

OPTIONS

PREMIER SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



Building an Inclusive Community

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2025-2026

OPTIONS helps men and women with disabilities live and work in the community through maximizing life skills, meaningful work and activities, community involvement, and support beyond the family.

A Message from the President / CEO



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Real Impact. Every Day. Right Here at Home.

This is what OPTIONS is all about. Every day, you will find us with “boots on the ground” in Tangipahoa Parish and the surrounding communities doing the work to create opportunities for people with disabilities to thrive, contribute, and truly be a part of the communities they call home.

Whether we are advocating with policymakers, educating our communities, developing a professional, skilled, and compassionate workforce, or directly providing services to the many people who rely on OPTIONS, our focus is always on the outcome: helping people with disabilities live, work, and participate fully in their communities.

On the pages that follow, you will see how we are breaking barriers, creating opportunities, and responding to the evolving needs of the people we serve through the many programs and services offered by OPTIONS.

None of this is possible without your support.

You are receiving this report because you have invested in OPTIONS with your time, talent, or financial resources. Because of you, we are able to make a real difference in the lives of people with disabilities and in the communities we all call home.

I hope you will take pride in what we have achieved together and in the impact we will continue to make together.

Ever Grateful,

Carrie Mercke

Stay Connected with OPTIONS!



Scan the QR code with your phone camera to stay up to date on what's happening at OPTIONS!

Financial Report: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Donor Gifts

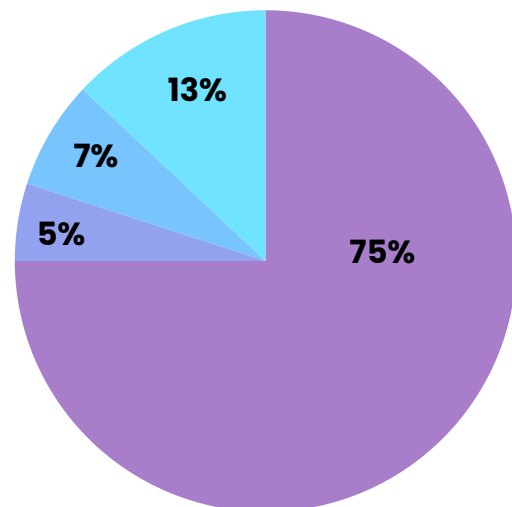
Grants	\$490,007
Ballin' 4 OPTIONS	\$84,300
Be the Key Pledge Payments	\$533,061
Other Contributions	\$99,351
Total:	\$1,206,719

Income

Federal & State Contracts	\$6,483,980
Grants & Contributions	\$1,206,719
Income from Client Businesses	\$637,684
Other Income	\$405,673
Total:	\$8,734,056

Expenses

Payroll Related	\$6,356,554
Administrative & Operating	\$1,076,354
Therapeutic & Training	\$1,070,590
Fundraising Expense	\$46,851
Expenses of Client Businesses	\$273,459
Total:	\$8,823,808



- Governmental Funding 75%**
- Contribution & Fundraising Revenue 13%**
- Small Business Contracts 7%**
- Other Revenue 5%**



Leave a Legacy with OPTIONS



Looking for a way to make a lasting impact? Planned Giving provides an opportunity to support the OPTIONS mission for years to come, helping ensure that people with disabilities continue to thrive through community, care, and opportunity. Whether through a bequest, beneficiary designation, or another type of estate gift, your generosity can create a lasting legacy and help sustain vital OPTIONS programs well into the future.

For more information or to let us know you have made a bequest, please contact Casey Rudolph, Development Director, at 985-345-6269 ext. 119.

Fundraising Year in Review

The Be the Key Breakfast

The 2026 Be the Key Breakfast raised **\$530,385** to support OPTIONS Programs and Services. Leadership gifts included the Presenting Sponsor, Oscar J. Tolmas Charitable Trust, Robin R. Roberts, HUB International, Regions Bank, and Wayne-Sanderson Farms. Our Be the Key Program has secured pledges totaling **\$1,388,713** over the next five years.



Grants

During FY 2025–2026 OPTIONS received **21 grants from 16 grantors** totaling **\$219,280** in restricted grant funds (excluding grants for Be the Key Breakfast, DOTD, and Ballin' 4 OPTIONS).



