



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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Louisiana Edible Creations Center® receives \$25,000 grant from Credit Bureau of Baton Rouge, Inc.

Grant to be used for start-up expenses and helping displaced food companies in Southeast LA

(Sorrento, May 2, 2006) A \$25,000 grant from the Credit Bureau of Baton Rouge, Inc. has been awarded to the Louisiana Edible Creations Center® (LECC) through the Ascension Economic Development Corporation's newly created charitable foundation. The grant will be used for start-up equipment expenses at the facility and will assist displaced food companies with facility needs.

The LECC is 5,000 square foot commissary located at the Lamar Dixon Expo Center in Gonzales and is the first shared kitchen food incubator in Louisiana to help grow the food processing industry within the State. The facility, pending state and local health permits, expects to begin receiving tenants in late May/early June.

The Credit Bureau of Baton Rouge, Inc. established a Donor Advised Fund with the Baton Rouge Area Foundation shortly after Katrina and Rita to assist with recovery and economic development in those areas impacted by these natural disasters. The grant to the LECC was awarded from this special donor fund.

Stephen Moret, President and CEO of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, was instrumental in working with AEDC officials and Layne McDaniel, Chairman of the Credit Bureau of Baton Rouge, and Dub Noel, an Ascension Parish representative on the Bureau Board, in securing the grant for the Ascension Economic Development Foundation.

"We are excited to see the Ascension Economic Development Corporation getting off to such a fast start with the food incubator and several other important projects already underway. We were very pleased to support the grant application for the food incubator and look forward to expanding our partnership over the next few years," said Stephen Moret.

AEDC officials have one major catering tenant who has already signed a rental agreement for the facility and have more than four additional tenants who are applying for admission into the facility.

Edie Michel, AEDC's Director of Business Development, is coordinating the LECC project. Tenants interested in renting space within the LECC can call Edie at 225-675-1750 and can download applications on line at: <http://www.ascensionedc.com/ediblecreations.html>.

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