



St. Bernard

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION



BOOMING DOWNRIVER

Opportunity awaits in Metro New Orleans

St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana,
Economic Development
Foundation

Search for Executive
Director



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Conducted
By:

Next Move Group
We Are Jobs

St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana



Just 5 miles east of downtown New Orleans, St. Bernard Parish is centrally located on the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Region. St. Bernard

Parish is home to flourishing petrochemical, oil and gas, seafood processing, and commercial fishing industries. With access to all Class I railroads operating in North America and four major highways, St. Bernard Parish has an enormous trade area that services 76 million people. Sharing a portion of the Louisiana port system, including both deep water and shallow draft ports, St. Bernard Parish contributes to one of the worlds largest port systems bringing millions of tons of cargo into and out of the country.

St. Bernard Parish has an estimated population of 45,642 (2025). St. Bernard was the fastest growing parish in Louisiana from 2010-2020. The parish seat and largest community is Chalmette. The parish is part of the New Orleans, LA Metropolitan Statistical Area. Census-designated places within the parish include Arabi, Chalmette, Meraux, Poydras, and Violet.



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St. Bernard Parish's Advantages

St. Bernard Parish was the fastest growing parish in Louisiana from 2010-2020. The St. Bernard / Orleans Parish Border is located just 5 miles from the French Quarter.

Our competitive advantages are:

- Low crime rate
- Great public schools
- Proximity to Downtown New Orleans
- Ample parking
- Streamlined permitting
- Mississippi River Access
- Federal Opportunity Zone
- Federal Historic District
- Enterprise Zone
- State Arts, Cultural and Historic District
- Active Community Development Entity

Sampling Of Largest Corporate Employers:



Part of the New Orleans MSA



St. Bernard Parish is located within the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area. **Greater New Orleans** is a metropolitan area designated by the United States Census encompassing multiple parishes centering around the city of New Orleans. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates 1.3 million people were living in the New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical area (MSA) in 2020.



Recent New Orleans Awards

#1

Business Climate

– Business Facilities

#1

Most Economical City

– KPMG

#1

Brain Magnet in America

– Forbes

#3 CITY

Winning the IT Jobs Battle

– Forbes



Sold on St Bernard IMAGINE



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0:12 / 1:04



Job Summary

The official economic development organization of St. Bernard Parish, the St. Bernard Economic Development Foundation (SBEDF), is seeking a passionate and self-motivated leader to serve as the organization's Executive Director.

The Executive Director will be responsible for carrying out the organization's mission of creating and retaining jobs, building prosperity, and improving quality of life in St. Bernard Parish. The Executive Director will report to an 8-person Executive Committee, and the full Board of Directors consisting of 31 civic and business leaders.

The position will be responsible for all facets of the organization including but not limited to board management, financials, fundraising, business development, business recruitment and expansion, program management, marketing, public relations, policy development, incentives analysis, and various administrative tasks. Working in concert with the Chair and Board of Directors, the Executive Director will be looked upon to guide the long-term vision and growth of the organization. Visit our website: <https://www.sbedf.org/>

What We Do

Our mission is to retain and create jobs, build prosperity, and improve the quality of life for St. Bernard citizens. Our goals are ambitious, our vision is transformative, and our efforts are a catalyst for economic growth in our community.



Business Attraction, Retention & Expansion

SBEDF offers confidential, one-on-one consultation, site selection, incentives information, and serves as a liaison to ensure businesses can access needed resources.

[Learn more](#)



Neighborhood Revitalization

In partnership with SBPG, SBEDF works to create economically viable, aesthetically pleasing, safe communities for people to live and work.

[Learn more](#)



Small Business Assistance

Small businesses are key to Parish quality of life, and SBEDF is committed to supporting them through technical assistance and educational programming.

[Learn more](#)



Talent & Workforce Development

Everyday, SBEDF works with employers and talent throughout the region to develop pathways for our people and employers to join together and flourish.

[Learn more](#)

Qualifications

The successful candidate must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university and 3-6 years economic development, advocacy, business, or public works experience.

Advanced economic development coursework is preferred.

The desired candidate should have extensive and varied economic development experience with demonstrated success and strong leadership skills. Experience with strategic planning, fundraising, financial management, real estate development, community relations, and political knowledge is preferred.

Our Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate is capable of being the face of the organization and capable of growing the SBEDF and St. Bernard brands inside and outside the local community. He or she will be an excellent communicator, able to effectively make an "elevator speech" to CEOs, elected officials, prospective businesses donors, and the person in line at the grocery store. The candidate will have strong emotional intelligence, able to read any room. He or she will be aggressive about growing the local economy and the revenues of the organization via fundraising.

Equal Opportunity Employer

St. Bernard Parish Economic Development Foundation is an Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer and supports diversity in the workplace. All employment decisions are made without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, marital or family status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information.

