

**Office of the Lieutenant Governor**  
**Agency Number 04-146**  
**Fiscal Year 2026-2027 through 2030-2031**

***Agency/Program Vision Statement***

We will re-image Louisiana as a leader of the New South. We will create economic growth by showing that Louisiana is not just a great place to visit, but also to live, work and play.

***Agency/Program Mission Statement***

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor serves all citizens through activities that:

1. Prepare the Lieutenant Governor to serve as Governor in the event of a vacancy in the Office of the Governor or the inability of the Governor to act as such;
2. Focus and prioritize the efforts of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism; and
3. Promote civic participation and community activism through programs funded and supported by Volunteer Louisiana Commission.

***Agency/Program Philosophy Statement***

Through collaborations and partnerships, Louisiana will lead the New South in celebrating diversity and creating avenues of prosperity through the support, creation and promotion of Louisiana's unique assets.

***Agency/Program Goals***

- I. By maintaining a working knowledge of state issues, the Lieutenant Governor will be prepared to serve as Governor if necessary.
- II. Through the effective and efficient administration of a program of grants, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor will significantly increase communities' ability to address critical needs and substantially enhance service-learning opportunities among young people.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor is committed to the effective maintenance of agency records in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations, including established records retention schedules and privacy standards. Records are managed to ensure accuracy, accessibility, and security, supporting transparency and operational integrity.

## **Program A. Administration**

**Program/Activity Mission:** The mission of the Administration Program in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor is:

1. To participate in executive department activities designed to prepare the Lieutenant Governor to serve as Governor.
2. To serve as Commissioner of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism; and

### **Program/Activity Goals**

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor will develop and direct DCRT agencies and programs that will provide support to local governments, economic development organizations and other stakeholders to further Louisiana as place to live, work and play.

### **Program/Activity Objectives**

- Objective 1:** To achieve 100% of the stated objectives of each program within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism annually through 2031.
- Objective 2:** Provide technical support and facilitation to elected officials, governmental agencies, local economic development organizations and local developers that help the State (and our local communities) to improve our assets by 2031.

**Objective 1:** To achieve 100% of the stated objectives of each program within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism annually through 2031.

**Program:** Administration

**Activity:** Administrative Service

**State Outcome**

**Goal:** Transparent, Accountable, and Effective Government

**Strategies:**

- 1.1 Building the state's tourism industry to create and retain jobs
- 1.2 Diversifying the state's economy by leveraging culture
- 1.3 Improving educational and workforce development through access to information at libraries
- 1.4 Preserving Louisiana as a sportsman's paradise through state parks
- 1.5 Leading citizens out of poverty by leveraging community service
- 1.6 Delivering accountable and cost-efficient government services
- 1.7 Develop and implement human resources policies that benefit employees that include:
  - continuing to update and refine the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) policy to meet federal regulations providing further benefits for employees' leave for serious health issues;
  - providing training on FMLA to managers statewide to ensure that all employees are treated fairly and equally;
  - updating the employee handbook;
  - continuing to develop human resources policies to ensure that management and employees are kept abreast of human resources issues;
  - continuing to work on the updating of all obsolete job descriptions;
  - reviewing job classifications and determining if any need to be reviewed with Civil Service for pay, classification and/or qualification inequities

**Indicators:**

**Input:** Budget and staff

**Output:** Number of repeat reportable audit findings Percentage of Office of Lieutenant Governor and the Department of Culture Recreation and Tourism objectives achieved

**Objective 2:** Provide technical support and facilitation to elected officials, governmental agencies, local economic development organizations and local developers that help the State (and our local communities) to improve our assets and standing as a preferred destination in order to build a collaborative network of state agencies and other regional organizations by 2031.

**Program:** Administration

**Activity:** Administration

**State Outcome**

**Goal:** Transparent, Accountable, and Effective Government

**Strategies:**

- 2.1 Utilizing data gathered from the community survey (completed during the educational sessions) to design resources for community-level development support
- 2.2 Determine extensive list of targeted state agencies and other state/regional organizations for potential partnerships
- 2.3 Begin discussions with appropriate state agencies and regional organizations for the purpose of building a collaborative network committed to making Louisiana a preferred destination.

**Indicators:**

**Input** Budget and staff

**Output** Percentage of Increased Assets

## **PROGRAM SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **A. Description of how the strategic planning process was implemented**

This strategic plan was developed and guided by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor with input from stakeholders. The process included identifying strategies to accomplish the result, establishing innovative partnerships within and across public, private and nonprofit sectors, and developing performance indicators to track the results.

