



21/22

REPORT CARD

HOPE  for OPELOUSAS

WWW.HOPEFOROPELOUSAS.ORG



GROW



HFO IS ACTIVELY
EMPOWERING A MOVEMENT
OF HOPE—FOCUSED ON
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
THROUGH EDUCATIONAL
SUPPORT, NEIGHBORHOOD
OUTREACH, & INTENTIONAL
RELATIONSHIPS—GROUNDED
IN THE TRUTH THAT

**LOVE CHANGES
EVERYTHING**



**LOREN
CARRIERE**

HFO Executive Director



Back in early 2008, Hope for Opelousas was just an idea, a vision. **What might God do if we stepped out in faith and trusted Him?**

When we began we didn't know what we were doing (we still feel that way some days). We were like a fragile seedling. Over time and with lots of care and watering God has given the growth. As I reflect on everything our team and our students have achieved in the previous year I am amazed at how perfectly everything comes together year after year.

One thing this journey has taught me is the certainty that God takes our imperfect actions, and when done in faith, He brings them to life. We take joy in playing our role in the lives of children and families and thank God for how He uses our efforts.

This year we celebrated new experiences for our kids like snow skiing and white-water rafting. We saw our little students who were struggling to read gain confidence as they got the support and skills they needed. We celebrated big achievements like first-generation college students stepping on campus for the first time. We cheered as we watched one of our graduates play both college football and basketball on national TV. We rejoiced with God for students accepting Christ and seeking to grow in their faith.

One of the things I get most excited about is how many people have found their calling to love and serve their neighbor through HFO. From our Board and staff, to volunteers, interns, and donors we are eternally grateful that God provides in every way as we each play our role.

We hope this Report brings you Hope in knowing that though the world is still a broken place, **Love Changes Everything.**

Thanks,

Loren Carver



PLANTING SEEDS, PULLING WEEDS, REAPING THE HARVEST...

To plant a garden is to believe in the future!

In 2021 we began our Grow Hope Community Garden. With the generous support of the Bayou Church, Gaiennie Lumber, and Southern University we were able to have the resources, material, and knowledge to begin.

This project has quickly become a fan favorite of our students and families, and it's a true team effort. There is something to do for all ages. Our elementary students help with planting seeds, and processing the harvest. Our junior high and high school students help with maintenance, fertilizing, and harvesting the tall things. As we harvest, our students are able to bring home bags of fresh produce that they have worked to produce while still having plenty left over to bless our neighbors.

The garden is a chance for our students to learn the joy of working hard and having something to show for it. We behold God's beauty as we watch seeds grow into giant
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flowers, towering okra plants, and expansive tomato vines. The spiritual lessons are readily available as we realize that if we can keep the weeds out of our garden with a little discipline and time that we can do the same with our lives.

This project couldn't have been possible without the assistance of Ryan Mercer, Aaron Coon, and Buddy Carriere. Thank you for setting the stage for beauty, work, and worship that can feed a community.

Our Harvest:

SPRING: TOMATOES, CHERRY TOMATOES, CUCUMBER, EGG PLANT, OKRA, SUNFLOWERS, ZINNIAS, ZUCCHINI, SQUASH, JALAPENO PEPPERS, BELL PEPPERS

FALL: COLLARD GREENS, MUSTARD GREENS, BELL PEPPERS, JALAPENO PEPPERS, KALE, RADISH, TURNIPS



Our Garden
By the numbers:

1,300

Square ft Garden

1,000+

Pounds of Produce





HOPE ON THE HILL

Afterschool Tutoring Program

Hope on the Hill, our after-school program, is more than just math and reading. Our students are welcomed daily with smiles, hugs, and a snack. We work hard on homework and have scheduled time for bible study, art, gardening, and free time. With our elementary students we also focus on reading interventions to improve fluency.



“As a parent of a child that attends HFO, I have had an absolute excellent experience. They always make sure to keep me up to date with any information about the program or my child’s grades on a regular basis. My daughter loves attending HFO and I’m grateful for the skills she has learned and positivity she shows towards the program!”

– Sheryl Tevis (3rd Grade mom)



REPORT CARD SCORES '21/'22



97%
Oral Reading
Fluency Improvement



94 ★
STUDENTS IN
TUTORING



39%
Oral Reading
Benchmark

Ninety four 1st – 12th graders* participated in our afterschool program in 2021/2022. Our time with students focuses on math & reading remediation & homework help. Other elements of our program include parent participation, enrichment trips, & one-on-one mentoring. To better understand how we are helping our students, we track reading fluency & benchmark levels of our 1st-5th graders at several points throughout the year.