Be the Key Society

Over **200** people have joined OPTIONS Be the Key Society, pledging to give for 5 years or longer. Of those, **42** people have made their pledge a Forever Pledge.



Ballin' 4 OPTIONS

The 2025 Ballin' 4 OPTIONS Charity Basketball Game raised over **\$90,726** to benefit OPTIONS Enrichment and Transportation Programs.

A Legacy of Compassion and Choice

Since 1996, Elizabeth Treadwell has been a dedicated member of the OPTIONS family. After briefly working at Our House, an OPTIONS Community Home, she's spent more than 20 years in Supported Independent Living (SIL) working alongside OPTIONS participant, Betty Sue Kinchen, who left a lasting impact on her. Today, Elizabeth continues supporting SIL participant Fabrizio Badley. "I feel like I am working with and helping family. We build such close bonds working together." Elizabeth is committed to promoting choice, independence, and well-being, helping those she supports feel valued, respected, and empowered. For Elizabeth, helping others is more than a job, it is a deeply rewarding experience.



Weaving Skills, Creativity & Connection

The OPTIONS Weaving Club creates opportunities for participants to learn new skills, express their creativity, and build confidence. The club began with three participants and has grown to eight members who are developing weaving skills with guidance from OPTIONS artists and staff. The hands-on activity strengthens fine and gross motor skills while encouraging socialization and independence. As participants create their own pieces, they experience a strong sense of pride and accomplishment. The club provides a welcoming space for connection, self-expression, and personal growth.



Breaking Barriers Through Sport



OPTIONS participant and Special Olympics athlete, Steven Bloom, is showing what determination and opportunity can achieve. In just three years with Special Olympics, Steven has earned gold medals in softball and basketball, along with medals in bowling, football, golf, and volleyball. Recently selected as a Pray SONIC Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) Ambassador, Steven represents the brand at community events while supporting Special Olympics. His journey highlights the power of inclusion, building confidence, connection, and new opportunities for people with disabilities.

Creating Opportunity Through Employment

Since 1988, OPTIONS Cleaning Crews have been an integral part of Southeastern Louisiana University. OPTIONS participants take pride in their work, providing cleaning services across campus while earning meaningful wages and building valuable workplace skills. Beyond the job itself, the partnership fosters inclusion, connection, and a sense of belonging for people with disabilities and students alike. As the partnership expanded to include more campus buildings and responsibilities, so has the positive impact. We're grateful for the partnership that creates opportunities for OPTIONS participants while enriching the Southeastern community.



The Be The Key Society

Key of Vision

John & Georgianne Poteet *🌟

Key of Inspiration

Berryland Motors & Campers *🌟

Matthew & Gwen Cotton *🌟

Key of Opportunity

Channell Drugs*

Cretin Townsend Homes

Guerin Insurance Agency, Inc.*

Doyle & Sky Orlando 🌟

Rocker Family Foundation*

Melanie & Larry Watkins

Key of Strength

Anntoine Marketing & Design 🌟

Bruce & Peggy Beard 🌟

Bernard & Franks CPAs

Bracy's Nursery *

Sylvia & Ernie Bush *🌟

Cashe Coudrain & Bass *

Dr. Jaime Edwards

Fay Guagliardo

John Daniel & Christy Guerin

Kent Design Build, Inc.

