

# Total Impact Report 2020-2025

# From the Desk of Chairman Clay Young:

On behalf of the Louisiana Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Foundation (LECJF) Board of Directors, Member Agencies, and Partner Organizations, I am thrilled to share with you our total impact report, highlighting the dollars invested in improving public safety in the Baton Rouge community throughout our nearly five years in service.

Listening to law enforcement professionals is our top priority. In 2020, as public safety and distrust in law enforcement became an imminent concern in Louisiana's state capital, the LECJF was launched by a group of concerned community leaders after listening to local agencies about the areas where law enforcement needed the most support. New and innovative law enforcement tools, such as equipment, technology, and software, were among top priorities. But local law enforcement were also determined to improve community relations and address violent crime at its root.

The first signature initiative of the LECJF was a technology and software initiative that supported the work of officers and deputies. Named after two area youth whose lives were ended by senseless gun violence, the Page/Rice Camera Initiative was launched, later being rebranded as the Page/Rice Public Safety Initiative to include support for other tools needed by law enforcement to perform their duties safely and responsibly. The second initiative, the Inspiration Center at Howell Park, was launched to improve trust between the community and law enforcement in a disinvested community. The Inspiration Center is modeled after other similar facilities throughout the country that have renewed trust in their communities, lowered crime rates, and provided needed services to youth and families.

Not five years in, the LECJF has invested \$527,567.99 in technology, software, and equipment upgrades or additions through the Page/Rice Public Safety Initiative. \$8,655,000 has been raised to construct the Inspiration Center which, at the time of this writing, is nearly half-way to completion. 25 law enforcement agencies and businesses have joined as member agencies or partner organizations. Numerous other community organizations or initiatives supporting atrisk youth or public safety have been the beneficiary of small grants awarded by the LECJF.

As of December 2024, the LECJF expanded to a statewide organization to duplicate its impact in East Baton Rouge Parish in other municipalities. Caddo Parish is our first expansion area where we've launched the Anglin/Myers Public Safety Initiative to honor two other young lives cut short by gun violence. The transition to statewide does not mean our work is done in East Baton Rouge. Rather, our work and impact is just beginning in other parts of the state that need support.

When I look back, I marvel most at our Board of Directors, a group of respected business leaders, who have held the LECJF accountable to our mission and stewardship of dollars raised. For more than three years, our progress was made possible entirely by this group of volunteers who were, and are, driven by action, accountability, and results.

Together, we will continue to do whatever is necessary to improve public safety.

Sincerely,

Clay Young, Chairman
LA Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Foundation

# By the Numbers

Total Investment in Baton Rouge Public Safety
Last updated: 2/23/25

\$414,724.71

Dollars invested in crime cameras

130

Number of new crime cameras supported by Page/Rice

\$59,250.00

Dollars invested license plate readers

5

Number of license plate readers supported by Page/Rice

\$33,920.00

Dollars invested in Al gun detection software

25

Number of cameras on which ZeroEyes is installed

\$19,673.28

Dollars invested in safety and technology equipment

\$8,655,000

Dollars raised to construct the Inspiration Center at Howell Park

\$109,320.58

Dollars invested in community organizations or initiatives

\$37,104.04

Dollars invested in the Baton Rouge Police Athletic League

\$74,999.00

Dollars invested in public safety research





The legacies of Devin Page, Jr., Allie Rice, Landry Anglin, Devin Myers, and others who have lost their lives to senseless violent crime live on through two prominent public safety initiatives of the Louisiana Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Foundation (LECJF). As Louisiana's premier law enforcement technology and software initiative, the LECJF partners with local law enforcement, businesses, and the public at large to assist in efforts that expedite identifying and locating criminal suspects or missing people, deter criminal activity, prove innocence or guilt, and restore public trust in community safety.

The Page/Rice Public Safety Initiative benefits tech and software safety efforts in East Baton Rouge Parish, while the newly formed (2025) Anglin/Myers Public Safety Initiative benefits those in Caddo Parish. The LECJF hopes to continue branding new initiatives to support local law enforcement in other Louisiana communities.

Donors supporting tech and software through the LECJF may choose which parish they wish to support. All dollars in support of each initiative will remain in the respective parish the donor chooses to support.

#### Crime Cameras

National research studies continue to suggest that the safest communities have ample camera coverage that link directly to real-time local crime centers. Efforts by the LECJF have significantly increased the total number of active cameras monitored by Baton Rouge Police and the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office.

Since inception, the LECJF has raised and committed \$414,724.71 to purchase and install 130 crime cameras in East Baton Rouge Parish. Following the guidance of local law enforcement and crime trends, the Page/Rice Public Safety Initiative has placed cameras at strategic locations including upgrading and outfitting Downtown Baton Rouge, Tigerland, and other high-priority areas for law enforcement. With its transition to a statewide organization, the LECJF intends to collaborate with local agencies in Caddo Parish, and others who wish to join the effort, to mirror the impact made in the capital city.

# **License Plate Readers (LPRs)**

Law enforcement officials guide the LECJF's strategic priorities. While crime camera locations will remain a standing pillar of support, Baton Rouge law enforcement agencies have highlighted a major need along the East Baton Rouge Parish interstate system – high-speed LPRs.

