing the epidemic of human trafficking in Calcasieu Parish.

**833.TXT.TEEN**
This texting platform for teens serves anyone ages 13-22, in any type of crisis. It provides confidential access to 24/7 support from professionally-licensed counselors.

**BASIC NEEDS**

**SWLA VOAD**
**VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER**
Provides a place where governmental, faith-based, and non-profit organizations can cooperate, communicate, coordinate, and collaborate in the event of a disaster.

**211 | 898-211**
An easy-to-remember phone number that links people in need to relevant information in the complex maze of human services with an accurate database of public and community-based resources, even during a disaster.

**THE PATH HOME**
Program matching resources with the individuals and families needing assistance with issues surrounding homelessness. The goal is to help those affected move toward stable housing and a successful future.

**UNITED AGAINST CHILD HUNGER**
Weekend Food Packs are created for the Summer Feeding Programs in Southwest Louisiana so children have access to easy-to-eat foods over the weekend.

**BUILD BACK THE BLOCK**
Gentrification of ALICE neighborhoods through grants and partnerships with the goal of saving areas decimated by natural disasters.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

**ALICE**
**ASSET LIMITED, INCOME CONSTRAINED, EMPLOYED**
Our report on families working and earning above the Federal Poverty Level yet unable to afford basic expenses, rarely qualifying for assistance.

**EMPLOYEE CRISIS FUND**
Allows employers to offer a program that helps employees cope with unexpected hardships while an external nonprofit partner oversees the process.

**CASE MANAGEMENT PORTFOLIO**
Emergency Rental Assistance Program (CPPJ)
Emergency Food & Shelter Program (FEMA)
Power To Care (Entergy)
Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (DCFS)

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