



Educating children, strengthening families, building community

e-Newsletter

March 2007

Kingsley House, Inc.

It is with great pride and tradition that we endeavor to keep you, our loyal supporters, abreast of all Kingsley House news and events. With new program and facility expansions, daily agency operations, and increasing anticipation for the forthcoming 2007 Summer Camp, Kingsley House is definitely keeping momentum with the evolving demographics and needs of families throughout the Greater New Orleans Region. So, to our local and national friends and supporters, please let this e-newsletter serve as a window into the heart of our agency. Enjoy!

Mardi Gras 2007



Back by popular demand, Kingsley House's Preschool and Early Head Start Programs held their first Mardi Gras parade since Hurricane Katrina on February 16. Parade revelers were captivated by the miniature crews and their thematic costumes. Some of the groups included the "Kingsley House Zulu Warriors," "The Krewe of Letters," "Kingsley House Early Head Start Indians," the Edna Karr marching band and majorettes, and more.

This tradition began in 1991 as a Mardi Gras Ball for Preschoolers. Shortly after, the parade was incorporated with the ball, and area schools were invited to join in the festivities with their marching bands and dance teams.

Adult Services Participant Celebrates 101st Birthday



Ms. Maggie Simmons, a participant in Kingsley House's Adult Services program, celebrated her 101st birthday on March 15, with a special birthday celebration hosted by Adult Services.

"Mother," as she's affectionately called by family and friends, travels 60 miles a day to attend our Adult Day Health Care Center, and arrives at 7:30 each morning with a lovely smile and an eagerness to engage in the Center's daily activities.

Kingsley House is Expanding



Kingsley House's Executive Director, Dr. Keith Liederman (right), New Orleans City Councilman James Carter, District C (center), and Elizabeth L. Scheer, Health Grants Program Director for Baptist Community Ministries (left) cut the ribbon at the Grand Opening for Kingsley House Westbank on March 16.

Kingsley House recently acquired new space for the Family Resource Center in LaPlace to accommodate the program's increasing services. The new site is located at 429 Airline Highway, Suites Q-R, LaPlace. For more info, call (985) 651-7367 or email FRC@kingsleyhouse.org. For driving directions, please view the [Map to FRC](#).

The agency also added a new satellite outreach, counseling and support services office on the Westbank of New Orleans to house the expanding Health Care For All Program.

A grand opening/ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the new site, 3201 General DeGaulle Drive, Suite 206, on March 16.

Please call (504) 367-1171 for more details. For driving directions, please view the [Map to Kingsley House West](#).

To learn more about HCFA West, email kgibson@kingsleyhouse.org.

For info about the free counseling services, contact lschofield@kingsleyhouse.org.

Agency Launches New Job Readiness Program



In conjunction with Booz Allen Hamilton, Kingsley House launched a job readiness program, P.A.C.E. (*P*acing yourself, while *A*ttaining job readiness training and *C*omputer literacy, to gain *E*mployment), earlier this month.

This interactive, eight-week course is designed to help job seekers and current professionals attain skills needed to obtain and/or maintain employment. Throughout the course, Booz Allen Hamilton presenters will discuss topics such as networking, resume writing, interviewing techniques and more, while allowing participants to maximize one of the agency's most valued resources, the Magic Johnson Foundation/ HP Technology Center.

For more info, contact Darlika Downs, CBSN Employment Specialist at d downs@kingsleyhouse.org or (504) 523-6221 ext. 208.

Kingsley House Staff Testifies Before Congress

Luanne Francis, Program Manager for Health Care For All, testified before the United States Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry in Washington, DC earlier this year, advocating for low income families, and asking Congress to improve the Food Stamp and Disaster Food Stamp programs. To view the full testimony, please visit: www.frac.org/pdf/luanne_farmbill07.pdf.

Fisk Students Volunteer at Kingsley House During Spring Break

More than 50 students from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee spent their spring break volunteering at various sites in New Orleans. On March 6, they visited Kingsley House and helped with various agency needs, including clerical assistance and facility organization. Volunteers also mingled with Preschool and Adult Services participants.



This was the group's second visit to New Orleans, and students plan to return at least once a semester, said Elissa Johnson, a senior at Fisk majoring in English and sociology. "We want to continue to give to different agencies and offer them the manpower they don't have on an ongoing basis," she said.

Donate online at www.kingsleyhouse.org



About Kingsley House

Kingsley House, nationally accredited and renowned as the oldest Settlement House in the South, has served more than half a million people since it was founded in 1896. Today, we serve over 8,000 people per year in a wide variety of capacity building programs. We continue to devote all of our energies and resources to our mission of ***“educating children, strengthening families, and building community”*** as we work towards the successful recovery and rebuilding of our city, state and region.

Kingsley House is a United Way Partner Agency

Kingsley House, Inc
1600 Constance Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Phone : 504.523.6221
Fax : 504.523.4450
Web: www.kingsleyhouse.org

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