

About Us

Gulf Coast Teaching Family Services (GCTFS) is now doing business as Gulf Coast Social Services (GCSS). We are a private, non-profit corporation founded in 1983 in Louisiana to provide comprehensive human service programs for Louisiana citizens, children and adults, with various physical and mental challenges.

Our mission is to empower people with mental, physical, behavioral, and other challenges to improve the quality of their lives and to live as independently as possible in the community.

We operate seven regional offices located in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Hammond, Houma, Lafayette, Lake Charles, and New Orleans.

Areas Served

Houma

Main Office
320 Progressive Boulevard
Houma, LA 70360

phone: (985) 851-4488
toll free: (800) 947-7645
fax: (985) 872-0985

Satellite Office
2509 Petroleum Drive
Houma, LA 70363

phone: (985) 853-1445
toll free: (800) 831-2630
fax: (985) 853-0709

America's Vision I and II



Personal Care. Quality Outcomes.

For more information, visit our website at
www.gctfs.org

or contact us at info@gctfs.org

 **Gulf Coast
Social Services**

Program Description

America's Vision I and II are programs federally funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that provide assistance to homeless persons living in the Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes.

- America's Vision I provides services persons age 18-30 who are physically and/or mentally disabled and homeless
- America's Vision II is designed to help individuals who are:
 - Military veterans age 18 or older, and homeless, or
 - Persons age 18-30 who are mentally disabled and homeless

Definition of Homelessness

HUD defines as homeless, an individual who meets at least one of the following statements:

- Sleeps in places not meant for human habitation, such as: cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings
- Sleeps in emergency shelters
- Lives in transitional or supportive housing for homeless persons, but who previously lived on the streets or in emergency shelters
- Ordinarily lives in one of the places mentioned above, but is spending a short time (30 consecutive days or less) in a hospital or other institution
- Is being evicted within the week from a private dwelling unit, and has no subsequent residence identified, and lacks the resources and support networks needed to obtain access to permanent housing (qualifies for transitional housing only, not permanent housing)
- Is being discharged within the week from an institution in which he/she has been residing and lacks the resources and support networks needed to obtain access to housing
- Is fleeing a domestic violence situation

Services Provided

- Services offered by both programs include:
 - Financial support
 - Locating housing
 - Counseling
 - Skills training (such as budgeting, hygiene, job skills)
 - Interviewing techniques
 - Educational assistance
 - Any other basic needs the individual may require
- America's Vision I and II also assist in linking individuals to needed resources, such as shelters, mental health services, child support, disability benefits, and food banks. These resources and skills offered to our clients allow them to be involved in the community and improve their quality of life.