



+ HEALTH & WELL-BEING IN LOUISIANA IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY

LORI's Journey to Better Communities

This presentation highlights LORI's impact, challenges, and future opportunities.

By. Sharon Njie
Communications and Strategic Partnership Director



“Louisiana’s refugees and other new Americans like me have not only found safety and new opportunities in this great state. We give back”



DAUDA SESAY
CEO/Founder



Our Mission is to:

+
+
+
**Uplift Refugees &
Immigrants in their
Journey of Integration**

**Education &
Access to
Resources**

**Civic
Engagement**

**Advocacy
and Policy**

**Immigration
Legal Aid**

**Self Sufficiency
and Systemic
Change**

Historical Perspective: Healthcare for Immigrants



Case Reference: Earl K. Long Medical Center

- Served Immigrant communities in Baton Rouge.
- Its closure left many without access to affordable healthcare.

LSU Health

Health Care Services Division

[Compliance Hotline](#) | [Medical Records Request](#)

[Quicklinks](#) ▼

[Patient Care](#)

[Health Care Services Division](#)

[Lallie Kemp Regional Medical Center](#)

[Healthcare Effectiveness](#)

[Patient Information](#) ▼

[Vendors](#) ▼

[Job Opportunities](#)

[MyHCSD](#)

[News and Events](#)

[About HCSD](#) ▼



EARL K. LONG MEDICAL CENTER IS NOW CLOSED

**CLINICS FORMERLY MANAGED BY EKLMC ARE NOW MANAGED BY LSU HEALTH BATON ROUGE,
A DIVISION OF OUR LADY OF THE LAKE.**

LSU Health Baton Rouge, a division of Our Lady of the Lake

For Central Scheduling, call 225.358.4853

For clinic locations, information and more, visit

[Our Lady of the Lake Medical Center](#)

LSU Patient Help Line: 1.877.578.8255

Patients, Providers and Agencies Needing Medical Records from Earl K. Long Medical Center can still request them even though Earl K. Long Medical Center closed its doors on April 14, 2013, patients and their healthcare providers still have access to medical information concerning the treatment and care received by patients at EKLMC.



A Crisis That Changed Everything



The COVID-19 Wake-Up Call

- The healthcare system was already failing immigrants—but the COVID-19 pandemic exposed and worsened these gaps.
- Many immigrants feared seeking medical care, even for life-saving vaccines, due to several barriers; from language, misinformation, discrimination, to systemic distrust.

We had to act immediately— as our community was at risk.



COVID-19 Vaccine Response: A Historic Turning Point



- We took vaccine centers directly into immigrant communities—breaking barriers of fear and access.
- Immigrant-led African doctors took charge, building trust in healthcare professionals.
- Community leaders & cultural navigators educated immigrants on vaccine safety.
- 90%+ success rate in vaccine outreach—one of the highest immigrant vaccination rates in Louisiana.



Forefront: Public Health & Safety Response



15+ COVID-19 & Monkeypox Awareness Events.

Statewide vaccine drives serving thousands of immigrants.

Mental health interventions to support families impacted by pandemic stress.

500+ HIV home test kits distributed (302 results received)

ONE COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Featuring



Dr. Gertrude Chimeka - Anyanwoke, FIDSA

Back to SCHOOL
INFORMED & HEALTHY

Discussion:

- Introduction
- Current health crisis
- The symptoms of monkeypox, safety measures, and treatment
- Stigma and discrimination and how it impacts our communities
- Open Dialogue

- Date: Saturday, August 27th, 2022
- Time: 4:30pm - 6:00pm



Contact: info@mylori.org

Preventive Health & Access to Care

➔ Feeding Stations: Addressing food insecurity during crisis periods.

➔ Medicaid Assistance: 21 in-house Medicaid applications completed.

➔ Majority of Medicaid cases assisted through referrals.

➔ Car Seat Safety Checks (National Safety Administration Certified).

