



**Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**As of and for the Year Ended**

**June 30, 2022**



Baton Rouge, Louisiana

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**John L. McKowen**  
Certified Public Accountant

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Board of Directors  
HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

I have audited the financial statements of HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge (HOPE Ministries), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2022, and the related statement of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of HOPE Ministries as of June 30, 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows or the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Basis for Opinions***

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am required to be independent of HOPE Ministries and to meet my other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to my audit. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about HOPE Ministries' ability to continue as a going concern for one year beyond the date that the financial statements are issued.

**Member**  
*American Institute of Certified Public Accountants*  
*Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants*

## ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement of a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, I

- exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of HOPE Ministries' internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in my judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about HOPE Ministries' ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

I am required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that I identified during the audit.

### ***Supplementary Information***

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise HOPE Ministries' basic financial statements. The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to the Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic

financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In my opinion, the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to the Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued my report dated November 11, 2022, on my consideration of HOPE Ministries’ internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering HOPE Ministries’ internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

***Report on Summarized Comparative Information***

I have previously audited HOPE Ministries’ 2021 financial statements, and I expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in my report dated November 15, 2021. In my opinion, the comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

  
John L. McKowen, CPA

Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
November 11, 2022

**HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

June 30, 2022

(with summarized comparative amounts for 2021)

**ASSETS**

<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	2022	2021
Cash	\$ 126,363	\$ 55,337
Investments	576,447	575,133
Accounts receivable	320,009	98,813
Inventory	11,753	8,578
Grants receivable	125,000	135,000
Prepaid expenses	2,705	5,693
Total current assets	1,162,277	878,554
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property and equipment, net	926,188	904,083
Total assets	\$ 2,088,465	\$ 1,782,637

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 81,670	\$ 70,832
Total current liabilities	81,670	70,832
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Without donor restrictions	1,021,324	1,054,379
With donor restrictions	985,471	657,426
Total net assets	\$ 2,006,795	\$ 1,711,805
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 2,088,465	\$ 1,782,637

**HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
For the year ended June 30, 2022  
(with summarized comparative amounts for 2021)

	<u>2022</u>			<u>2021</u>
	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>				
Grants	696,563	833,849	1,530,412	\$ 813,216
Contributions:				
Community	80,478	-	80,478	94,790
Individual	193,823	15,018	208,841	204,473
Other:				
In-kind	-	408,001	408,001	342,932
Social enterprise	132,412	-	132,412	81,271
Investment	1,320	-	1,320	1,698
PPP loan forgiveness	-	-	-	94,960
	<u>1,104,596</u>	<u>1,256,868</u>	<u>2,361,464</u>	<u>1,633,340</u>
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>928,823</u>	<u>(928,823)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total public support and revenue	<u>2,033,419</u>	<u>328,045</u>	<u>2,361,464</u>	<u>1,633,340</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Program services	1,739,631	-	1,739,631	1,144,808
Management and general	263,992	-	263,992	34,255
Fundraising	62,851	-	62,851	154,315
	<u>2,066,474</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,066,474</u>	<u>1,333,378</u>
Total expenses	<u>2,066,474</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,066,474</u>	<u>1,333,378</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(33,055)	328,045	294,990	299,962

**NET ASSETS**

Beginning of year	<u>1,054,379</u>	<u>657,426</u>	<u>1,711,805</u>	<u>1,411,843</u>
End of year	<u>1,021,324</u>	<u>985,471</u>	<u>2,006,795</u>	<u>\$ 1,711,805</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

**HOPE MINISTRIES OF BATON ROUGE**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES**

For the year ended June 30, 2022

(with comparative amounts for June 30, 2021)

EXPENSES	2022			2021	
	Program Services	Management and General	Fundraising	Total	Total
Salaries	787,849	95,299	26,953	910,101	599,670
Programming	421,171	20	11	421,202	381,372
Direct client assistance	88,742	-	-	88,742	-
Professional fees	81,022	3,090	1,574	85,686	71,310
Office/occupancy expense	54,678	10,012	4,393	69,083	48,341
Payroll taxes	61,897	7,754	2,105	71,756	46,808
Depreciation	-	42,581	-	42,581	38,932
Employee benefits	83,230	33,742	3,548	120,520	28,943
Insurance	-	23,736	-	23,736	26,363
Other	9,605	10,332	6,244	26,181	24,001
Facilities maintenance	19,405	19,181	696	39,282	22,701
Technology expense	32,786	5,525	137	38,448	15,105
Professional development	44,660	1,608	6,470	52,738	11,237
Travel	30,882	8,383	803	40,068	9,411
Telephone	11,894	934	480	13,308	9,067
Fund development	11,810	1,795	9,437	23,042	117
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>1,739,631</b>	<b>263,992</b>	<b>62,851</b>	<b>2,066,474</b>	<b>1,333,378</b>

**HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

For the year ended June 30, 2022  
(with comparative amounts for 2021)

	2022	2021
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ 294,990	\$ 299,962
Adjustments for non-cash items:		
Depreciation	42,581	38,932
Change in operating assets and liabilities		
Receivables and other assets	(211,383)	(10,473)
Accounts payable and other liabilities	10,838	4,859
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	137,026	333,280
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
(Purchase) sale of property and equipment	(64,686)	(93,816)
(Purchase) sale of investments	(1,314)	(151,698)
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	(66,000)	(245,514)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM NONCASH FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Forgiveness of PPP loan	-	(94,960)
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	-	(94,960)
Net increase (decrease) in cash	71,026	(7,194)
Beginning of year	55,337	62,561
End of year	\$ 126,363	\$ 55,337

HOPE Ministries had interest expense of \$41 and no income tax expense for the year ended June 30, 2022. It had neither interest nor income tax expense for the year ended June, 30, 2021.

## **HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Nature of activities**

HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge (HOPE Ministries) is a faith based nonprofit organization working with transitionally homeless families, and impoverished individuals in south Louisiana to help them become self-sufficient, enhance work and education possibilities and become equipped to make sound decisions and solve problems. HOPE Ministries is funded through contributions and grants from various organizations and individuals in south Louisiana.

##### **Basis of presentation**

HOPE Ministries prepares its financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting. The significant accounting policies are described below to enhance the usefulness of the financial statements.

HOPE Ministries reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to two classes of net assets: net assets without donor restrictions and net assets with donor restrictions.

The statement of activities presents expenses of HOPE Ministries functionally by program services, fundraising, and management and general.

##### **Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates are used primarily when accounting for the allowance for doubtful accounts, depreciation, prepaid assets, accrued liabilities and in-kind revenues.

##### **Income tax status**

HOPE Ministries qualifies as a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; therefore, the financial statements have no provision for federal and state income tax.

HOPE Ministries follows FASB ASC 740-10, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*. Management has determined that there is no impact to the financial statements as a result of ASC 740-10. HOPE Ministries' open audit periods are 2019 through 2021.

### **Cash and cash equivalents**

HOPE Ministries considers all highly liquid investments, money market funds and certificates of deposit with a maturity of three months or less at the date of acquisition to be cash equivalents. There were no cash equivalents at June 30, 2022.

### **Investments**

Investments have been recorded at market value, with the amount of unrealized gain or loss recorded in the statement of activities. The investments are pooled funds maintained by the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana (UMFL) in a bond fund that is invested in a diversified portfolio of domestic and international bonds.

FASB ASC 810, *Fair Value Measurements*, establishes a framework for measuring fair value through a hierarchy that prioritizes the sources of pricing information (inputs) to valuation techniques used for measurement. The highest priority is given to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under ASC 810 are described as follows:

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that HOPE Ministries has the ability to access.

Level 2– Inputs including:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 – Inputs that are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

Investments in debt and equity securities with readily determinable fair values are recorded at fair value using level 1 inputs. Unrealized gains and losses are recorded in current period operations as increases or decreases in net assets. Dividend, interest, and other investment income are recorded as an increase in net assets.

**Accounts receivable**

Accounts receivable are trade receivables recorded at cost, net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. Management believes all accounts are collectible; therefore, an allowance has not been recorded at June 30, 2022. HOPE Ministries does not require collateral for its receivables. \$121,695 in receivables from the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services were more than 90 days past due at June 30, 2022.

**Inventory**

Inventory is valued at cost using the first in, first out method and consists of food held by the Food Pantry program and curriculum manuals for The Way to Work program. The cost is recorded as an expense as inventory items are consumed.

**Property and depreciation**

Property is stated at cost, or fair market value if donated, and depreciated over the estimated useful lives using the straight-line method for values in excess of \$500. Maintenance and repairs expenditures are expensed as incurred.