The development of the plan contained five key activities:

1. Research – collecting and reviewing available data and information applicable to developing Louisiana as a preferred visitor/relocation destination.
2. Analysis – compiling the data and information gathered from research material, interviews and focus groups.
3. Strategic Plan – facilitating planning sessions to develop the plan focused on implementing the Commissioner's mission.

### **B. Statement identifying the principal clients and users of each program, and the specific service or benefit derived by such persons**

The principal clients of the initiatives include (but are not limited to): chambers of commerce, local economic development agencies and organizations, realtors and housing developers, large employers, higher education institutions, convention and visitors' bureaus, volunteer service organizations, healthcare providers, local media as well as pre-retired, retiring and retired individuals from Louisiana and other states who choose to visit/relocate to Louisiana.

### **C. Identification of the primary persons who will benefit from or be significantly affected by each objective within the plan**

The primary beneficiaries and the principal clients are identical for the initiatives undertaken: chambers of commerce, local economic development agencies and organizations, realtors and housing developers, large employers, higher education institutions, convention and visitors' bureaus, volunteer service organizations, healthcare providers, local media as well as pre-retired, retiring and retired individuals from Louisiana and other states who choose to visit/relocate to Louisiana.

### **D. Statutory requirement or authority for each goal**

La Constitution of 1974 article IV section 6; RS 36:201-9; RS 51:1317 – 1319

### **E. Potential external factors**

Many external variables, both positive and negative, will impact the success of the effort. These include such things as the attractiveness of Louisiana's tax structure, the availability of proper medical facilities and health

care services, the educational system, particularly higher education, cost of living, employment opportunities, availability of transportation systems into and out of the state, climate and weather.

**F. Description of any program evaluations used to develop objectives and strategies**

The development of the plan is based on research, interviews, focus groups and planning sessions.

**G. Explanation of how duplication will be avoided**

The Lieutenant Governor serves as the Commissioner of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. As such he is empowered to appoint Assistant Secretaries to administer the agencies within DCRT. The Lieutenant Governor determines the vision and priorities of the department, while the Assistant Secretaries are responsible for their implementation and the day-to-day administration of their assigned agencies. Both will expend efforts communicating the programs of the agencies within the department and to its clients. All efforts will enhance and complement each other.

## **Program B. Grants**

**Program/Activity Philosophy:** The Volunteer Louisiana Commission believes that service and civic engagement leads to improved outcomes in our state. We seek to nurture and expand the spirit of service and citizenship among the citizens of Louisiana.

**Program/Activity Mission:** The mission of the Grants Program in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor is to help strengthen Louisiana communities through volunteerism and national service.

**Program/Activity Goals:** Under the direction of Volunteer Louisiana, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor will encourage active civic engagement through national service and volunteerism initiatives, opportunities, and recognition.

### **Program Objectives**

**Objective 1:** Strengthen AmeriCorps throughout Louisiana

**Objective 2:** Strengthen Louisiana's disaster resilience

**Objective 3:** Strengthen Louisiana's Culture of Service and Volunteerism

## **Objective 1: Strengthen AmeriCorps throughout Louisiana**

**Program:** Grants

**Activity:** AmeriCorps\*State Grants Administration

**State Outcome Goal:** Raise the profile and reach of AmeriCorps

**Strategies:**

- 1.1 Promote and elevate AmeriCorps throughout Louisiana
- 1.2 Implement intentional strategies to increase the geographic, focus area, and organizational diversity of AmeriCorps programs
- 1.3 Foster collaborative AmeriCorps ecosystems
- 1.4 Ensure high-quality AmeriCorps programs.

**Indicators:**

**Input** Federal funds, state funds, RFP, website, social media, media campaigns, targeted outreach, staff, commissioners, conferences, training and technical assistance,

**Output** Number of parishes with AmeriCorps programming

## **Objective 2: Strengthen Louisiana's disaster resilience**

**Program:** Grants

**Activity:** Preparing and coordinating volunteers in times of disaster

**State Outcome Goal:** Raise the profile and reach of disaster activities

**Strategies:**

- 2.1 Improve pre-event preparedness
- 2.2 Improve post-event response and recovery

**2.3** Foster a whole community approach to disaster volunteerism in Louisiana

**Indicators:**

<b>Input</b>	State Emergency Operations Plan, GOHSEP, Parish OHSEPs, CNCS Disaster Services Unit, website, social media, online volunteer management system, subgrantees, A-DRTs, VOADs, nonprofit organizations, staff, commissioners, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, philanthropy, FEMA
<b>Output</b>	Number of parishes with disaster preparedness, response, or recovery engagements/activities

**Objective 3: Strengthen Louisiana’s Culture of Service and Volunteerism**

**Program:** Grants

**Activity:** Promote volunteerism

**State Outcome Goal:** Raise the profile and reach of volunteer activities

**Strategies:**

- 3.1** Promote and celebrate service and volunteerism in Louisiana
- 3.2** Promote volunteer engagement best practices.

