Bread or Stones Campaign

Would one of you hand his child a stone when he asks for a loaf... (Matthew 7: 9)

Handy Links for Many Options

on the Bread or Stones Covenant

Quick references for opportunities for your mission to improve child-well being.

Listing is based upon suggestions for congregations to consider as outlined in the BREAD OR STONES COVENANT.

1. Service
   • Pay for pre-natal vitamins for those who can’t afford them
     i. Partnership For Prescription Assistance Program: http://www.pparx.org 1-888-477-2669: assists families with pharmaceutical programs to get their medications free of charge.
   • Work with the Health Department to organize immunization days at church
     i. https://linksweb.oph.dhh.louisiana.gov/linksweb/main.jsp is the link for the Louisiana Immunization Network for Kids Statewide, a program of the Louisiana Office of Public Health
   • Sponsor a Safe Families for Children program
     iii. Early Steps Intervention program: https://www.laeikids.com provides services to families with infants and toddlers aged birth to three years (36 months) who have a medical condition likely to result in a developmental delay, or who have developmental delays. These services are provided in the child's natural environment, such as the child's home, child care or any other community setting typical for children aged birth to 3 years
     iv. Domestic Violence: 1-888-411-1333 or http://lcadv.org/programs-resources/ call or look online for a list of available shelters for victims of domestic violence.
     v. Homeless Coordinators: 1-877-453-2721 (call to find the number for your area of the state): if a child is homeless, the child has the right to continue his/her education at the school he/she was attending before becoming homeless. The homeless coordinator will insure that all arrangements (such as transportation to and from the new home, school supplies, school uniforms, etc.) are taken care of to ensure the continued education of the child.
     vi. Safe Haven / Department of Children and Family Services Louisiana is a Safe Haven State. Safe Haven provides a safe, legal, last resort to the abandonment of a child. www.louisianasafehaven.com
   • Sponsor parenting education classes
     i. https://www.fatherhood.gov/for-dads/connect-with-programs/louisiana

Louisiana Interchurch Conference Bread or Stones Campaign
527 North Blvd. 4th Floor Baton Rouge, LA 70802 or www.lainterchurch.org
iii. [http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1094](http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1094) is a link to the LA Department of Health and Hospitals parent support program

- **Offer Church after school and summer tutoring programs**
  i. [http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/afterschool-programs](http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/afterschool-programs) is a website coordinating all federal programs dealing with many youth issues in addition to after school programs.
  ii. [http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/mentoring](http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/mentoring) is a website coordinating all federal programs dealing with many youth issues in addition to mentoring programs.

- **Organize business and professional mentors/tutors for high school students**
  i. [http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/mentoring](http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/mentoring) is a website coordinating all federal programs dealing with many youth issues in addition to mentoring programs.
  ii. [http://www.whitehouse.gov/my-brothers-keeper](http://www.whitehouse.gov/my-brothers-keeper) to promote health children

- **Sponsor a Back to School Supplies drive**
  i. [http://createthegood.org/toolkit/how-hold-school-supply-drive](http://createthegood.org/toolkit/how-hold-school-supply-drive) from AARP
  ii. [https://s3.amazonaws.com/unway.3cdn.net/18aa738557546fd7df_sqm6vd717.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/unway.3cdn.net/18aa738557546fd7df_sqm6vd717.pdf) from the United Way

- **Start a Family Literacy Program with books for children**
  i. [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oss/essres.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese/oss/essres.html) has resources about the Even Start program for family literacy
  ii. [http://www.atyourlibrary.org/connectwithyourkids/reading-together/prime-time-family-literacy](http://www.atyourlibrary.org/connectwithyourkids/reading-together/prime-time-family-literacy) is the Prime Time literacy program at your local library

- **Sign up Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) at church**
  i. [http://www.projectappleseed.org](http://www.projectappleseed.org) is a non-profit national campaign for public school improvement and helps citizens get involved in their schools
  ii. [http://fccbrla.org/vips/](http://fccbrla.org/vips/) see how the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Baton Rouge volunteers

- **Start a Class A licensed day care**
  i. [http://www.laccrra.org](http://www.laccrra.org)
  ii. HeadStart: [http://www.louisianaheadstart.org/](http://www.louisianaheadstart.org/) a comprehensive family-focused child development program that offers education, health (including medical and dental assessments and nutrition) parental involvement and social services for low income families and their children.
  iii. [https://pathways.nsula.edu/home-louisiana-pathways-child-care-career-development-system](https://pathways.nsula.edu/home-louisiana-pathways-child-care-career-development-system) is the statewide portal for child care professional development

- **Sponsor budget/money management classes for parents and teens**
  i. Budget or Credit Counseling: The National Foundation For Credit Counseling: 1-800-388-2227 [http://www.nfcc.org](http://www.nfcc.org) they offer no cost budgeting and credit counseling. Fees may be incurred if they are needed to assist in consolidation of bills or other similar services.

- **Develop responsible father programs**
  i. [https://www.fatherhood.gov/for-dads/connect-with-programs/louisiana](https://www.fatherhood.gov/for-dads/connect-with-programs/louisiana)
iii. Child Support:  https://cafe-cp.dcf.s.la.gov/selfservice/ applications for child support can be made online. This site also allows parents to check on the status of their child support.