The LECJF has invested \$59,250 to outfit the Mall of Louisiana (Baton Rouge) with LPRs, giving area law enforcement the ability to monitor subjects of interest who enter and exit the premises. However, the City/Parish is sorely deficient in the number of high-speed LPRs, having no active or functional devices along I-10/12. High-speed LPRs are especially vital in locating vehicles of interest related to gang activity, sex trafficking, drug distribution, or other criminal activities and identifying those responsible.

The LECJF is the recipient of grant funds awarded by the federal program Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN). Thanks to a strong partnership with Baton Rouge Police, the PSN funds will remain in East Baton Rouge Parish and will purchase and install high-speed LPRs along the interstate system that all law enforcement agencies supporting East Baton Rouge Parish will be able to access.

PSN dollars available for use by the LECJF are just shy of \$400,000. The cost of high-speed LPRs starts at \$60,000 per camera.

#### **ZeroEyes Software**

**ZeroEyes**, an innovative and cutting-edge AI gun detection software, was introduced to the Baton Rouge community by the LECJF in January 2024. The 3-year partnership is the culmination of many conversations with law enforcement partners to stay on the forefront of innovation in public safety. The software increases safety measures for officers and deputies reporting to active shooter situations, increasing what they know prior to arriving on scene.

The LECJF has invested \$33,920 in ZeroEyes' Al software, integrated onto 25 existing digital security cameras located in strategic areas throughout the city. If a gun is identified, images are instantly shared with the ZeroEyes Operations Center (ZOC), staffed 24/7/365 by specially trained U.S. military and law enforcement intelligence – including visual description, gun type, and last known location – to local law enforcement and staff as quickly as 3 to 5 seconds from detection. The company was founded by Navy SEALs, Special Operations military veterans, and elite technologists following the mass shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School (Parkland, FL) in 2018.

The LECJF hopes to eventually bring ZeroEyes into schools and shopping centers where the software can be most valuable and vital to public safety.

# **Inspiration Center at Howell Park**

Construction officially broke ground on the Inspiration Center at Howell Park on Monday, September 9, 2024, and is expected to be completed by November 2025.

The center will be a multi-use facility dedicated to the North Baton Rouge community. It is owned by the LECJF and will be operated by the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Louisiana. Other partners on the project are the State of Louisiana, East Baton Rouge Parish, and the Recreation and Park Commission for East Baton Rouge Parish (BREC), and the Baton Rouge Area Foundation (BRAF).

Technology, education, athletics, and mentorship will be used to engage young people and their families. The center will also focus on providing youth and family services to households in an inner-city area of Baton Rouge.

#### Goals

- Use sports, entertainment, mentorship, and education to motivate more positive outcomes
- Provide a hub for wrap-around family services
- Compile data that will help partnering agencies better serve residents
- · Create a better relationship between disinvested communities and law enforcement
- Instill community pride by hosting community-facing events

# Mirroring successful models in other cities

#### Community OutPost, St. Cloud MN

 The St. Cloud Police Department's Community OutPost team collaborates with residents, community groups, businesses, and St. Cloud State University to assess community needs, build and maintain relationships, and improve access to needed health, wellness, and other services.

#### @Promise Center, Atlanta, GA

• At-Promise is a youth crime diversion program serving youth across the city of Atlanta. Each youth who attends the program receives a therapeutic assessment to determine their individualized plan of services to include GED/education assistance, workforce prep, and/or recreation activities.

Impact of the Community OutPost and @Promise Center:

- Reduced calls for service
- Lowered recidivism rates
- Better access to the service area for youth, family, education, and employment service providers
- More data on the impact of various programs on the service area
- · Improved police/community relations

## **Amenities in the Inspiration Center at Howell Park**

- Basketball gymnasium
- Game rooms
- Video game arena
- · Recording Studio Bays
- Academic success (incl. reading rooms and computer labs)
- Health & wellness
- Meeting spaces
- Space for service providers (state and local)
- Cafeteria
- Law enforcement officer room (LEO Room)

## **Project Partners**

The Inspiration Center will be built, in part, by funds committed by the State of Louisiana, the City of Baton Rouge, and new market tax credit investors. The LECJF is currently fundraising to fully outfit the building, a \$1.2M capital campaign. Partners who are steering this project:

- Williams Architecture, co-lead architect
- Coleman Partners Architects, co-lead architect
- Deumite Construction, lead contractor
- Thirty Three Strategies, operational support
- Ferrari Development, co-Owner's Rep
- Kimble Properties, co-Owner's Rep

# **Inspiration Center Commitments**

- \$5M allocation by the State of Louisiana (Capital Outlay)
- \$2.1M commitment through the federal New Markets Tax Credits program
- \$1M allocation by the City/Parish (CDBG and ARPA)
- \$300k commitment from Baton Rouge Police (via the American Rescue Plan Act)
- \$100k gift from ExxonMobil
- \$100k gift from Cox Communications
- \$30k gift from East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office
- \$25k gift from DentaQuest

Estimated remaining project delta: \$850,000

# **Front Rendering**



# **Gym Rendering**



# Progress as of 2.19.25



# **Floor Plan**



