As we begin a new year together, I extend my deepest gratitude for your steadfast support. Stepping into the role of CEO and President this past year, after serving as COO since 2019, I am honored to steward Foundation for Louisiana through an evolving landscape of opportunity and challenge. Together, we have navigated the year’s complexities, transforming obstacles into stepping stones for progress and innovation while increasing our grantmaking by 25%.

Foundation for Louisiana is the one place you can go to support freedom work statewide. We tackle the issues deeply impacting our communities: racial justice, criminal justice reform, gender equity, climate justice, and more. We work with grassroots organizations to create programs and grant opportunities that allow them to respond to their community’s greatest challenges with the care that all Louisianans deserve. We’re thrilled to announce that this past year has been a game-changer, driving growth and broadening our impact in pivotal areas.

DEAR FRIEND,

• **Resource Distribution:** FFL is actively redistributing resources to communities that historically have not received funding from traditional philanthropy. This is a significant step towards leveling the playing field and closing the racial and gender gaps in organizational leadership and community impact.

• **Promoting Intersectionality:** The majority of our funding goes to organizations led by women of the global majority.* Prioritizing funding to this target group allows FFL to actively demonstrate an intersectional approach to racial justice.

• **Amplifying Impact:** Many of our grantee partners are expanding their state-wide presence, increasing access to resources, opportunities, and services to diverse communities across the state.

• **Shared Power:** Our grantee partners are creating and implementing co-leadership and collective leadership models in their organizations. Traditional hierarchical models often mirror societal structures that perpetuate racial inequities. Co-leadership and collective leadership models disperse power, creating structures that allow for more equitable representation.

As we look toward the new year, the fight for a livable and resilient climate—and for the preservation of our culture and our home—is more critical than ever. The generosity of people like you drives results as we support community leaders tackling Louisiana’s most pressing issues. Together, we are building power in our communities and creating a brighter, more equitable future for all Louisianans, and we thank you for your continued support.

*A NOTE ON LANGUAGE:
Foundation for Louisiana uses the term People of the Global Majority (PoGM) rather than Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) as a method of centering the people who represent 85% of the global population in our work.

With gratitude,

Charmel Gaulden
CEO & President
Foundation for Louisiana

*CHARMEL GAULDEN, PRESIDENT & CEO*
2022-2023 KEY LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION: GRANTMAKING IMPACT

Foundation for Louisiana is unique in our ability to move funding in amounts big and small, nimbly responding to community needs.

56 TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS

$500 – $200,000 AWARD RANGE

$2,166,531 TOTAL AWARDED

MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

Nbcnews.com, December 27, 2022
“Land loss, forced migration threaten BIPOC communities in coastal Louisiana”

CEO & President Charmel Gaulden and Racial Justice Program Officer Wankeeta Jackson joined NBC News in a special feature on the impacts of climate change on Louisiana BIPOC communities. The feature discussed how Black and Brown coastal communities have been disproportionately impacted from Hurricanes Katrina and Ida, toxic pollution, land loss, and environmental racism. Gaulden and Jackson highlighted the importance of historical context, community healing, and equitable resourcing in the fight to protect our land and homes.

PANEL SPOTLIGHT

Association of Fundraising Professionals ICON 2023

In April, President & CEO Charmel Gaulden joined other local Black philanthropic leaders at the AFP ICON Conference in a panel titled “Philanthropic Justice: Loving Humanity in Its Fullness.” The panel was a rich discussion of philanthropy’s history and role in the ongoing movement for racial justice in the Deep South. Through the conversation, panelists discussed the possibilities present in philanthropy—justice, love work, and community building—and how acts of resistance can foster change and influence policy.

Thanks to the organizations who invited FFL’s voice to be included on panels and convenings in the past year, including LA Climate Justice Donors, Health and Environmental Funders Network, Philanthropy Southeast, Funders’ Committee for Civic Participation, Arabella Advisors, Emerging Practitioners in Philanthropy, and the Victoria Foundation.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to Wankeeta Jackson, Racial Justice Program Officer, for successfully completing Philanthropy Southeast’s Hull Fellows Leadership Program dedicated to enriching and developing emerging philanthropic leaders in the Southeast.
FILLING THE GAP IN DISASTER RECOVERY

Foundation for Louisiana’s most impactful disaster justice work is filling the gap in mid- to long-term recovery. Two years have passed since Hurricane Ida made landfall on August 26, 2021, yet blue tarps remain a common sight across communities from Port Fourchon to Baton Rouge.

Hurricane Ida looms large in our conversations with Louisiana fishers, shrimpers, and oysterers, with leaders from our coastal tribal communities and nonprofit and community organizations. These groups face the double burden of responding to climate change-intensified disasters like Hurricane Ida while also being directly impacted by those disasters.