• Make referrals to adoption programs
  i.  http://www.dcf.s.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=375 is the link to the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services Adoption program
• Make referrals to post-abortion healing programs and crisis pregnancy centers
  i.  http://www.crossroadspc.org is one such example
• Create support services for 18 year olds “aging out” of the foster care system
  i.  http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/transition-age-youth is a website coordinating all federal programs dealing with many youth issues in addition to “aging out” problems
• Make church available for AA/NA meetings
  i.  ww.aas.org/pages/en_US/starting-a-new-aa-group from Alcoholics Anonymous – how to start an AA group
• Create community gardens
  i.  https://communitygarden.org/resources/10-steps-to-starting-a-community-garden/
  ii.  http://www.mggno.com/projects is the
• Volunteer as a congregation with a denominational social service agency like Catholic Charities, UMCOR, Lutheran Social Services, Baptist Community Ministries, Episcopal Social Services, etc
• Other

2. Education

• Distribute pre-natal and child health information on:
  i.  Smoking Cessation
    1.  http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/health_effects/pregnancy/ information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  ii.  Dangers of drug and alcohol use
    1.  http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/pregnancyandsubstanceabuse.html is the link to the National Institutes of Health
  iii. Importance of pre-natal vitamins and health care information
    1.  http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/414/n/263 is the website to begin your search for resources in your community
  iv. Importance of immunizations
v. Helping children with autism, dyslexia, eating disorders, depression, bullying, etc
   1. http://www.nami.org/Template.cfm?Section=Child_and_Adolescent_Action_Center&template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=23448 is the National Alliance on Mental Illness resource page
   2. http://www.mentalhealth.gov/talk/parents-caregivers/ is the US Department of Health and Human Services

• Pass out applications for enrolling in or applying for:
  i. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
     1. WIC (Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children): call to find a WIC office in your area of the state: 1-800-251-2229: provides supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk.
  ii. LaMOMs no cost health insurance provided by Louisiana's Medicaid program for pregnant women
  iii. Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP) no-cost health insurance provided by Louisiana's Medicaid program to uninsured children up to age 19
  iv. Other Medicaid Programs
  v. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly Food Stamps) provides monthly benefits to help low-income families buy food
     1. Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program/State Childcare Assistance/Child Support: 1-888-524-3578: call to get a food stamp/SNAP application mailed to you or apply through the internet at www.dss.state.la.us

• Sponsor teen pregnancy prevention programs
  i. http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/teen-pregnancy-prevention is a website coordinating all federal programs dealing with many youth issues in addition to teen pregnancy.

• Educate church members about child poverty in Louisiana
  i. http://www.aecf.org with articles and links about child well-being
  ii. http://www.aecf.org/work/kids-count/ is the annual data report of child well-being indicators and how each state measures us
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- Educate church members about child trafficking in Louisiana
  i. [http://www.traffickinghope.com](http://www.traffickinghope.com) is a Louisiana non-profit dealing with child trafficking in our state
  ii. [http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/trafficking-of-youth](http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/trafficking-of-youth) is a website coordinating all federal programs dealing with many youth issues in addition to child trafficking

- Distribute information and referral directories and resource lists in church
  i. [http://www.htdiocese.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=7+6QIFaIumw=&tabid=105](http://www.htdiocese.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=7+6QIFaIumw=&tabid=105) is an example of one such link. Local United Way agencies, Councils on Aging, Community Action Agencies and other non-profits often publish local referral directories or have them online.
  Other__________________________________________________________

3. Citizenship

- Support increased state funding for
  i. Child Protection Services
  ii. Nurse/Family Partnership Program (NFP)
    1. Nurse Family Partnership: [http://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/locations/Louisiana/find-a-local-agency](http://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/locations/Louisiana/find-a-local-agency) is a program for first time mothers before the 28th week of gestation. It is designed to help new parents have a healthy pregnancy, prepare for labor and delivery, learn age appropriate developmental stages of children, and get the support they need.
  iii. Support funding for the child care assistance program (CCAP)
    2. [http://www.labudget.org/lbp/category/research/education/](http://www.labudget.org/lbp/category/research/education/) research and articles from the LA Budget Project
  iv. Louisiana Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
    1. [http://taxtopics.revenue.louisiana.gov/tag/eitc/](http://taxtopics.revenue.louisiana.gov/tag/eitc/) the tax explanation from the LA Department of Revenue
    2. [http://www.defs.state.la.us/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&nid=15&pnid=7&pid=11&catid=0](http://www.defs.state.la.us/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&nid=15&pnid=7&pid=11&catid=0) links the LA Department of Children and Family Services

- Advocate with your school board for parenting education in schools
  i. [http://lapen.org](http://lapen.org) is the Louisiana Parenting Education Network
  ii. [http://www.louisianapartnership.org](http://www.louisianapartnership.org) is the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families

- Help parents of special needs children find the right services
  i. [http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1550](http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1550) is a statewide guide to services for families of children with special needs
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ii. [http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1094](http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/1094) is a link to the LA Department of Health and Hospitals parent support program

- **Other Legislative advocacy issues:**
  i. Support Louisiana Medicaid expansion
  ii. Support payday lending reform legislation
  iii. Support legislation to create a Louisiana minimum wage
  iv. Support a progressive Louisiana tax structure
  v. Support in increase in state funding to restore services to youth aging out of foster care
  vi. Support funding for mental health services for children
  vii. Support funding for substance abuse prevention and recovery

- **Other**

4. **Community**

- **Organize a Campaign for Grade-Level Reading Network in your civil parish**
  i. [http://gradelevelreading.net](http://gradelevelreading.net) is the national campaign website

- **Develop a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program**
  i. [http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Free-Tax-Return-Preparation-for-You-by-Volunteers](http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Free-Tax-Return-Preparation-for-You-by-Volunteers) this is a partnership between local communities and the IRS to provide free tax returns for low-income working families

- **Join or form a local children’s coalition**
  i. [http://www.louisianapartnership.org](http://www.louisianapartnership.org) is the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families
  ii. Search the internet using the term “Children’s Coalition” followed by your section of Louisiana (e.g. Baton Rouge, Northeast Louisiana, etc)

- **Hold an annual Children’s Sabbath**

- **Other**