

Press Release

Contact:

Cathy Denison-Robert, PhD, MBA

(337) 502-1911

cathy@businessworkforcerecovery.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 2/23/22

Business & Workforce Recovery Solutions Releases Full Louisiana Disaster Recovery Conference Speaker Lineup

LAKE CHARLES, LA. (February 23, 2022) — Business & Workforce Recovery Solutions, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, released the speaker lineup for the inaugural *Louisiana Disaster Recovery Conference: A Time of Hope and Renewal* to be held virtually on March 23rd. Details and registration are available at businessworkforcerecovery.com/conference.

The conference will bring together the business community, elected and government officials, healthcare providers, educators, church leaders, counselors, emergency managers, those needing employment assistance, and individuals for a day focused on building a resilient community in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and including other disasters. This will be a time of hope, restoration, and renewal.

Conference Director, Dr. Cathy Denison-Robert said, “We are thrilled that our fully virtual educational experience will welcome outstanding national, state, and local speakers to share advice and real stories of loss and disaster recovery through a variety of industries. We want to reach people from all walks of life to help them to move from surviving to thriving.”

Speakers include:

- Mickey Smith Jr., Grammy Music Educator, Motivational Speaker, Author, & Musician
- Stephen Waguespack, President of Louisiana Association of Business & Industry
- Kevin Richard, LA Dept. of Revenue Secretary
- Marc DeCoursey, Sr. VP of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation
- Pat Witty, LA Economic Development Director of Small Business & Community Services
- Bryan Beam, Parish Administrator, Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
- Dr. Cathy Denison-Robert, Conference Director, Executive Director & Business Consultant
- Luke Morris, LA Dept. of Revenue Assistant Secretary of Legal Affairs
- Jennifer Hillman, LA Dept. of Revenue Grant Mgmt & Revenue Tax Auditor Supervisor
- Kevin Smith, Certified Emergency Manager & CEO
- Dr. Melissa Thompson, Consultant & Coach
- Dr. David Lafargue, SOWELA Executive Director of Workforce Solutions
- Dr. Maureen Orey, Management Consultant & Professor
- Patricia Jones, Executive Director, Allen Council on Aging
- Rita Fields, Restaurant Owner & Chef in SWLA
- Eric Dinger, Commercial Fisherman in SWLA
- Mike Beer, CEO of Calcasieu Area Council Boy Scouts of America
- Jason Brown, Chief Marketing Officer of Marketplace Chaplains
- Rev. Jody Robert, Unite Us SWLA Community Engagement Manager

BUSINESS & WORKFORCE RECOVERY SOLUTIONS

(337) 502-1911
715 Ryan Street, Ste. 104-C
Lake Charles, LA 70601
www.businessworkforcerecovery.com

- Stephen Hebert, Registered Nurse & Pastor
- Julie Este-McDonald, Licensed Professional Counselor
- Dr. John Noble, Jr., Orthopedic Surgeon & Entrepreneur
- Kendra Lewis, Teacher & Instructional Coach
- Dr. Brian Rash, FranU Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences

You can view the full conference agenda and read more about each speaker at businessworkforcerecovery.com/conference.

Sessions will air virtually on Wednesday, March 23 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. With a range of topics, participants can tune in for the full day or pick and choose sessions that most resonate with them. Registration to the event is free and available at businessworkforcerecovery.com/conference.

The conference is funded by a LA Department of Revenue nonprofit grant and includes collaboration with the Southwest LA Recovery Project for Small Businesses, Workers, and Families mainly funded by the United Way of Southwest LA.

###

Press Release (updated)

Contact:

Cathy Denison-Robert, PhD, MBA

(337) 502-1911

cathy@businessworkforcerecovery.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 1/21/22

Business & Workforce Recovery Solutions Announces Inaugural Louisiana Disaster Recovery Conference

LAKE CHARLES, LA. (January 21, 2022) — Business & Workforce Recovery Solutions today announced its inaugural Louisiana Disaster Recovery Conference will take place Wednesday, March 23rd virtually by Zoom. Details and registration are available at <https://businessworkforcerecovery.com/conference>.

“No one in Louisiana needs to be told of the disasters from the past couple of years - hurricanes, flooding, and to top it off, a pandemic, which have caused major economic impacts in our communities,” said Dr. Cathy Denison-Robert, Business & Workforce Recovery Solutions Executive Director. “And while it seems we have grown to a place of survival and normalcy, many businesses, educators, healthcare professionals, church leaders, and individuals continue to struggle. It takes a coordinated network of people from all industry types to empower our community with tools and resources to heal and thrive.”

The conference will bring together the business community, elected officials, healthcare providers, educators, church leaders, counselors, those needing employment assistance, and individuals for a day focused on building a resilient community in the continued COVID-19 pandemic.

This fully virtual educational experience will welcome national, state, and local speakers to share advice and real stories of loss and disaster recovery through a variety of industries. The keynote address will be given by Mickey Smith, Jr., Grammy Music Educator Award recipient, Motivational Speaker, Author, and Musician, with additional sessions led by LABI President, Stephen Waguespack; Senior Vice President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Marc DeCoursey; Orthopaedic Surgeon and Entrepreneur, Dr. John Noble, Jr.; Teacher and Instructional Coach, Kendra Lewis; CEO of Calcasieu Area Council Boy Scouts of America, Mike Beer; Management Consultant and Professor, Dr. Maureen Orey; FranU Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Brian Rash; SOWELA Executive Director of Workforce Solutions, Dr. David Lafargue; Restaurant Owner and Chef Rita Fields; Executive Director of Allen Council on Aging, Patricia Jones; Licensed Professional Counselor, Julie Este-McDonald; Unite Us SWLA Community Engagement Manager, Rev. Jody Robert; Executive Director and Business Consultant, Dr. Cathy Denison-Robert; Consultant and Coach, Dr. Melissa Thompson; Chief Marketing Officer of Marketplace Chaplains, Jason Brown; small business owners, and more.

Louisiana government leaders that will be speakers include LA Department of Economic Development Director of Small Business and Community Services, Pat Witty; LA Department of Revenue (LDR) Deputy Secretary, Kevin Richard; LDR Assistant Secretary of Legal Affairs, Luke Morris and Jennifer Hillman, LDR Grant Management and Revenue Tax Auditor Supervisor. The remaining speakers and event details will be announced in the coming weeks at <https://businessworkforcerecovery.com/conference>.

By bringing a diverse group of individuals together from across the state and industries, the conference will create a space for open dialogue on disaster recovery that covers a wide range of topic areas, including business, non-profit, education, faith-based, healthcare, workforce, social services, and more. This will be a time of hope, restoration, and renewal.

Sessions will air virtually on Wednesday, March 23 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. With a range of topics, participants can tune in for the full day or pick and choose sessions that most resonate with them.

Registration to the event is free and available at <https://businessworkforcerecovery.com/conference>. Anyone from anywhere can attend by Zoom. Online registration is required in order to participate. This LA Disaster Recovery Conference is funded by a LA Department of Revenue nonprofit grant and includes collaboration with the Southwest LA Recovery Project for Small Businesses, Workers, and Families mainly funded by the United Way of Southwest LA. The Conference Director is Dr. Cathy Denison-Robert. Additional event information will be released on the registration site and social media as available. For more information, please email info@businessworkforcerecovery.com or call (337) 502-1911.

###