



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

THE BRIDGE ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA RESOURCE CENTER

851 OLIVE STREET, SHREVEPORT, LA 71104

318-656-4800 | WWW.ALZBRIDGE.ORG

OUR MISSION:

The Bridge Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center provides resources, education, and support services for those in our community diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, as well as to their family members, and caregivers, and promotes awareness in the community.

OUR VISION:

"Creating a community where no one affected by Alzheimer's or dementia makes the journey alone."

THE NEED:

The community needs we address are the lack of resources, education, and support services for those impacted by Alzheimer's and dementia, their family members, caregivers, health professionals, and first responders in NWLA.

There are an estimated 85,000 people impacted by dementia within a 75-mile radius of LSUHS School of Medicine (Source: LSUHS Center for Brain Health).

Additionally, the prevalence of Alzheimer's Disease in Louisiana is 12.4%, compared to the U.S. average of 10.9%. Extremely alarming is that 7 of the 9 parishes in NWLA served by The Bridge have prevalence rates above the state average.

No other local organizations in NWLA provide in-person support, education, resources, and outreach / awareness for persons affected by Alzheimer's and dementia, their caregivers, and the professionals who work with them. The closest resource center in Louisiana similar to The Bridge is in Baton Rouge.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



"MOMENTUM"

— that is the word I would use to describe 2023 at The Bridge Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center. Merriam-Webster defines momentum as "strength or force gained by motion or a series of events." Coming out of 2022, we had that force behind us, and it didn't seem to stop. We ended 2022 with the purchase of the property at 851 Olive Street, in Shreveport, Louisiana, the building we had been leasing since December of 2020, and the empty adjoining lot. Deep appreciation is owed to First Presbyterian Church, Shreveport, for their major gift towards the purchase of the property as well as to the many individuals who donated. The acquisition of the building provides a gift of hope for

those in our community affected by Alzheimer's and dementia. It is a gift of transformation in the lives of thousands of caregivers and a gift that will make a lasting and significant difference to our community and beyond. Most importantly, it will help ensure that The Bridge Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center continues its work well into the future.

What were the series of events that helped us gain such momentum? It was our support services, and educational and community awareness activities that occurred throughout the year, month after month, day after day.

The following pages share many

of our achievements, none of which would have been possible without the financial support of our donors. Meanwhile we look forward to more growth and development as we move into 2025.

- With gratitude

Paulette Freeman

"What were the series of events that helped us gain such momentum? It was our support services, and educational and community awareness activities that occurred throughout the year, month after month, day after day."

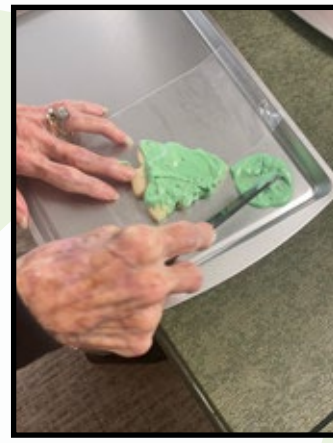
-Paulette Freeman



Art plays an important part for clients at The Bridge. Here we used clay to mold birds and then we painted them after a presentation by the Walter B. Jacob Park.



A special Valentine's Day Luncheon was served to our clients. Pictured are lifelong sweethearts, Dave & Mary Ellen. Sadly, Dave passed away a year later on Feb. 13, 2024.



The holidays were celebrated by a carol sing-a-long and decorating cookies.

2023 ACHIEVEMENTS

Exceeded goal of serving 6,500 people by serving 8,643 people

Provided 140 support group meetings with an attendance of 538 people

148 client management meetings for 178 people

420 new assessments including 257 follow-ups

89 educational presentations for 1,901 people

164 outreach/awareness presentations for 5,288 people

700 resource directories distributed

108 memory screenings

Utilized 800+ volunteer hours

Hired a part time counseling intern through a collaboration with LSUS Psychology Dept.

Served 7 parishes in Northwest Louisiana

Expanded to reach new age group (ages 6-12) with our first Grandchildren's workshop

Published latest edition of resource directory, print and digital

Hosted 3rd Annual Education Conference on Alzheimer's and Dementia with a record attendance and providing healthcare CEU's.

Added 3 board members

★ Purchased 851 Olive Street property in the Highland neighborhood with generous financial community support ★



The Bridge is a member of the community's Crisis Intervention Committee. Laura Gauthier, program director, was asked to speak on behalf of The Bridge at one of the community meetings.



Monthly educational workshops were held every first Wednesday of the month. Pictured is speaker, Dr. Mandy Crow, who spoke on Alzheimer's Prevention.



"Our dream came true," said Robert Smith, board president, after signing the closing papers to purchase the property at 851 Olive St., Shreveport.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR OUTGOING BOARD PRESIDENT



Robert Smith has served as President of The Board of Directors from 2015 until March 2024. We thank Robert for his time and efforts in building The Bridge to what it is today.