99%
Promoted to next grade**



2.85
GPA Average**

** Scores for all 1st-12th Grades

Y/ 13-14 Y/ 14-15 Y/ 15-16 Y/ 16-17 Y/ 17-18 Y/18-19 Y/ 19-20 Y/20-21 Y/21-22

AT A GLANCE:

	Y/ 13-14	Y/ 14-15	Y/ 15-16	Y/ 16-17	Y/ 17-18	Y/18-19	Y/ 19-20	Y/20-21	Y/21-22
Report Card Average	2.53	2.35	2.71	2.66	2.71	2.79	2.78	2.64	2.85
% Passing All Classes	88%	94%	98%	97%	97%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Sig. Reading Fluency Imp.	56%	71%	79%	82%	100%	84%	96%	91%	97%

AGENTS OF HOPE

Paid high school interns program tutoring support.



One of the keys to our success is having a hardworking, dedicated staff. The front lines of this staff are our 15 committed high school students serving as Agents of Hope.

These young people are responsible for developing strong mentoring relationships with our 1-8th grade students and providing consistent educational support daily. One of the exciting things for us is when our HFO students finally become Agents. This full circle process of having been a student and now being a tutor helps us to keep the culture of HFO consistent over the years.

We are so grateful for these young people who bring life and love daily to our campus. Thank you to all of our past and present Agents of Hope.



“Working at HFO has been life changing for me. Working with children and getting to learn all the different things they go through gave me a new perspective...Knowing that I can contribute to a better environment for them and helping them is what being an HFO Tutor means to me.” - Cameron Brooks
Agent of Hope

COMMUNITY ON A MISSION.



50 Mission Team Members
2 Colleges
2 Local Schools

We love having friends come from near and far to join us in our mission. This year we hosted teams from Opelousas Catholic, Academy of Sacred Heart, Northwestern College, and Bryan College.

This year's spring teams helped us prepare the campus for our Art Show, and left their mark with a beautiful mural on our fence. Shout out Kaylee Maasdam and Avery Calsbeek for using your creativity to inspire us daily!

This is what our friends had to say about their time at HFO,



"I love watching how HFO impacts the kids I got to know this past week. As a future teacher that was amazing to watch and learn from."

-Avery Calsbeek



ADVENTURE CREW

High School Leadership Program

Never be afraid to dream big! This spring, our high schoolers embarked on an Adventure that seemed an impossible vision for many years. Over Mardi Gras break we brought 11 students and 4 adults back to Lake Tahoe. However, this trip would be completely different than the last. Instead of piling in our van and driving across the country, most of our kids got to experience their first time flying. Instead of trying to keep cool in the blazing sun, we had to bundle up. We were definitely not in South Louisiana anymore.

The Epic Promise Foundation sponsored our group to have a full ski adventure on Heavenly Mountain. Our kids went through approx. 10 hrs of Ski School, had their gear and lift tickets all covered by this amazing foundation that is actively working to expose inner city youth to mountain sports. When we weren't on the slopes we were able to go on a snowshoe adventure as well as ride horses and mountain bike in the valley.

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Since taking on such an elaborate trip earlier in the year, we decided to stay a little closer to home for the summer. We headed back to one of our favorite places that gives us the most bang for our buck, Chattanooga, TN. Southeast Tennessee offers so much. We spent 2 nights on the trail camping and exploring Foster Falls. We rafted the upper and middle sections of the Ocoee River, and spend time doing service at Hope for the Inner City, working on their grounds and in their garden. Service work has become an important part of our adventure trips. One of our students, Kamron, was even able job shadow our host at his job as a sports medicine doctor. He will be attending UL beginning in Fall 2022 to pursue a Kinesiology degree.

We are so grateful for the opportunities afforded our students by the amazing generosity of our partners and friends. You have turned visions into life changing experiences. Your Love has Changed Everyone!

WHAT AN ADVENTURE! California | Nevada | Tennessee!





SUMMER WITH HFO

We were so excited for this summer. We had a new crop of first graders and a renewed commitment from our staff and parents to press forward. We felt it was a big step in getting back to normal. We were able to get out and do more, we were able to focus on remediation and getting a base level understanding of where our students are post-COVID so that, moving forward, we could be proactive in trying to close any learning gaps that our students have.

This summer we...



