



Gardere Initiative

Serving the Gardere Community Since 2006

OUR PURPOSE

To address substance abuse and other social ills in the Gardere area that adversely affect the children, neighboring subdivisions, and the City in general through spiritual intervention, collaboration and partnerships.

**Martin Luther King Day of Service
and
Love Your Block Community Work Day
Monday, January 20, 2014
10:00 – 12Noon**

Community Garden in Hartley-Vey Park

Families are encouraged to join in the final harvesting of vegetables in the garden and preparing the soil for the spring garden. Shovels, hoes, rakes and other tools will be provided. We will install a sign that will provide information about the use of the garden, when to pick specific vegetables, and neighborhood news in general.

Little Free Library 8435 Ned Avenue Apartment A

The Gardere Initiative will become part of the global movement to encourage reading among all age groups. We will have a Little Free Library in front of our office with books sorted into five age groups (Birth-5 Years, Elementary, Middle, High School, Adults).

The idea of Little Free Libraries is “Take a Book; Share a Book”. Persons attending MLK Day of Service are encouraged to donate books and magazines based upon the age groups. Children and youth will place labels, insert bookmarks, and sort books according to the age groups as a service project. Little Free Library is an ongoing project and will be available to Gardere residents continuously. All residents will be encouraged to Take a Book; Share a Book.

Alcohol Use in East Baton Rouge Parish (Based upon 2012 CCYS Data)

43.7% of 12th Graders indicated that it is not wrong at all for adults over 21 to drink alcohol in public and 11.2% indicated that it is not wrong for this age group to get drunk or to be drunk in public.

Spiritual Stakeholders

Faith Chapel Church of God
Pastor Bart Riggins
995 Staring Lane
766-4512

St. Jude Catholic Church/
Pastor Caye A. "Trey" Nelson, III
9150 Highland Road
(225) 766-2431

Greater Sixty Aid Baptist Church
Pastor James Barrett
655 Gardere Lane
(225) 769-5865

Greater Morning Star Baptist Church
Pastor Charles Burris, Jr.
1002 Mavis Drive
(225) 766-1510

Iglesia El Aposento Alto
Pastor Eleazar y Lidia Rodriguez
1555 Seaboard
225-761-0309
225-246-0195

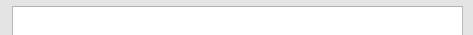
Ephesus Apostolic Church
Pastor Richard Brumfield
9531 Burbank Dr.,
Baton Rouge, LA 70810
225) 767-5158

Gardere Community Christian School
Nancy Zito, Director
8538 GSRI Avenue
225-387-5082

Attorney Caulette Jackson
President

CPL Jeremy Blunt
Vice President

Attorney Rica Kwentua
Past President



Gardere Initiative Office Dedication
Saturday, January 25, 2014
11:00am
8345 Ned Avenue, Apartment A

The Gardere Initiative extends this invitation to the residents, public officials, and all interested entities to attend the dedication of our office space to deliver services in the Gardere community. Intended services include the following:

- Adult Education
- After school tutoring
- Computer access for employment application, social service needs, and connection to other pertinent agencies
- Nutrition Programs
- Bible Study
- Parenting Classes
- Business Development

House warming gifts are appreciated. Office supplies, paper goods, kitchen items, bottled water, reception area sofa, children's play table with chairs,

Town Hall Meeting (Proposed)
Coming Soon in February!

Representatives from several public agencies are invited to hear your concerns. If you are interested in having the weeds in vacant lots cut more often, join us at the Town Hall Meeting to hear responses from the Department of Public Works. If you are concerned about drug use, violence, home intrusions, and other crimes, Commander Stevens, Burbank Sheriff's Station, will be available to address your concerns. Transportation will be provided. We will distribute the information as soon as the date and place are confirmed.

Tutors Wanted

Tutors are needed to work with **Gardere Community Christian School** students in grades 3-6. GCCS after-school "Soaring Eagles Review" tutoring sessions will be held Monday through Thursday from 4:30-5:30PM beginning Monday, January 27. If you are available any day during that time frame to help tutor a child in a fun and meaningful way please contact Tiffany Lemon at: tiffanylemon@gardereschool.com or call (225) 387-5082.

Let's Keep Crime Down in Gardere
Crimes of Opportunity
Commander Anthony Stevens

Criminals are opportunists. They are looking for an opportunity to commit a crime and they are looking for easy targets. More than 90% of our vehicle burglaries are of unlocked vehicles. You can be proactive in protecting your valuables by taking simple steps like locking the doors of your vehicle and storing valuables out of plain sight.

Stakeholders / Collaborators

African Christian Fellowship
Emmanuel Nzewi, President
995 Staring Lane
766-4512

Southern University
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Murelle G. Harrison,
Associate Dean
317 Blanks Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
225-771-2990

Gardere Youth Alliance
Darin Fontenette
225-266-4184

Daughters of Destiny, LLC
385 South 11th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225-343-5545

Matthews Realty
Henry Matthews
21321 Samuels Rd.
Zachary, LA 70791

Connections Ministry
Clayton Hays
5440 Port Hudson Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

Louisiana Youth Challenge
CPL Jeremy Blunt
cbgambassador@gmail.com

Personal Touch Properties
Management – Sales – Rentals
Carlos Padiar, Jr.
Broker Owner

EBR Sheriff Office
Commander Andrew Stevens
Burbank Substation

I CARE/EBR Schools
Pamela Hall

Capitol Area Human
Services District
Mike Fleming

Ms. Caprina Stewart
Resident

Jazmine Mayfield
Student

Adult Education Program
9:00am - 1pm
Tuesday and Thursday
8435 Ned Avenue Apt A

January – Recruitment- If you are interested in completing the requirements for your high school diploma, please complete an application beginning, Thursday, January 9.