In reflection, the time that I have served as president of the board of directors of The Bridge has been one of the greatest honors and joys of my life. Although I was not a part of the organization when it was formed, I have been working with many extraordinary, dedicated board members for nine years in establishing the stability and extraordinary growth of our program.

In those early years, the organization was known as the Alzheimer's Agency of Shreveport/Bossier. We assisted our community in dealing with the life-changing effects of living with dementia mainly through the publication of a local resource directory and lunch and learn events held sporadically throughout the years.

We always knew that there was a need for expanded dementia resource services in Northwest Louisiana and that need would be magnified due to the aging population sooner rather than later. When we found financial support from stakeholders in our community who understood, as we did, the great lack of local services available, we were able to plan and execute our proposal for what is today known as The Bridge Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center.

By bringing key people into the organization, we were able to chart our course and make the dream of a physical home for a center devoted to providing multiple services to the citizens of our community a reality. Some individuals who deserve recognition for their talents and commitment are Stacey Hand, Simone Hennessee, Shelley Miller, Paulette Freeman and Laura Gauthier. There are countless others who have given graciously of their time and resources and I am grateful to them all.

Today, from our home at 851 Olive Street, we serve thousands of our neighbors whose lives have been changed by a diagnosis of any of the many dementias of which we are currently aware. As for the future, we intend to expand our programs in scope and geography to eventually be a local source for all of Northwest Louisiana's communities as long as we are needed.

Thank you to all of the individuals and organizations who have helped us bring our programs to our friends and neighbors over the years. You are very much appreciated and we hope that you will continue to support our vision: To create a community where no one affected by Alzheimer's and dementia makes the journey alone.

Gratefully,

Robert D. Smith

OUR PROGRAM: "A Comprehensive Support System for Persons Affected by Alzheimer's and Dementia, Their Caregivers, Healthcare Providers and First Responders."

WE SERVE THE 9 PARISHES IN NORTHWEST LOUISIANA BY:

Strengthening families' and caregivers' mental health

Supporting the individual living with dementia

Creating a dementia-friendly community

OUR PROGRAM PROVIDES RESOURCES, EDUCATION, SUPPORT SERVICES, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

RESOURCES

- Educational Materials
- Memory Screenings
- Local Resource Directory
- Monthly e-Newsletter
- YouTube Channel
- Lending/Video Library
- Website: www.alzbridge.org
- Helpline M-F – 8:30am – 4:30 pm

EDUCATION

- Annual Education Conference
- Monthly Educational Workshops for Caregivers
- Education & Training for Healthcare Providers, First Responders, Law Enforcement
- Alzheimer's Educational Community Forums
- Support Group Facilitator Training

SUPPORT SERVICES

- Caregiver Support Groups
- Care Navigation with Care Plans
- Professional Counseling
- Care Coaching
- Grandchildren's Workshops & Counseling
- System Navigation (Insurance, Legal, Housing Facilities)
- Music and Art Programs

OUTREACH/AWARENESS

- Speakers Bureau
- Community Awareness Events
- Health Fairs
- Collaboration with Other Non-Profits
- Facebook/Instagram



We hosted our 3rd Annual Education Conference on Alzheimer's & Dementia. Keynote speaker was Nancy Brown with the Validation Training Institute.



A group art project was made at our first Grandchildren's Workshop to help children ages 6-12 understand their family member's memory loss.



Stacey Hand, Certified Validation Teacher (CVT) gave one of the presentations at our First Wednesday Workshop series. Stacey also serves as our Dementia Educator.

Thank You, 2023 Donors

The Bridge Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center Board of Directors and staff would like to thank the following donors, foundations, churches, and corporations for their financial support throughout the year. Your gift(s) has enabled The Bridge to continue its mission and vision in Northwest Louisiana. We are honored that you chose The Bridge for your donation.

Donor Honor Roll

Foundation Giving

Community Foundation of North Louisiana
First Methodist Church, Shreveport CMP Grant
First Presbyterian Church of Shreveport-Outreach Ministry
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Grace Community United Methodist Church, Shreveport
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J and M Kennedy Enterprises-Shale Golf Tournament
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Christy & John Frierson

In Memory of Erma P. Garcin

Sandra Ginsburg

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Gayle**

Renee' Hilburn

Dr. & Mrs. Willard Washburne

In Memory of Pamela Harris

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Shelley Miller

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Toni Thompson

Dr. & Mrs. Seborn Woods

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Mary F. Nesbitt

In Memory of Dolores LaVigne

Scott H. Green & Robert D. Smith

In Memory of Elizabeth Jean Winterrowd McJunkins

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Holly & Paul Wood

BettyAnn & Mike Yoist

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Catherine Long

In Memory of Claire Porter Sharp

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Jim Freeman

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In Memory of Mary E. Shipp

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In Memory of Mary Vance Smith

Rev. Dr. Jim & Paulette Freeman

Derek Jinks

Susan & Lee Larsen

M&M Bible Study Group

Espe & Scott Moran

Dr. & Mrs. Seborn Woods

In Honor of Mary Ann Shaw

Robert Neff, Jr.