**Personal leave benefit**

Personal leave is earned at varying rates for four to five weeks per year depending on the length of service. A maximum of 26 days of unused vacation leave may be carried over at December 31. Vacation leave at June 30, 2022, was \$22,427, and is included in accrued liabilities.

**Fair value of financial instruments**

The carrying value of receivables, prepaid insurance, accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximates fair value due to the short-term maturity of these instruments. None of these financial instruments are held for trading purposes.

**Grant revenue**

HOPE Ministries receives grants to support its activities as well as grants restricted for specific purposes. Restricted grants that have not been fully expended at period-end are classified as net assets with donor restrictions.

**Concentrations of credit risk**

Financial instruments which subject HOPE Ministries to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of investments in money market funds and mutual funds. HOPE Ministries typically maintains cash in local banks. Cash deposits are fully insured by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as they are below the maximum insured amounts of \$250,000.

### **In-kind contributions**

The value of contributed goods and services has been recognized at the fair market value of the benefit received. HOPE Ministries received \$408,001 of in-kind contributions during the year ended June 30, 2021, which included \$337,141 in contributed food and \$70,860 in contributed services.

Contributions of services are recognized in the financial statements if the services enhance or create non-financial assets or require specialized skills, are provided by individuals possessing these skills, and would typically be purchased if not provided by donation.

### **Advertising**

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expenses during the period were \$15,685.

### **NOTE 2- INVESTMENTS**

Investments, with a cost of \$576,447 and fair value of \$576,447, were held in the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana Fixed Income Fund.

### **NOTE 3 – UNCONDITIONAL PROMISES TO GIVE**

At June 30, 2022, HOPE Ministries had a total of \$125,000 in unconditional promises to give, all of which, was expected to be received in the next twelve months.

Contributions are recognized when the donor makes a promise to give that is, in substance, unconditional. Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in net assets without donor restrictions if the restrictions expire in the fiscal period in which the contributions are recognized. All other donor restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified as net assets without donor restrictions.

The Organization uses the allowance method to determine uncollectible promises receivable. The allowance is based on prior experience and management's analysis of specific promises made. Management has determined that no allowance is necessary as of June 30, 2022.

### **NOTE 4 – PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

At June 30, 2022, property and equipment was as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Service Life</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Buildings	39 years	\$ 981,548
Equipment	5 years	113,155

Intangibles	5 years	14,590
Furniture and fixtures	7 years	14,111
Land	-	142,000
		<hr/>
		1,265,405
Less accumulated depreciation		(339,217)
		<hr/>
		<u>\$ 926,188</u>

Depreciation expense for the year ended June 30, 2022 was \$42,581.

Purchases during the year ended June 30, 2022 included equipment costing \$12,070, and building improvements costing \$52,616.

#### **NOTE 5 – NET ASSETS**

At June 30, 2022, HOPE Ministries had \$1,021,324 in net assets without restriction.

Also, at June 30, 2022 net assets with donor restrictions included the \$359,338 net value of the headquarters buildings and the \$142,000 value of the land upon which the buildings rest. Title to the land and buildings will revert to the Louisiana Conference of the United Methodist Church should HOPE Ministries cease to exist. There was also \$125,000 in time restricted and \$359,133 in purpose restricted grants receivable for a total of \$985,471 in net assets with donor restrictions.

#### **NOTE 6 – SIGNIFICANT SOURCES OF REVENUE**

The majority of support during the year ended June 30, 2022 was received from contributors and granting agencies from the Baton Rouge area. Most significantly, the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services provided \$497,315 in revenues to The Way to Work program, or 21% of total revenues. In addition, the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank provided food to the Food Pantry program, representing 18% of total revenues.

#### **NOTE 7 – LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSETS**

The Organization had \$1,147,819 of financial assets available within one year of the statement of financial position date available to meet cash needs for general and operating expenditures, consisting of cash and equivalents of \$126,363, investments of \$576,447 and receivables and unconditional promise to give of \$445,009.

As part of the organization's liquidity management plan, excess cash is placed in the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana Fixed Income Fund that can be accessed to meet unexpected liquidity needs or in the event of financial distress.

## **NOTE 8 – ALLOCATION OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES**

The Statement of Functional Expenses reports certain categories of expenses that are attributable to more than one program or support function. Therefore, these expenses require allocation on a reasonable basis that is consistently applied. The expenses that are allocated include salaries and benefits and professional fees, which are allocated on the basis of estimates of time and effort.

