

# Empowering and uplifting young people in our community!

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## Uplifting News – January 2025

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

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10, NIV)

Where did 2024 go? -- Time flies when you're keeping busy, and the last quarter went by FAST! Come join us for one of our events or in our Gameroom as we host regular activities

#### Fundraising at the Fair – Thank you to everyone who came and supported this annual event in October!







We had a great turn-out for our first annual charity bike ride – **Pedal to Empower Teens** -- in November! More than 60 riders helped us raise over \$4,500 to further the mission of empowering teens.



Blessed to offer a delicious gumbo lunch to all participants and volunteers, courtesy of ...









Weekly Events



**Monthly Events** 



Everyday fun, games, and tutoring as needed



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.

Mon, Tu, Thu: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm Sign up for our quarterly newsletter here!

Friday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm 3:00 pm - 10:00 pm **Phone:** (337) 221-1383

Saturday: Office closed 1:00 pm - 10:00 pm Get the latest news on our Facebook page!

### Kingdom Center is preparing youth with life skills for the future...



Guest speakers from NSU Nursing Program: Bullying and its effects







Man Up Monday: Small engine skills





One of the first things students asked for in Leesville: Tutoring

Tutors are available as needed in both locations!

We've been blessed with opportunities to share our mission:

Youth shared the impact of our programs with members of **Pilot International** Louisiana District in Lafayette.





community mission groups in December.





So grateful to bring joy to so many this Christmas!



Impact statistics:	<u>DeRidder</u>		<u>Leesville</u>	
(4th Quarter)	# of youth	# of	# of youth	# of
	<u>served</u>	<u>hours</u>	<u>served</u>	<u>hours</u>
October	62	279	24	127
November	69	426	22	171
December	64	533	40	250

Other Youth Activities & Events:
Pilot Club International, Lafayette & Aquarium (10/13)
Movie Night in Lake Charles (11/29)
Drug Awareness Presentation (11/5, 12/3)

# 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!

- Amerisafe, Inc.
- Ben Burwell
- Chris Burwell
- Corey Cantrell
- Cato Corporation
- Robert & Angie Donahue
- First Baptist Church DeRidder
- John & Beryl Ford

- Lisa Franklin
- First Baptist Church DeRidder
- God's Temple of Refuge
- John & Maxine Hendrix
- J & M Property Management
- Connie Kirk
- Naja Moody
- Packaging Corp. Of America

- Ashley Pfantz
- Nelson & Carly SantaAna
- Tracy Sheedy
- · Danielle Slate
- · Evelyn H. Smith
- Jonathon Sossamon
- Stellar Bank
- Joshua Tolbert



Our **Kingdom Cooks** program is expanding!

We've been awarded use of the DeRidder Baseball Concession Stand Complex for the 2025 season!

**Check with your employer for matching funds donation programs** - We are also able to receive designated donations through the United Way of Southwest Louisiana!