



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. BJ 2008 - 41

SOLUTIONS TO POVERTY

- WHEREAS,** the United States Census Bureau's 2006 American Community Survey identifies Louisiana's poverty rate as the second-highest among U.S. states;
- WHEREAS,** real economic costs resulting from a high rate of poverty are borne by Louisiana's overall population, and negatively affect the state's educational, workforce, and economic development potential;
- WHEREAS,** the first Solutions to Poverty Summit was held on December 6 and 7, 2004, in Monroe, Louisiana;
- WHEREAS,** since that time, locally-led Solutions to Poverty coalitions have convened in communities across the state in order to identify both needs and locally-available resources for addressing poverty;
- WHEREAS,** the most effective strategies for reducing poverty are those that help individuals and families move from poverty to self-sufficiency through effective educational and workforce supports; and
- WHEREAS,** the Louisiana Department of Social Services works in close collaboration with other state government agencies and local partners to implement such strategies;
- NOW THEREFORE I, BOBBY JINDAL,** Governor of the state of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:
- SECTION 1:** Solutions to Poverty shall represent a continuing collaborative effort between state government agencies, community-level stakeholders, non-profit organizations, faith-based organizations, and private industry to identify and implement effective, efficient strategies for addressing poverty.
- SECTION 2:** Solutions to Poverty shall incorporate programs and initiatives shown by evidence to advance individual and family financial self-sufficiency, and reduce dependence on public benefits.
- SECTION 3:** Outcomes of all Solutions to Poverty initiatives shall be measured and documented. Outcomes shall be reported to the executive department, Office of the Governor, and the state legislature as requested.
- SECTION 4:** The Child Poverty Prevention Council, created by Act 559 of the 2008 Regular Session of the State Legislature, shall utilize, through the Department of Social Services' Community Mobilization staff, locally-led Solutions to Poverty coalitions in implementing the strategy which the Council is required to develop for reducing the rate of child poverty in Louisiana by 50% over ten years.
- SECTION 5:** All departments, commissions, boards, agencies, and officers of the state, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed (or requested pursuant to Subsection 1B) to cooperate with the implementation of the provisions in this Order.

SECTION 6:

This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the governor, or terminated by operation of law.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the city of Baton Rouge, on this 22nd day of August, 2008.

/S/ Bobby Jindal
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR

/S/ Jay Dardenne
SECRETARY OF STATE