## **NOTE 9 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management of HOPE Ministries has evaluated subsequent events through November 11, 2022, the date that these financial statements were available to be issued and has determined that there are no significant subsequent events that require recognition or disclosure through that date.

**John L. McKowen**  
Certified Public Accountant

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Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER  
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED  
ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Board of Directors  
HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

I have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge, which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2022 and the related statement of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated November 11, 2022.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during my audit I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

## **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge's financial statements are free from material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of my testing of internal control and compliance and the results of testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, the Legislative Auditor distributes this report as a public document.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John L. McKowen, CPA". The signature is written in a cursive style.

John L. McKowen, CPA

Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
November 11, 2022

**HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
For the year ended June 30, 2022

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I have audited the financial statements of HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and have issued my report thereon November 11, 2022. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. My audit of the financial statements as of June 30, 2022 resulted in an unqualified opinion.

**Section I Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements**

None

**Section II Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards**

None

**Section III Management Letter**

None

**HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
For the year ended June 30, 2022

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**Section I Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements**

None

**Section II Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards**

None

**Section III Management Letter**

None

**HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND OTHER PAYMENTS TO  
AGENCY HEAD OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

June 30, 2022

**AGENCY HEAD NAME: Janet C. Simmons, President and CEO**

Ms. Simmons received the following compensation, benefits and other payments derived from public (governmental) funds which require disclosure in accordance with La. R.S. 24:513(A)(3).

Salary	\$33,755
Benefits	5,784
Mileage	<u>536</u>
Total	<u>\$40,075</u>

**John L. McKowen**  
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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT  
ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

To the Board of Directors of HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge (the Organization) and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

I have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Louisiana CASA Association's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge (the Organization) has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

***Written Policies and Procedures***

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1. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe that they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
  - a) ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget  
*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address budgeting.*
  - b) ***Purchasing***, including (1) how purchases are initiated; (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list; (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders; (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law; and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.  
*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address purchasing.*
  - c) ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.  
*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address disbursements.*

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- d) **Receipts/Collections**, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g. periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address receipts/collections.*

- e) **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee(s) rate of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.

*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address payroll/personnel.*

- f) **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.

*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address contracting.*

- g) **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, P-Cards, if applicable)**, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).

*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address credit cards.*

- h) **Travel and expense reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.

*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address travel and expense reimbursement.*

- i) **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.

*Not applicable, the Organization is a nonprofit entity.*

- j) **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.

*Not applicable, the Organization has no debt.*

- k) **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application

of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.

*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address information technology disaster recovery/business continuity.*

- l) **Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

*The Organization has written policies and procedures that address sexual harassment.*

### ***Board or Finance Committee***

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2. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:

- a) Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.

*The board of directors met six times during the year with a quorum present, in accordance with its written policies and procedures.*

- b) For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. *Alternately, for those entities reporting on the nonprofit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.*

*The minutes referenced monthly budget to actual comparisons, including financial activity relating to public funds.*

For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.

*Not applicable to nonprofit entities.*

### ***Bank Reconciliations***

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3. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:

- a) Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);

*Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date.*

- b) Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management/board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and

*Bank reconciliations do not include evidence that a member of management/board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation.*

- c) Management has documentation reflecting that it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

*Not applicable, there were no items that had been outstanding for more than 12 months.*

#### Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers )

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4. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).

*Management represents that there is one deposit site and one collection location.*

5. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (i.e. 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:

- a) Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.

*Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.*

- b) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.

*Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits.*

- c) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit.

*Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers.*

- d) The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

*The contract CPA responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is not responsible for collecting cash.*

6. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was enforced during the fiscal period.

*There was no insurance policy for theft in force during the fiscal period.*

7. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for procedure #3 under "Bank Reconciliations" above (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). *Alternately, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.* Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:

- a) Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.

*The collection of actual cash is a rare occurrence. The Organization does not have pre-numbered receipts.*

- b) Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

*Collection documentation was traced to the deposit slip.*

- c) Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.

*Deposit slip totals were traced to the actual deposit per the bank statement.*

- d) Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).

*Deposits were made within one business day of receipt.*

- e) Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

*Deposits per the bank statement were traced to the general ledger.*

***Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases/payments, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)***

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8. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).

