

Plaquemines Parish Government

Benedict "Benny" Rousselle

Council Member District 5

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Healthiest Cities & Counties Challenge

Re: DOGGONEEXPRESS's grant application

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support of DOGGONEEXPRESS' application for funding in order to implement the PAWS FOR CHANGE program in Plaquemines Parish. Plaquemines Parish Department of Juvenile Services will be working with DOGGONEEXPRESS and PAWS to teach at-risk youth how to train and assess canines.

Once the youth have trained the canines, inmates from one of two prisons in Louisiana, Rayburn or LCIW, with over three years' experience, will train the canines to become service animals. After training, the dogs can be placed with either Veterans or families of children with autism to provide much needed physical and emotional support.

The at-risk youth, veterans and autistic children would greatly benefit from the efforts of DOGGONEEXPRESS and the outreach programs that can be provided to our community; therefore, I strongly support DOGGONEEXPRESS' application for funding, not only as a Council Member, but also as a life-long resident of Plaquemines Parish.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions or need any assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Benny Rousselle
Plaquemines Parish Council
District 5