

FUTURE OF NURSING™
Campaign for Action
IN LOUISIANA



Resilient Louisiana Commission

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The Resilient Louisiana Commission (RLC) is charged with making recommendations for more resilient business-related activities and commerce in the wake of COVID-19. The Commission will capture best practices from around the country and across industries to help reboot and reshape Louisiana's economy so that it is able to emerge stronger than before.

The Commission will develop a comprehensive game plan, outlining how business-related activities can be safely reinstated and reformed where necessary for short-and longer-term success in an uncertain future.

Co-chairs

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Terrie Sterling

Healthcare consultant

Ex-Officio members

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Jim Richardson

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C100 for Louisiana

The RLC Task Forces

Focused on 15 Critical Sectors



Seven Areas For A Successful Economic Reopening and Recovery

- ❖ Clinical Infrastructure
- ❖ Education and Childcare
- ❖ **Employee Guidelines**
- ❖ **Employer Guidelines**
- ❖ Local and Small Business
- ❖ **Public Health Oversight and Regulations**



Public Health Oversight and Regulations

Increase the **capacity of testing** systems

Implement the statewide, **streamlined contact tracing** infrastructure

Continue the **prevalence studies** to accurately track infection rates over time

Prioritize mental and behavioral health

Enact **safety protocols** and guidelines and continue to prioritize PPE, social distancing and other safety measures

Continue to **maintain a data management**, reporting and dynamic modeling team to help track and monitor daily progress towards key public health metrics



Employee Guidelines

Protective equipment: PPE and masks requirement

Health screenings and isolation for those showing COVID symptoms

Processes and guidelines for employees who are sick and guidelines for return to work following and illness

Restrict all non-essential travel

Limit physical interaction with clients and customers as much as possible



Employer Guidelines

Protective equipment: PPE and hygiene supplies

Provide remote work accommodations, when appropriate

Protocols for sick leave and for employees who test positive for COVID19

Modify employee schedules if needed

Consider **policies for customers** i.e., returns, fitting rooms, etc.

Key Healthcare Recommendations

LOUISIANA:

- ✓ 2nd Highest Poverty Rate
- ✓ 3rd Highest Child Poverty Rate
- ✓ 4th Lowest Median Household Income
- ✓ 2nd Highest Income Inequality

To secure Louisiana's future in the face of such health and economic challenges, Louisiana needs a new growth model—one that builds on our assets, leaves the generations to come with a strong foundation for the future, and brings us closer to the ideal of prosperity for all.

Equity is that new growth model. Achieving equity requires erasing racial and geographic disparities in opportunities and outcomes. Equity is not only a matter of social justice or morality: It is an economic necessity.



- **Broadband internet access** has become a necessity. Investments must be a high priority for Louisiana to assert its competitiveness in such areas as digital education, tele-health, e-commerce and e-governance.
- Allow **nurse practitioners**, clinical nurse specialists, and certified nurse midwives to **practice to the full extent of their licensure** and education by removing practice barriers. This will expand access to care in health professional shortage areas (rural, tribal) in Louisiana and improve Medicaid recipients' access to care.
- Create plans to **address the health professional shortage** by implementing policies like increasing funding for nursing schools, CNA programs, developing career pathways for healthcare professionals to upskill (e.g., LPN to RN), increasing academic partnerships with healthcare institutions and streamlining and standardizing certified nursing assistant training.



- Focus on ensuring the state's **Medicaid program** provides an **appropriate safety net** for people to get health insurance and healthcare, given the impact of COVID-19 in areas or on populations that are disadvantaged economically and Louisiana's high poverty rate.
- Maintain the principles of the **Rural Hospital Stabilization Act**: stabilize payments, expand telemedicine access, transportation services, broadband services, and grant funding for Louisiana's rural hospital system.
- Make **prolonged investments** in **public health programs** and community development that go beyond clinical boundaries and have proven results.



- **Investments in public health infrastructure** programs that have proven results and ensure they have the resources needed to respond to future health emergencies.
- Incentivize **investments** that can expand the state's ability to offer **physical and mental health services** and improve healthcare access.
- Develop **public-private partnerships** that focus on **chronic diseases initiatives** supporting disease specific collaboratives that establish standards of care, accountability measures and track outcomes.



- **Invest in healthy community design** projects and policies that improve resident access to transit, active transportation infrastructure such as sidewalks and bike lanes, grocery stores and healthy foods, quality public spaces, safe affordable housing, parks, and clean air and water.
- **Work with community partners** – such as local health departments, Councils on Aging, and Housing Authorities – to connect residents with essential services such as healthcare providers, grocery delivery and temporary housing.
- **Invest in training, reskilling, upskilling** and retainment of a workforce allows for increased economic growth while also increasing earnings and opportunities for employees.



Thank You for Attending

Questions

Contact: terrie@terriesterling.com or
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For more Information and Reports from the Resilient Louisiana
Commission: <https://www.opportunitylouisiana.com/resilientlouisiana>