*Management represents that there is one location that processes payments.*

9. For each location selected under #8 above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:

- a) At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order/making the purchase.

*At least two individuals are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order/making the purchase.*

- b) At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.

*At least two individuals are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.*

- c) The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files.

*The contract accountant periodically reviews changes to vendor files.*

- d) Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments.

*The Executive Director gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments.*

10. For each location selected under #8 above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction and:

- a) Observe that the disbursement matched the related original itemized invoice and that supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity.

*The disbursements matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicated that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity.*

- b) Observe that the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.

*The disbursement documentation included evidence of segregation of duties.*

#### **Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-Cards**

11. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons

who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.

*The listing was obtained.*

12. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement), obtain supporting documentation, and:

- a) Observe that there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) was reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved), by someone other than the authorized card holder.

*There is evidence that the statement and supporting documentation was reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved), by someone other than the authorized card holder.*

- b) Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.

*There were no finance charges assessed on the selected statements.*

13. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #12 above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (i.e. each card should have 10 transactions subject to testing). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and note whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

*The itemized receipts described above were obtained along with acceptable supporting documentation.*

#### **Travel and Travel-Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions)**

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14. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements, obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected:

- a) If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration ([www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov)).

*Not applicable, there were no reimbursements using a per diem.*

- b) If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.

*The reimbursements were supported by original itemized receipts that identified precisely what was purchased.*

- c) Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by written policy (procedure #1h).

*Each reimbursement was supported by documentation of the business/public purpose.*

Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

*Each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.*

## ***Contracts***

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15. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternately, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and:

- a) Observe that the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law.

*None of the contracts observed required bids in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law.*

- b) Observe that the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).

*The contracts chosen did not require board approval.*

- c) If the contract was amended (e.g. change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g. if approval is required for any amendment was approval documented).

*There were no contract amendments.*

- d) Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

*The invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.*

## *Payroll and Personnel*

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16. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.

*Done.*

17. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #16 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:

- a) Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory). (Note: Generally, officials are not eligible to earn leave and do not document their attendance and leave. However, if the official is earning leave according to a policy and/or contract, the official should document his/her daily attendance and leave.)

*All selected employees documented their daily attendance and leave.*

- b) Observe that supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials.

*Supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees.*

- c) Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.

*Leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.*

- d) Observe that the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

*The rate paid to the employees agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.*

18. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete Randomly select two employees or officials, obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee or officials' cumulate leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee or officials' authorized pay rates in the employee or officials' personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.

*The hours and pay rates used in calculation of the termination payments to the two employees terminated during the period agreed to the cumulative leave records and authorized pay rates, and were in accordance with Organization policy.*

19. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g. payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance

premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

*Management represents that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.*

### ***Ethics***

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20. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #16 under "Payroll and Personnel" above obtain ethics documentation from management, and:

a. Observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the fiscal period.

*Not applicable to nonprofit entities.*

b. Observe that the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.

*Not applicable.*

### ***Debt Service***

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21. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued.

*Not applicable, the Organization has no debt.*

22. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

*Not applicable.*

### ***Fraud Notice***

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23. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled.

*Not applicable, there were no misappropriations of assets.*

24. Observe that the entity has posted on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

*The entity has posted on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.*

### ***Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity***

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25. Perform the following procedures, **verbally discuss the results with management, and report “We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.”**

- a. Obtain and inspect the entity’s most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if no written documentation, inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe that such backup occurred within the past week. If backups are stored on a physical medium (e.g., tapes, CDs), observe evidence that backups are encrypted before being transported.

*I performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.*

- b. Obtain and inspect the entity’s most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if no written documentation, inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.

*I performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.*

- c. Obtain a listing of the entity’s computers currently in use, and their related locations, and management’s representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.

*I performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.*

### ***Sexual Harassment***

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26. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #16 under “Payroll and Personnel” above, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year.

*Sexual harassment training is not required for nonprofit entities.*

27. Observe that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity’s premises if the entity does not have a website).

*Not applicable.*

28. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that it includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
- a. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
  - b. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
  - c. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
  - d. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
  - e. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

*Not applicable.*

I was engaged by HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted my engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. I was not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had I performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to my attention that would have been reported to you.

I am required to be independent of HOPE Ministries of Baton Rouge and to meet my other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to my agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.



John L. McKowen, CPA  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
November 11, 2022