In Honor of Dr. & Mrs. Seborn Woods

Stacey & Larry Hand

In Kind Donations

First Presbyterian Church,
Shreveport

Rev. Dan Hignight

Idea Path, LLC

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The Bridge Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center's donors are comprised of friends, churches, foundation, corporations, and organizations who contributed to The Bridge from January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

Every effort is made to ensure that each donor is accurately recognized. If we have accidentally omitted your name, please let us know. We are grateful for your support, and we want to acknowledge your generosity. Please bring any errors or omissions to our attention by calling our office at 318-656-4800.

Honorariums

In Honor of Paulette Freeman

Christy Kennedy

In Honor of Dr. & Mrs. Austin Gleason

Larry & Stacey Hand

In Honor of Dan Lohman

Holly Allison

In Honor of Mr. Skip & Mrs. Debbie Sayres

Community Foundation of North Louisiana-Discretionary Grant Fund



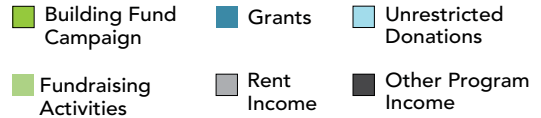
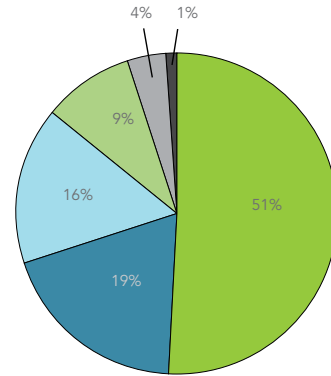
The Bridge participated in Community Foundation's Give for Good and held a community event to highlight the organization.

2023 FINANCES (AUDITED)

INCOME	AMOUNT	%
Unrestricted Donations	\$140,377	16%
Grants	\$160,920	19%
Fundraising Activities	\$80,988	9%
Rent Income	\$32,500	4%
Other Program Income	\$4,578	1%
Building Fund Campaign	\$444,550	51%
Total Income	\$863,913	
EXPENSES	AMOUNT	%
Program	\$402,547	94%
Administrative Expenses	\$ 17,649	4%
Fundraising Expenses	\$9,043	2%
Ending Balance	\$434,675	
Building Purchase	\$456,057	
Deficit	(21,372)	

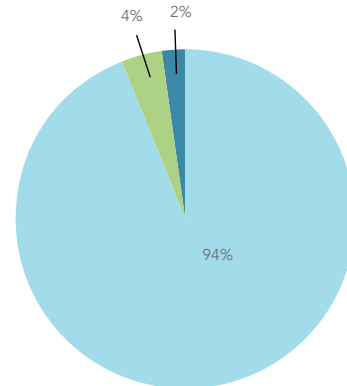
Deficit due to using operating funds towards building purchase.

INCOME



The Bridge ended 2023 with the purchase of the property at 851 Olive St., Shreveport, the building we had been leasing since 2020.

EXPENSES



OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2023)

Robert Smith, President
Vickie Rech, Vice President
Johnett Waterman, Secretary
Dr. Carl Rhoads, Treasurer
Ellen Caverlee
Rebecca Homminga
Bridget Lyman
Kyle Moore
Dr. Jeff Overdyke
Michelle Phelan
Sheldon Snow
Dr. Seborn Woods
Paulette Freeman, Ex Officio

OUR STAFF (2023)

Paulette Freeman, Executive Director
& Care Navigator

Laura Gauthier, LPC, Program
Director & Care Navigator

Christy Kennedy, Office Coordinator
& Care Navigator

Shelley Miller, Development Director

Toni Thompson, Finance Director

Alecia Henderson, Intern, Program
Coordinator & Care Navigator

Stacey Hand, MA, CVT, Dementia
Educator

Mary Strong, RSW, LPC, RPT, CAS

The Bridge Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Funds raised by The Bridge are used to provide dementia resource services in Northwest Louisiana. For more information, contact The Bridge at 318-656-4800 or visit www.alzbridge.org



OUR VOLUNTEERS (2023)

Number of Volunteers: 52

Number of Volunteer Hours: 859

Dollar Value of Volunteer Hours: \$273,316

Michael Baccera
Derek Barker
Jolie Boullion
Justin Bowers
Barbara Callaway
Steve Callaway
Genevieve Carlisle
Loretta Carlton
Sean Cassingham
Ellen Caverlee
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Linda Chavies
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Sara Kate Roblow
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Aarthi Senthil
Robert Smith
Sheldon Snow
Will Upshaw
Johnett Waterman
Josh Woo
Dr. Seborn Woods



In November, The Bridge lit the Bakowski Bridge of Lights in their colors in honor of National Alzheimer's Month.