➔ Direct partnerships with clinics for chronic disease screening



Community Health Fairs: Historic Impact

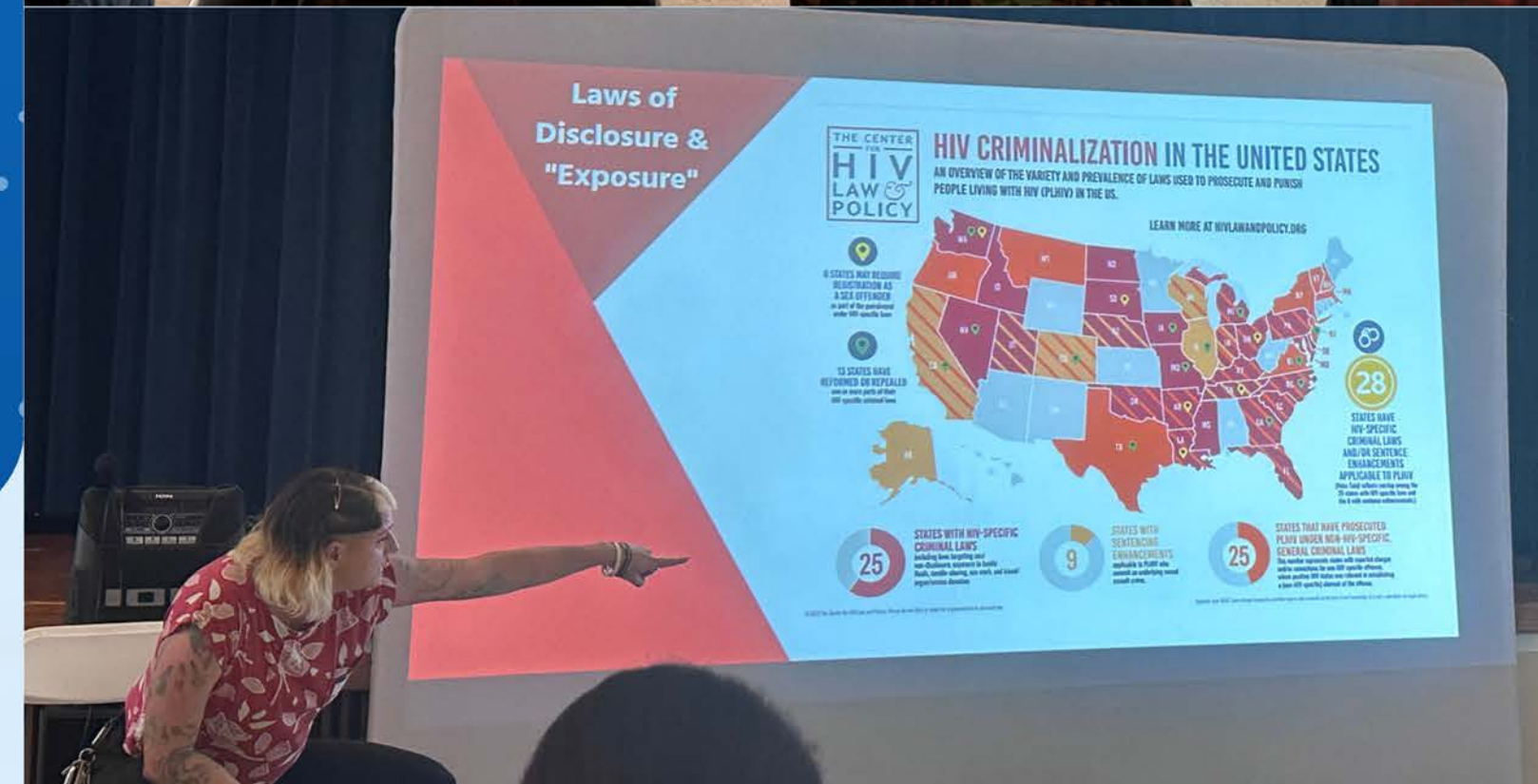


Over 300 refugees & immigrants received direct medical attention.

✓ Collaboration with Love Heals Free Clinic: Over 500+ immigrants served.

✓ Provided critical services:

- Dental & Vision Care
- Chiropractic Services
- Cancer Screenings
- Flu Vaccines & STD Testing



Mental Health: Breaking Barriers & Providing Support

✓ COPE (Community Organizing for Power through Empathy): Interventions, workshops.

✓ Behavioral Health Symposium: Trained 264 mental health providers to serve immigrant families.

✓ Addressing trauma, mental health stigma, and access gaps for immigrants.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM
**CONTINUING THE
CONVERSATION** 
THE VIRTUAL SERIES

➤ Feb 16th | 12:00-1:30 PM

 **REGISTER AT** WOMANSFOUNDATION.COM/BHS-PRESENTATIONS

**Promoting Justice, Equity and Inclusion of
Immigrants in Louisiana while facing a
World-Wide Humanitarian Crisis**



Opportunities for Collaboration – How We Move Forward

- ◆ Strengthening Medicaid Support – Providing clear guidance & assistance to immigrants.
- ◆ Partnering with Schools|Medical centers – Ensuring immigrant students receive holistic health support.
- ◆ Increasing Mental Health Services – Destigmatizing mental health care in immigrant communities.



THANK YOU
LORI TRULY CARES

