



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 24-108

LOUISIANA YOUTH FOR EXCELLENCE

WHEREAS, in 2022, the National Center for Health Statistics reported the national birth rate for females aged 15-19 was 13.6 births per 1,000;

WHEREAS, in 2022, the National Center for Health Statistics reported that the birth rate for females aged 15-19 in Louisiana was 23.7 births per 1,000;

WHEREAS, the National Center for Health Statistics ranked Louisiana third in the United States for births to females aged 15-19;

WHEREAS, many adolescents in Louisiana remain uninformed or poorly informed about the potential consequences of being sexually active, including pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections;

WHEREAS, access to abstinence-based educational programs, mentoring, and counseling may encourage Louisiana's youth to abstain from sexual activity.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY, 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: The program for Louisiana Youth for Excellence (LYFE) is reestablished and recreated within the Executive Department, Office of the Governor, Office of Community Programs;

Section 2: The goals of the LYFE program shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Promoting positive youth development by teaching goal setting, leadership development, character building, and integrity in school settings, after-school programs and community-based programs;

- B. Mitigating the effects of health-risk behaviors for the youth of Louisiana;
- C. Reducing the incidence of sexual activity among the youth of Louisiana;
- D. Reducing the rate of sexually transmitted infections among the youth of Louisiana;
- E. Lowering the pregnancy rate among the youth of Louisiana; and
- F. Lowering the number of high-school drop-outs related to health-risk behaviors in Louisiana.

Section 3: The duties of LYFE program shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. Applying for and receiving funding for the development and administration of the LYFE program from public and private sources;
- B. Providing youth with support to build character, integrity, and excellence by promoting positive messages of youth development and educating as to the dangers of health-risk behaviors;
- C. Providing parents with information supporting their role as the primary educator of family values;
- D. Coordinating with appropriate organizations and other public agencies to achieve the goals outlined in Section 2;
- E. Promoting character qualities and human skills that promote responsible and productive values in children; and
- F. Developing an aggressive campaign targeting adolescents ages 12-19 and parents that will build awareness of the consequences of health-risk behaviors and reinforce positive youth development.

Section 4: The LYFE program shall be directed by an executive director who is designated by and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The executive director shall be responsible for administering, overseeing, and evaluating LYFE initiatives in a manner that facilitates the accomplishment of the program's duties and goals, as set forth in Sections 2 and 3.

Section 5: The LYFE program shall be permitted staff and resources to fulfill the goals, duties, and responsibilities specified in this Order. It shall be permitted to accept the efforts of volunteers in accordance with state law.

Section 6: All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the State of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized to cooperate with LYFE and the Office of Community Programs in implementing the provisions of this Order.

Section 7: Executive Order Number JBE 2016-49 is hereby terminated.

Section 8: This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue 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 the State of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 17th day of July, 2024.



JEFF LANDRY
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE



NANCY LANDRY
SECRETARY OF STATE