McKneely Funeral Home of

Amite & Kentwood, Inc. *

George & Carrie Mercke *🌟

Dr. Claude & Judy Nesser *🌟

Mary Pirosko *

Stephen Pirosko *

Scott Turner, DDS

Charles Wartelle

Perrin & Ann Watkins *🌟

Susan Zeuschel

Taylor L. Anthony

Trent & Brittany Anthony 🌟

Apocalypse Sports 🌟

Thomas & GERALYN Ashley, SR. *🌟

Sylvia Badenhausen

Byron Bankston

Diana Barber

Berry Town Produce

Bondurant Law

Florence Bonaccorso-Saenz

Hart & Noelle Bordelon

Kurt & Lindsay Bornkessel

Lauri Boudreau

Grady & Kellie Brame *🌟

Jerod & Brandi Breaux

Kellie Bridges 🌟

Scott & Melissa Burton

Cate Street Seafood Station

Michael & Iris Carruthers

Michelle & Jeff Carruthers

Center of Hope for

Tangipahoa, Inc

Kim Coates

Terry Cooper

Vic & Judy Couvillion 🌟

Covey Rise Lodge

Beverly Covington

Crescent Chems Research

Crump Fuel

Blake & Sandy Daniels *

Bill & Kelly Daniels

Fred & Susan Davis

Deek & Leisa DeBlieux 🌟

Don & Gloria Desselles

Dirt Works of Tangipahoa, LLC

Joey Dominick

Eric & Olivia Dosch *🌟

David Drude

Camilla Q. Dufour

Dr. Michael Dunn

Dupont Construction

Judge Blair Edwards *🌟

Matthew & Julie Emmons

Joan Exnicios

Malcolm & Leah Fitzhugh 🌟

The Fritz Family 🌟

Ford Family Charitable

Foundation 🌟

Dr. Rick & Karen Foster

G&D Machine Shop LLC

Nick & Dana Gagliano

Ed & Alice Gautier

Carlee & Ryan Gonzales

Grants Gifts Foundation

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Adam & Nelia Gross

Tony & Linda Guagliardo 🌟

John & Nanette Guerin 🌟

Brandi Harris 🌟

Chad & Joy Harvell 🌟

Justin & Bronte Hebert

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Frank & Mary Ann Henchy

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Julie & Semmes Hughes

Edward & Mary Jacob

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Associates, CPAs 🌟

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Holly Kessler

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Darron & Nicole Landry

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Ralf & Elizabeth LeSaichere

Law Office of John W. Martinez, LLC *

Luceia V. LeDoux & Angela Trainham

Rebecca Lee

Legit Nutrition Mandeville

Steve & Tiny Leon

Jeff & Martha LeSaicherre 🌟

Joey & Nichole Liuzza

LN Hughes Funeral Services 🌟

Louisiana Senior Advisors

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Jessica Shirey
Shop Marketing Pros
Donna Smith
George Ann Smith
Erik & Rebecca Soine
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Paul Spalitta
Dottie Spangler
Square Family
Strawberry Manor
Dr. Samuel Jr. & Dr. Katherine
St. Amant McClugage
Dominica Sullivan
Michele & Wayne Sutton
Tangi Tree
Dominic & Jane Terrase *

The Bevolo Family
The Boston Restaurant
The Hoover Family Foundation *
The Ultimate Party Store *
Andre & Annette Theriot
Ruth Ann Threadgill *
Gary Traylor
Pat Tucker
Roger & Rosie Tucker
Verified Controls, LLC
Patricia McCue Vilardo
Vivo CPR, LLC
Wesley & Sarah Watkins
Ron & Cindy Weber
Pam & David Wesley *
Dr. Bill & Andrea Wheat
Dennis & Lisa Williams
Kerry Williams
Mike & Emily Williams
Chris & Jeanine Wisecarver *
Jonathon & Trang Wong
Holly Wood

*** Founding Member**

*** Forever Society Member**

A More Sustainable Way to Say Thank You

We're going
PAPERLESS!



We're making a small change to help make your support go even further! Beginning **January 1, 2027**, OPTIONS will transition to electronic donation acknowledgments. Sending acknowledgments by email will reduce printing and mailing costs, allow you to receive your acknowledgement more quickly, and help maximize the impact of every donation. Year end giving statements will continue to be mailed.

Please add **development@options4u.org** to your contacts to ensure you receive our emails. If you prefer to keep the paper acknowledgments or need to update your email address please contact us at (985) 345-6269 ext. 157 or development@options4u.org.

Thank you for helping us make every dollar count!

You Gave Us the Resources. Here's What We Accomplished With It. Our Impact at a Glance



497,712

Total Care Hours
Provided to
OPTIONS
Participants



561,104

Miles Driven
by OPTIONS
Transportation



4,370

Nursing
Interventions
Provided to
Participants



3,466

Training Hours
Provided to
OPTIONS Staff



175

Employees at
OPTIONS



92%

of Every Dollar
Raised Directly
Supports Programs
and Services for
Participants



1 of 169

Nonprofits in
Louisiana Listed as
Platinum Level on
Candid



8,687

Volunteer Hours
Committed to
OPTIONS Mission



49

Participants Who
Have Employment
through OPTIONS

OPTIONS4U.ORG | 985-345-6269 | Facebook: options4u

Non-Profit Org.
Standard Mail
U.S. Postage PAID
Hammond, LA 70401
Permit # 341

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