**Indicators:**

<b>Input</b>	Volunteer Awards, website, social media, national days of service, online volunteer management system, volunteer centers, volunteer training
<b>Output</b>	Number of parishes with volunteer engagements/activities

## **PROGRAM SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **A. Description of how the strategic planning process was implemented**

Volunteer Louisiana is required by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) guidelines and Louisiana statute to produce a state service plan every three years based on public input. Volunteer Louisiana developed its 2025-2028 State Service Plan with public input gleaned from focus groups and surveys in the fall of 2024. Strategic planning was implemented within the parameters and requirements of CNCS, the federal agency that funds the Volunteer Louisiana Commission.

### **B. Statement identifying the principal clients and users of each program, and the specific service or benefit derived by such persons**

CNCS provides funding to each state to award and administer the AmeriCorps grants program. The grants program is designed to empower communities to address critical needs in a number of specific focus areas: education, healthy futures, environmental stewardship, disaster services, economic opportunity, and veterans and military families. In Louisiana, these grants are administered through the Volunteer Louisiana Commission in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

The principal clients and users are governmental, educational, and nonprofit organizations that use AmeriCorps grants to expand capacity, as well as AmeriCorps members who get an opportunity to serve and earn an Education Award. The primary beneficiaries are the citizens in the communities that are impacted by the projects made possible through the grants programs in the specified focus areas and the individual members engaged to perform citizen service.

### **C. Identification of the primary persons who will benefit from or be significantly affected by each objective within the plan**

The primary beneficiaries of Objective 1 are the citizens in the communities that are impacted by the projects, subgrantee organizations, and AmeriCorps members. Governmental, educational, and nonprofit organizations benefit from AmeriCorps grants by expanding their capacity. AmeriCorps members benefit by getting an opportunity to serve and earn an Education Award.

The primary beneficiaries of Objective 2 are emergency officials, volunteers, and citizens impacted by disaster. Building CERT capacity and mitigating the self-deployment of unaffiliated volunteers help emergency officials respond more effectively and efficiently to disasters. Volunteers benefit from a more orderly deployment strategy and improved volunteer experience. Affected citizens benefit from a more coordinated response that efficiently distributes volunteer resources to maximize impact.

The primary beneficiaries of Objective 3 are the citizens of the state. Volunteer training improves the volunteer experience, and volunteer awards recognize the outstanding contributions of our citizens and encourage others to do the same.

**D. Statutory requirement or authority for each goal**

The funding for the grants program comes from the Corporation for National and Community Service, which was established under the National and Community Service Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C.A § 1250a et seq.) and reauthorized by the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act of 2009 (H.R. 1388). The Volunteer Louisiana Commission is established in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and its purposes are outlined in R.S. 49:1111 et seq.

**E. Potential external factors**

Funding for the AmeriCorps program is made possible through the Corporation for National and Community Service, dba AmeriCorps, and matched by state funds. The funding is established annually and in accordance with standards determined at the national level. The funding potentially could be discontinued at any time. Other external variables affecting the performance of this program include the changing community needs and individual issues impacting the participants in the program.

The funding for the volunteer programs is supported by state general funds. The funding is established annually and in accordance with standards determined at the state level. The funding potentially could be discontinued at any time. Other external factors affecting the performance of these programs include the potential for another large-scale disaster in the state of Louisiana impacting the volunteer infrastructure.

**F. Description of any program evaluations used to develop objectives and strategies**

The AmeriCorps program is evaluated through data collection in web-based reporting systems. AmeriCorps reports are due and reviewed quarterly and used to evaluate the effectiveness of the performance measures (objectives) that have been set by the program.

**G. Explanation of how duplication will be avoided**

The AmeriCorps grant is linked at the national level through the funding parent, the Corporation for National and Community Service. At the state level, the program is under the administration of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. The goals of the program are distinct from other programming offered within any other agency. Volunteer Louisiana is the only state agency tasked with coordinating spontaneous, unaffiliated volunteers in the state's Emergency Operations Plan, so no duplication is possible. Finally, Volunteer Louisiana is only state agency engaged with volunteerism and national service, so our roles in volunteer connection and recognition are unique.