Knowledge & Skills

The candidate must show acumen in the highly specific field of economic development and have the following skills:

- Must have the ability to communicate oral and in writing effectively (communication with board and staff, pitching businesses by using data and persuasion) is required. Preparation of documents, collateral, marketing materials, and reports is key.
- Must be able to manage an organization and be influential in discussions with board members, businesses, elected officials, and community leaders with the ability to sell ideas and be efficient in high pressure situations.
- Must have a strong grasp of economic development drivers such as tax structures, incentives, utility costs, housing, demographics, workforce, transportation, site locations, public relations, and the latest trends and theories in the economic development field.
- Ability to fundraise.
- Manage resources and staff to achieve the organization's mission of retaining and creating jobs, building prosperity, and improving quality of life in St. Bernard Parish.
- Administer personnel and administrative functions of organization such as financial management, operations, performance evaluations, and work analysis.



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Our Programs

We focus our efforts on job and wealth creation for the people of St. Bernard Parish. The more high-wage jobs and wealth-creating companies in St. Bernard Parish, the better the quality of life and the greater career opportunities for members of our community.



Grow St. Bernard

Grow St. Bernard offers access to education on current trends and best practices for business operations to professionals across the region.

[Learn more](#)



Real Estate Investor Series

The St. Bernard Real Estate Investor Series is a monthly education & networking program connecting investors & real estate professionals.

[Learn more](#)



Startup St. Bernard

Startup St. Bernard is an annual startup business challenge where entrepreneurs apply for a chance to pitch their business to a panel of judges for over \$100,000 in prizes.

[Learn more](#)



St. Claude Collective

We offer flexible memberships to our shared workspace in the heart of St. Claude. Enjoy a dedicated desk, shared coworking spaces, and access to member amenities and benefits.

[Learn More](#)



St. Bernard

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Our Investors

Keystone Champions



Harvest Investors



Blossom Contributors



Our Investors

Sprout Partners



Seed Sponsors



Groundwork Supporters

Chaffe McCall ♦ Clifford Reuther ♦ Dawn Lopez ♦ Doris Voitier ♦ Drew Heaphy ♦ Elizabeth Ellison-Frost ♦ Frederick J. Sigur Investment Company ♦ Jessica Daigle ♦ Joseph DiFatta Jr. ♦ Kim Jones ♦ Lani Fast ♦ Lisamarie Brandon ♦ Meaghan McCormack ♦ Mindy Nuñez Airhart ♦ Online Optimism ♦ Ponstein's Food Store ♦ Sarah Alidor ♦ Sean Warner ♦ TLC Realty ♦ Zeljko Franks



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Our Target Industries



Energy

Oil and Gas continues to thrive for over a century. These companies collectively employ thousands and result in millions of tax dollars to St. Bernard Parish. Additionally, Louisiana is ideal for solar and other alternative, renewable energy sources.



Digital Media

New Orleans is often referred to as “Hollywood South.” St. Bernard Parish is home to a world-class film studio & the most lucrative local tax incentive in the state, drawing multi-million dollar productions. The diversity of landscape, tax-friendly environment, skilled local workforce, and proximity to the French Quarter continues to drive filmmakers to choose St. Bernard.



Coastal & Environmental

Louisiana is the primary domestic source of the nation’s seafood. Not only does St. Bernard Parish have one of the most robust commercial seafood industries but, over 5 billion dollars is being invested to restore and protect the marshes and wetlands surrounding New Orleans and other coastal cities.

Our Target Industries



Arts & Culture

Arabi has established itself as an emerging hot spot for the arts in New Orleans. Old Arabi continues to garner interest from budding artists, retailers, restaurants, entrepreneurs, and investors as an historic neighborhood and Louisiana certified arts district.



Maritime

St. Bernard Parish developed along the Mississippi River. Its location just south of the Port of New Orleans, the fourth-largest port in the United States, creates a demand for support services, and develops a highly skilled workforce. The St. Bernard Port also handles 9.5 million tons of cargo and employs approximately 900 people.



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Public Schools

St. Bernard Public School District is ranked Top 10 in the state. Chalmette High School is A rated with state-of-the-art facility featuring a theatre, a cultural arts center, and an Olympic size swimming pool.

Academic Excellence

St. Bernard Parish Schools offer academically rigorous instruction while providing a nurturing and supportive classroom environment

- St. Bernard Parish Schools is one of the top ranking districts in the state for both student achievement and teacher effectiveness.
- Chalmette High School for the last two years has received an A letter grade, placing it among the top high schools in the state.
- The Chalmette High School Class of 2016 was awarded over \$11 million in academic scholarships.
- We are one of the few districts in the state that offers a universal preschool program.

Extracurricular Achievements

St. Bernard Parish believes in developing the whole child, offering students of all ages the opportunity to participate in athletics and the arts.

