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A note from Chuck Morse

The core of our work is simple: we care. Those that come through our doors are more than just program participants; the rich histories and aspirations of each individual that we serve weave themselves into the fabric of Thrive's approaches.

Caring is the undeviating foundation from which the rest of our work defines itself. Much of my 2021 was spent standing in the gap for others. In those gaps, we find new perspectives that inspire adaptation. This fall, we created a new pillar, ThriveCares, to optimize our response to vital needs and crisis.

While our environment changes, Thrive focuses on being a loyal friend and provider for New Orleans residents: ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to grow with our developing city.
We envision a world where nothing is missing and nothing is broken, where all things have been renewed, and where people and communities are thriving.

We actualize this vision through our four pillar programs:

Much of our impact happens at the intersection of these programs
Deep Work in Desire

With a continued focus on indigenous leadership and mentorship, programming at Thrive 9th has expanded to ignite even more passions in young individuals.

100+ teenagers served as indigenous leaders

400 young athletes (ages 5-14) from 5 parishes in Louisiana played in ThriveLeague Basketball.

All of our expert coaches have roots in the neighborhood.

Supporting Young Artists

Thrive 9th Ward expanded our programming to provide space and resources to young artists. Together with partners at Young Artist Movement, the emerging artists are working to complete a mural that illustrates images of the Desire and Florida neighborhoods of the 9th ward.
Winter Camp
The T9 Team realized that the mission of the summer camp - to provide accessible, nurturing care for youth of the 9th ward, which relieves working parents of stress and prepares the next generation of leaders - can extend past summer, past after-school programming, and into the school break from Christmas!

100+ caregivers and children served

Coming Up; Youth Coding Cohort
Starting in 2022, this upcoming youth coding cohort will teach many career-driven high-schoolers how to code apps, video games, websites, and more. This is an indisputibly important skill in the modern economy and will open doors to new careers for our 9th Ward youth.
A Booming Green Infrastructure Industry, Led by our Thriving Alumni

As the New Orleans City Council requires much of new construction to use permeable pavement and our federal funds flow towards sustainable re-building, our Thrive Launch Business Green Graduates are ready to put their specialized training to use.

Our Green Alumni Won Big at Propeller's 2021 PitchNOLA

Reedy Brooks, Glory Gardens (left)
Winner of Top Startup Award
Winner of Startup Audience Favorite Award
Alumni of ThriveLaunch Green Business Academy

Nicole and Greg Nixon, Ubuntu Construction
Winners of Top Growth Award
Winners of Growth Audience Favorite Award
Alumni of ThriveLaunch Green Business Academy

More Green Alumni sat alongside us on Loyola's Water Panel
Representing Thrive, Willie called Arien and Luisa "Living Proof" of our Green Business Academy's Effectiveness

Green Alumni, Arien and Luisa, have become city leaders in stormwater management through their business, Mastadonte.
Preparing a Green Workforce
to support themselves and the
growing green industry

In 2021, we were able to fortify a **comprehensive and equitable approach to green development**. As the climate resilience industry takes off across the Gulf South, we can confidently say we've prepared strong on-ramps - specifically, for People of Color and those who face barriers to financial freedom - that lead to success in this field.

The success of our 2021 Thrive Works Green Pilot Cohort earned us momentum and trust. Thrive is now the go-to for equitable green workforce development.

42,000 Gallons of stormwater capacity on our Thrive Works Green Pilot Cohort's apprenticeship sites
(Jerusalem Baptist Church and Stronger Hope Baptist Church)
This year, Thrive Works Green leaders intentionally focused their efforts on the previously incarcerated community.

A history of incarceration can be a huge barrier to meaningful employment. Without a steady source of income and a network of support, it is difficult for anyone to reimagine their lives and careers after leaving prison. Specifically in Louisiana, where the incarceration rate (especially of Black men) is astronomical, Thrive Works Green is transforming lives.

“Prison did not define me. I defined what prison could be for me.”

Devon Jones
ThriveWorks Green Graduate & Commencement Speaker

NDR Cohort 1
Proud to be your National Disaster Resilience Operator

Thrive was chosen by the City of New Orleans to be NOLA's National Disaster Resilience Operator.

This means that have taken on the responsibility of educating and equipping the next generation of problem solvers and climate action leaders. Our first NDR ThriveWorks Green Cohort started class at the end of 2021 and recently graduated. Many are moving to Phase 2 of the program to solidify their skills.

Growing our Green Teams:

Bernadette Carriere
Thrive Green Business Director

Willie Autman
Green Infrastructure Manager

Hakim Kashif
Life Skills Instructor

Bernell Campbell
Landscape Architect Intern

Stay Tuned: Thrive's Green Apprentices are building a New Green Infrastructure Educational Center
Helping Businesses Thrive Through Thick and Thin

Our program graduates are part of the Thrive family. By virtue of ongoing relationships with alumni, Kayti and the ThriveLaunch Business program leaders knew how public health crises and natural disasters derailed new business growth. ThriveLaunch Business, with Propeller, guided entrepreneurs through complex applications for disaster loans after Hurricane Ida.

Yet, some businesses in the early phases of starting up couldn't qualify for loans. To help our graduates "get to next" during such difficult times, we had to get money directly into their pockets. With support from a generous donor, we created our ThriveLaunch Business Micro-Fund, which uplifted and encouraged new, predominantly Black-owned, businesses and their leaders.

Micro-Fund Grantees:

Disaster Loan Application Guidance Webinars:

Bridging the gap
Storms are a known threat in the Gulf South. Along with many of our partners, we make year-round efforts to prepare the city to survive heavy rain and harsh wind. Nonetheless, when these storms do hit, even if the city quickly drains and the skies clear, no individual or family goes unaffected. Every household felt Ida's devastation, whether that meant a sudden loss of resources, facing displacement, or another form of struggle. **We believe it's not enough to prepare the city for these disasters; resilience means we need to be here for our neighbors in crisis.**

**This is a question we asked friends, neighbors, and strangers as they arrived at our resource hub during the long Hurricane Ida recovery process.**

750+ Households Re-Stocked during our Hurricane Ida Giveaways
After seeing the vast need for resources during Hurricane Ida, the Thrive Team made a decision. This fall, we started our newest pillar program, Thrive Cares. Thrive Cares exists as a safety net for people in crisis, caregivers who need back-up, and altruistic organizations in-need-of supply donations.

Introducing our newest pillar program:

This fall and winter, we brought warmth to our neighbors... by giving kids the toys on their Christmas wishlists, caring for neighbors effected by the Little Woods fire, gifting youth with new winter coats, donating women's supplies to the New Orleans Mission, bringing Thanksgiving dinners to seniors.
OUR PARTNERS ARE ESSENTIAL TO OUR WORK:


Wisner, SSDN, Hope Credit Union, Chase, Regions, Iberia Bank, Capital One, MHSF, Home Bank, CDCA, StartSpark, APTIM, Green Light New Orleans, RICC, Bart's Office Inc., Young Artist Movement, St. Roch Community Church, Partners Worldwide, Fund17, Delgado Community College, The Water Collaborative, RCI Landscaping, Job1, and many more!
How Can We Help You Thrive?

Check out all of our programming at www.ThriveNola.org