FFL’s disaster grantmaking strategy—built on 16 years of experience and intentional learning—is designed to be flexible, responsive, and readily adaptable to changing conditions in impacted communities and within disaster response efforts. It unfolds along three phases (see right).

Unlike most disaster response frameworks, our phases are not bound by specific timelines but are designed to work dynamically based on our capacity and the capacity of our many partners to move work. The phases are outcome-oriented and allow us to simultaneously prioritize delivery of essential resources such as food, water, clothing, and shelter while also launching organizing, communications, and advocacy efforts.

This layered approach allows us to prioritize the needs of people and communities who are navigating crisis conditions while also supporting the needs of people and communities who, while not in crisis, are at extreme risk for discrimination and ongoing disproportionate impacts from disaster events.

GRANTS BY IMPACT AREA

The majority of FFL funding in the 2022-2023 fiscal year went toward disaster justice, in response to continued Hurricane Ida recovery efforts.

PROMOTING INTERSECTIONALITY: LEADERSHIP AND GRANT AWARDS

The majority of FFL’s grantees are led by women of the global majority. Organizations led by women of the global majority received the highest average grant amounts.
AMPLIFYING IMPACT: GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE OF PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The past year brought an expansion of partner organizations with multi-parish and statewide reach.

GRANTEES SPOTLIGHT

We are honored to support the following organizations that are building power and driving social change across Louisiana.

- Alliance for Affordable Energy
- Another Gulf is Possible
- Asset Funders Network Louisiana
- Assisi House
- Birthmark Doula Collective
- Black Oysterman Association
- Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless
- Center for Planning Excellence
- Coalition to Restore Coastal LA
- Coastal Community Consulting
- Concerned Citizens of St. John
- Convergence Partnership
- Courtwatch NOLA
- Dancing Grounds
- Disability Rights LA
- First '72+
- For Providers by Providers
- Free ALAS
- Friends and Families of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children
- Fund 17
- Go Fish Coalition
- Grand Caillou-Dulac Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw
- Healthy Gulf
- House of Tulip
- HousingNOLA
- Inclusive Louisiana
- Innocence Project New Orleans
- Justice and Accountability Center
- LIFT Louisiana
- Louisiana Bucket Brigade
- Louisiana Budget Project
- Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom
- Louisiana Stop Solitary
- Louisiana Trans Advocates
- New Orleans Youth Alliance
- Operation Restoration
- Orleans Public Defenders of Louisiana
- Pointe au Chien Tribe
- Project Hustle
- Initiative
- Propeller
- Rethink
- Rise St. James
- Rooted Schools
- Saul's Light
- South Louisiana Wetlands Discovery Center
- St. Charles Center for Faith and Action
- Step Up Louisiana
- The Promise of Justice Initiative
- United Houma Nation
- Vera Institute of Justice
STAFF & BOARD

STAFF

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Jamie Schmill
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Mita Shrestha
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Director of Pooled Funds

Natalie Rupp
(she/her)
Economic Justice Program Officer

Jamie Schmill
(she/her)
Vice President of Programs

Mita Shrestha
(she/her)
Senior Staff Accountant

WE WELCOMED THE FOLLOWING TEAM MEMBERS IN FY23:

Cherrie Barthelemy
(she/her)
Senior Staff Accountant

Jennifer Harding
(she/her)
Racial Justice Program Officer

Marie Isabelle Pautz
(she/her)
Fiscal Sponsorship Program Manager

Angelique Phipps
(she/her)
Communications Officer

Patrick Young
(he/him)
Criminal Legal Reform Program Officer

BOARD

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Michelle Ramos, JD, PhD

Halima Leak Francis
DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH FFL

JOIN US IN CREATING A STRONGER LOUISIANA

The generosity of people like you is what continues to drive results as we support community leaders tackling Louisiana’s most pressing issues. Together, we can build power in our communities and create a brighter and more equitable future for all Louisianans. Please consider deepening your commitment to sustaining freedom work across our state.

Become a Sustaining Donor

Visit foundationforlouisiana.org/donate to donate, or sign up as a Foundation for Louisiana member with a recurring monthly gift.

Start a Donor-Advised Fund

A Foundation for Louisiana Donor-Advised Fund allows donors to easily create a low cost, flexible vehicle for charitable giving as an alternative to direct giving or creating a private foundation. Email donorservices@foundationforlouisiana.org for more information.

Leave a Legacy through Planned Giving

Estate and gift planning through Foundation for Louisiana is an excellent way to establish your charitable legacy, make a lasting impact, and combat ingrained social injustice for generations to come. Email donorservices@foundationforlouisiana.org for more information.

Leave a Legacy through Planned Giving

Start a Donor-Advised Fund