- All second grade students have the opportunity to learn swimming and water safety at Chalmette High School's Olympic swimming facility.
- Chalmette High School's Cultural Arts Center showcases Broadway caliber theater productions such as *Shrek*, *Peter Pan*, and *Cinderella* performed each summer by elementary, middle, high and alumni students.
- Chalmette High School athletic teams routinely earn District Championship titles each year.

State-of-the-Art Facilities

Our schools were the first newly constructed public buildings in the metro area after Hurricane Katrina, and today we have 11 new state-of-the-art schools with a 12th on the way.

- Chalmette High School's athletic facilities rival many university campuses and offer student athletes football, baseball and softball fields and field houses, batting facilities, an Olympic swimming pool, wrestling facilities, two fitness centers, three gymnasiums, and indoor and outdoor running tracks.
- The arts take center stage at Chalmette High School's Cultural Arts facility with a 420 seat theater, a technology theater, two dance studios, a chorus room, a music lab and four practice rooms, a recording studio, and a costume shop.
- The Maumus Center includes a planetarium, a 125-seat auditorium, a professional teaching kitchen, a gallery space, and an edible garden.

Nunez Community College



Nunez Community College is a student-centered institution that delivers relevant and innovative curriculum integrating the arts, sciences, and humanities leading to academic credentials and workforce opportunities.

Nunez serves a vital role in the community by engaging with partners to support student success and personal growth. Nunez is a catalyst of economic development in our local and regional communities by providing short and long-term occupational skills training to meet the needs of business and industry. Nunez has a sharp focus on aggressively providing students with industry-based certifications and preparing those graduates to immediately enter and impact today's workforce and into the future.

Nunez Community College is one of 12 institutions that comprise Louisiana's Community and Technical College Systems and is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate degrees, certificates, and diplomas.

Nunez is located at 3710 Paris Road, Chalmette, LA. For more information, visit www.nunez.edu.

Healthcare



St. Bernard Parish Hospital is owned by the Hospital Service District of the Parish of St. Bernard, State of Louisiana, a political subdivision of the State, and managed by Ochsner Health System.

In September 2012, St. Bernard Parish Hospital opened to provide quality and cost-effective healthcare services for the residents of St. Bernard Parish.

Advantages:

- 100 Doctors
- 40 Private Rooms
- Full Diagnostic Imaging Capability
- 24,000 Annual ER Visits with a 10-bed Emergency Department



St. Bernard Port



Unique Facilities

- Located 5 Miles South of New Orleans
- 5 Vessel Calm Water Slip
- 50-acre Intermodal Facilities
- 4 berths - 4 Mid-Stream Mooring Buoys

Strong Economic Impact

Generating More than 2,000 jobs
&
\$325 Million Annual Spending for
the Local Economy



**ST. BERNARD PORT,
HARBOR & TERMINAL
DISTRICT**

St. Bernard Port, Overview Video



Cargo off-loaded at the Port is transported to cities across the nation by barges, rail cars, and trucks.

All terminals have access to all six Class One Railroads, as well as Interstate highways I-10, I-610 and I-510.

The river connects to the Industrial Canal, the Intercoastal Waterway and the Gulf of Mexico.

Flood Protection & Coastal Restoration



St. Bernard Parish has invested \$1.4 billion in flood protection infrastructure including 23 miles of new floodwall, 2 new navigation floodgates, 12 new land-based floodgates, 4 new highway floodgates, and 1 new railroad floodgate.

Coastal restoration and rehabilitation has become a priority for the local municipality and the state of Louisiana. St. Bernard Parish has received funding for several large-scale coastal restoration projects attached to the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA.)



Sports & Recreation

The parish is visited year-round by a variety of Sportsman and hosts several tournaments, rodeos, and large-scale events which draw national media coverage and competition.



Val Riess Recreation Complex, Louisiana's premier baseball and softball complex, hosts approximately 3,120 traveling teams per year attracting over 78,000 attendees. The 33-acre facility hosts teams from across the Gulf Coast and Northern Louisiana on a weekly basis and the grounds is home to walking trails, bike paths and multipurpose building. St. Bernard Parish is scheduled to have a 6-mile levee-top trail extending from Meraux to St. Bernard State Park along the Mississippi River constructed in the coming year.



The Yellowfin Elite Redfish Series along with several other sportsman competitions are held annually in St. Bernard drawing national media coverage including ESPN and large corporate sponsors.



Compensation

Salary: \$125,000, plus
bonus potential.



How to Apply

Submit a cover letter & resume merged into one pdf by **Friday, May 29th, 2026, at 4 pm Central Time**. Submit resumes electronically to

ali@thenextmovegroup.com Feel free to call **Chad Chancellor, 504-648-7716**, with any questions.



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References & Background Checks

The finalists for the position will undergo background checks that may include:

- criminal records
- driving records
- education completion
- personality profile assessments
- drug testing
- references from prior positions

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