



# Empowering and uplifting young people in our community!

## Uplifting News – April 2024

Instead of focusing on all the problems of the world, be encouraged by the positive impact being made in the lives of our youth.

**"When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices." Proverbs 11:10 (NIV)**

We rejoice in the blessings we have received and can share with our communities!

628 High School Dr., DeRidder, LA 70634-2806

**Kingdom Center has been spreading Joy in the City:** Since our last newsletter, there have been so many things happening – check it out here and on our Facebook page!

We ended 2023 with a celebration of the birth of our Savior, where 30 youth received a wonderful meal, a fun evening of fellowship, and a gift to take home. On New Year's Eve, we took a group to celebrate the new year with fireworks!



The launch of our 2nd location – **Kingdom Center Leesville:** 608 Nolan Trace (in the Event Center)

It was always part of our vision to expand into other cities in Southwest/Central Louisiana but we didn't know it would happen so quickly! At the end of 2023, we were contacted by some key Leesville residents about the need for a youth program like Kingdom Center in that city. After meeting with the Mayor, we were offered a facility, lots of community support, and set the launch for March 15, 2024!



KC DeRidder youth and Leesville community members came together to help with building renovations!



Digital registration began following the business launch



We had a great turn-out for our youth launch on April 6 and opened April 8!

**Thank you to all the individuals and businesses that supported us with start-up funding and in-kind donations – we couldn't have done it without you!**

Kingdom Center is open 5 days a week and relies on volunteers to help us make a difference in the lives of our youth in DeRidder, Leesville, and surrounding communities.

**Please consider how you can support our efforts with your valuable time or financial resources.**

Office Hours (flex):

Mon, Tu, Thu: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Friday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Saturday: Office closed

Youth Services:

3:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
3:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
1:00 pm – 10:00 pm

**Website:** [www.kingdomcenterla.info](http://www.kingdomcenterla.info)

Sign up for our quarterly newsletter here!

**Phone:** (337) 221-1383

**Get the latest news on our [Facebook](#) page!**



We had eight youth who were "Freezin' for a Reason" as part of the community non-profit fundraiser at West Park Pool in DeRidder on February 17!

We all enjoyed some hot chili for lunch afterward!



We have a lot of teens that want a job so we're going to help them start building work ethics and drive to succeed through this lawn service program.

If you would consider allowing us to mow your lawn, please give us a call or message us to get an estimate. Thanks so much for helping us reach the youth of our community!



Several volunteers are helping develop life skills by building raised bed boxes with our youth for our Community Garden!



**Youth Activities & Events:**

- Billiard Tournament (1/6)
- Comedy and Music (1/8)
- Open Gym – Ignite Youth Ministry (1/20, 2/18)
- Life Skills – brake work (1/25)
- Super Bowl LVIII Party (2/11)
- Hip, Hop, Hope Community Event (3/30)
- Counselor Presentation (1/2, 2/6, 3/5)



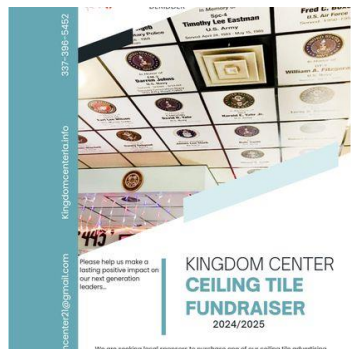
Impact statistics: (1st Quarter)	# of youth served	# of hours
January	117	580
February	148	547
March	139	404

**Marketing Opportunity – Ceiling Tile Fundraiser**

Put your business logo on one of our ceiling tiles where everyone can see it! A visible demonstration of your support of our youth and the programs that are offered at Kingdom Center! Call us today to reserve your 24' x 24' tile with a tax-deductible donation of only \$200.00!

**Burger Basket Fundraiser**

Come get our famous burger and hand-cut fries basket for lunch on Friday, June 14  
**Only \$14.00**



**Kingdom Center Sponsors and Contributors recognizing some of our new and regular supporters...**

We want to thank all our sponsors and donors for their generous support of our mission!

- Abundant Life Church
- Avery Gray Soapery
- Garrett Best
- Blessed with a Dress
- Jerry Bryan
- Chase Bank
- Christ Church of Oakdale
- City of DeRidder
- Dry Creek Bible Church
- Family Worship Center
- Grace Church/Missions
- Savannah Griego
- Carlos Hall
- John & Maxine Hendrix
- Laura Hext
- Danielle & Curtis Hoffpauir
- Marlon & Tori Keel
- Larry Reeves Trucking
- Alice Lorenz
- Christina Lunsford
- Amanda Martinez
- Arlene McCarty
- Network for Good
- Pelican Investors Group
- Pinewood Jr. Beta Club
- Tracy Sheedy
- Jeff Steech
- Theron's Auto Sales
- Unity Baptist Church
- Walmart

**Check with your employer for matching funds donation programs** – we were blessed by Fidelity Charitable who provided an additional double the contribution amount of one of their employees!

- We are also able to receive designated donations through the United Way of Southwest Louisiana!