COMPLETED SUMMER READING | PRACTICED MATH SKILLS | SWAM IN OUR FRIENDS' POOL | CREATED VARIOUS ART PROJECTS | RECREATION | MOVIE THEATER | TONS OF BASKETBALL | NATURE TRAILS | BIBLE STUDIES | CAUGHT SPECKLED TROUT AND REDFISH IN COCODRIE | EXERCISE & NUTRITION | BOWLING | ZOO | CHILDRENS' MUSEUM | KAYAKING & PADDLEBOARDING





SUMMER INTERNS

HFO excitedly welcomed 6 college students to intern with us this summer, bringing in even more love and resources to help our students grow. Interns were here anywhere from 3-6 weeks and definitely left an imprint on our kids' hearts. These college students came to give their lives away. Of course they helped in reading and math skills with our kids, but the most important thing they did was build relationships with our students and LOVE unconditionally.

"My time here has changed me in so many ways. These last six weeks have easily been the best of my life. I leave hopeful knowing God is still at work. HFO does the great job that they do because they allow Christ's love to work through them. Thank you to the HFO team for loving us. Thank you to Opelousas for being our home. Thank you to the kids, you've taught me more than I could have ever taught you. May God continue to bring hope to Opelousas through HFO.."

- Michael Leon



KIDS ACROSS AMERICA Summer camp!

God first, others second, I'm third! That's the lifestyle motto that KAA seeks to see planted in the hearts of students who attend. For many students attending, KAA is about new experiences like meeting kids from other states, ski tubing, archery, and speaking in front of a group. They also get to attend high energy parties with games and dancing to show off their skills. For us as leaders we get excited for our students to spend time with the college counselors. These relationships help to expand their vision of who they want to be in the future. But most importantly our students have the opportunity to step onto the path of faith and follow Christ or continue along the journey. This year two of our students received the highest award given by KAA, The I'm Third Award. Congratulations Autumn Carriere and Maiya Robertson we are so proud of you!



"My name is Lesley. This was my first year at kaa. The one thing I loved about KAA is that the staff welcomes everyone with open arms. Camp taught me a lot of life skills that I can use throughout my school year. I really enjoyed going to camp and I will be looking forward to go next summer."

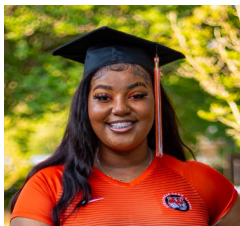
- Lesley Lewis (7th Grade)





CONGRATS GRADUATES

Hope for Opelousas Class of 2022!



Keslynn Biagase is currently working while attending S.L.C.C. pursuing her degree in Pharmacology.



Destinee Collins is currently in the St. Landry EMS Program affiliated with S.L.C.C.



Devin Edmond is currently an Assistant Manager at Mc Donalds, and planning to attend S.L.C.C. in the spring for Non Destructive Testing.



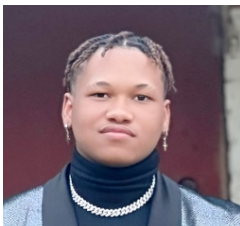
Luke Gilley is enrolled at University of Louisiana at Lafayette pursuing a degree in Kinesiology.



Kamron Levier is enrolled at University of Louisiana at Lafayette pursuing a degree in Kinesiology.



Markell Richard is enrolled in the LPN program at S.L.C.C.



Brayden Sam is currently at basic training with the National Guard.



Arianna Savoy is enrolled at S.L.C.C. pursuing her CNA, while working here at HFO.



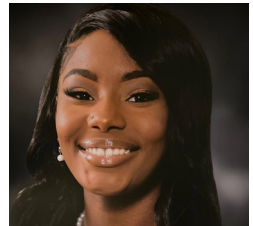
Demarques Thomas is currently working and pursuing his career in the oil and gas industry.



Dashira Davis received a scholarship to play basketball at Indian River State College in Florida and is pursuing her degree in Psychology.



Marlo Lastrapes is currently working at Amazon and considering his future plans. (Graduated as junior)



A'nyla Reddit is currently working and plans to join the military. (Graduated as junior)

HOPE for OPELOUSAS

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“Hope for Opelousas is a bridge over troubled water, a safe haven for less-fortunate kids, and a view of Hope and opportunities. Hope for Opelousas has been the House of Refuge for many of our youth in the city of Opelousas. Under the leadership of Loren Carriere and his staff, our kids have experienced life from a different perspective with the hope of a brighter future. I, along with others, believe in the system of Hope of Opelousas, and we thank God for HOPE.”

Bishop Easton Shelvin,
The Truth Is Ministries



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