## Communities in Action

# LOUISIANA REGION 6: ALEXANDRIA WHAT YOU CAN DO IN YOUR COMMUNITY



From tackling chronic diseases to making healthcare more accessible, there are ways to make life healthier for everyone.

Here are Region 6's opportunities for improvement: Region 6 parishes that are over the 25th percentile in the Healthy State-identified priority of...

- Smoking
- Hypertension and/or Diabetes
- Food Security
- Physical Inactivity and/or Obesity

### Feedback from the latest Community Health Needs Assessment showed the following needs:

- Specialty care & chronic disease management
- Behavioral health
- Pediatric access
- Early education
- Food access
- Reduce smoking & vaping

#### **Recommendations**

#### 1) Smoking Cessation

 Advocate for smoke-free ordinances and increase access to smoking education, counseling, and medication in Catahoula, Concordia, and Avoyelles parishes.

#### 2) Cancer Screening and Treatment

 Increase access to cancer health education, screening and treatment for lung, breast, and colorectal cancer in LaSalle, Grant, and Avoyelles parishes.

#### 3) Diabetes and Hypertension Management

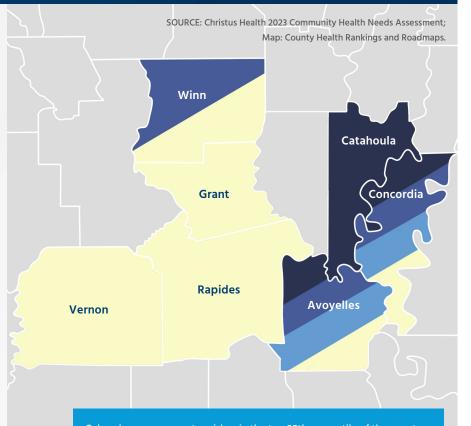
 Increase access to diabetes and hypertension management & health education and improve provider trust and cultural competency in Winn, Concordia, and Avoyelles parishes.

#### 4) Obesity

 Increase access to obesity, physical activity, and nutrition interventions in Vernon, Rapides, Grant, Winn, Avoyelles, and Concordia parishes.

#### 5) Food Security

 Partner with the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services to promote and increase participation in food-related public benefits such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Elderly Simplified Application Project for SNAP, Women, Infants and Children program (WIC) in Concordia and Avoyelles parishes.



Colored areas represent parishes in the top 25th percentile of the worst scores in each issue area across all parishes in the state. Parishes that are in the 25th percentile for multiple issues are designated by corresponding stripes in corresponding colors. Areas that are not shaded may have significant need, but do not reach the 25th percentile.

Become a Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Community Partner by contacting the community outreach team at the OR code.



#### 6) Income and Poverty

- Create career pathways that result in high-wage, highdemand jobs:
  - General and operations managers
  - Registered nurses
  - First line supervisors construction trade and extraction

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