February 4 & 6 – Assessment – This assessment will determine the participant’s academic standing. It is important that interested persons participate in the assessment. Evening times will also be available for working residents.

Following the assessment, computers will be available for use to access the instructional material needed to prepare for the high school diploma equivalent.

House Warming Gift Ideas

Office Supplies

- Stapler and staples
- Paper cutter
- Scissors
- Pens & Pencils
- Yellow Envelops
- White business envelops
- Post It Notes
- Tablets
- 1 & 2 Inch Binders
- HP Cartridge #
- Avery 1x2 5/8 labels (5160)
- Colored Paper
- Colored Cord Stock
- White Paper
- Paper Shredder

Rest Room Supplies

- Toilet Tissue
- Hand Soap
- Kleenex Tissue
- Paper Towels

Children’s Play Area

- Legos
- Children’s Table & Chairs
- Play rug
- Small Puzzles

Coming in February!
Intercessory Prayer & Bible Study
Thursdays
11:30am - Prayer
12noon – Bible Study
5:30 Prayer
6:00pm – Bible Study

We believe that prayer changes things. 2 **Chronicles 7:14** tells us that “if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” Intercessory prayer times will be available 30 minutes prior to the Bible Study to give persons that need prayers for healing, finances, children’s behavior or whatever can meet with a prayer partner.

We believe that God’s word as presented in the Bible is a guide for our lives. One hour Bible classes will be held at both noon and evening hours on Thursdays to be convenient for residents.

GCCS Now Accepting Applications for the 2014-2015 School Year

Beginning Monday, January 13th, **Gardere Community Christian School** is accepting applications for State Scholarship (voucher) students entering grades K-5 in the 2014-2015 academic school year. Applications will be available and accepted between 9-11AM each day. Please call (225) 387-5082 or email onaleethomas@gardereschool.com for more information.

Operation First Base
Cypress Mound
Sunday, January 26, 2014
1:30pm

Ages 8 – 18/Boys & Girls/Families
Local university and high school baseball players will be available to teach basic playing skills along with biblical training and fellowship.

Gardere Initiative Office
8435 Ned Avenue Apt A
Baton Rouge, LA 70820

Telephone: 225-769-0305
Email: GardereInitiative@gmail.com

2014 Youth Peace Olympic Now Recruiting Coaches

The Together We Are More Adolescent Health Collaborative has announced that the inaugural Youth Peace Olympic (YPO) is coming to South Baton Rouge this year. Together We Are More Adolescent Health Collaborative is a community and faith based violence prevention initiative. The YPO Kick Off is slated for April 25 and 26. Coaches and volunteers are being recruited starting now. The Youth Peace Olympic offers a variety of activities, sports, and personal enrichment geared toward youth to promote thriving all around young champions.

Coaches may serve as a mentor to a youth or as an activity/sports coach for a group of youth. Coaches must be caring, have achieved personal success, acquired self-confidence, and a desire to share his or her experiences with a youth by offering support, accountability, and encouragement to help enhance communication and problem solving, and to provide a positive and meaningful avenue for overcoming challenges to help youth in achieving their goals.

“We are now recruiting coaches for mentors, activity/sports coaches, and volunteers for the Youth Peace Olympic,” says Alma C. Stewart, president of the Louisiana Center for Health Equity. Stewart serves as the Coordinator of the Together We Are More Adolescent Health Collaborative. “Mentoring Coaches will be blessed by working with an area youth as they witness the possibility of life changes that may be realized in a youth’s life,” said Stewart.

Mentoring Coaches must:

- Have patience, be a good listener, have good communication skills, and have the ability to work with youth from different backgrounds.
- Offer guidance on matters inside and outside of school, model positive behavior and decision-making skills, and be an encouraging and trusted person in the youth’s life.
- Commit to be a Mentoring Coach to at least one youth between ages 10 - 16 for at least one year. (This time period may be extended beyond one year if you and the youth desire to do so.)
- Maintain contact and communications with the youth during the agreed upon period. The amount of time necessary for meetings/activities depends on the needs of the youth. However, there are minimal expectations.

Examples of how the Mentoring Coach might spend time with the youth includes building conflict resolution skills, helping address obstacles that may be hindering the youth’s progress, and exploring recreational activities and community service opportunities or resources.

If you would, or your group or organization, would like to help with the YPO and/or you are interested in volunteering as a coach or volunteer, you will need to complete the application, agree to and comply with the screening procedure and rules. A required orientation and training will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to noon for all coaches and volunteers. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For additional information about becoming a coach or a volunteer, or about a sponsorship, please email info@lahealthequity.org.