



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE

SU set to host new series of workshops in Scotlandville

Workshop services available to the elderly and disabled

BATON ROUGE – Helping senior citizens and physically and mentally challenged persons in the Scotlandville area receive local, state and federal assistance will be the subject of the first of a five-part series of workshops to be conducted by Southern University.

Southern's School of Architecture's Urban + Rural Community Design Research Center designed the workshops after spending several months last year conducting a "listening tour" which allowed Scotlandville residence to discuss issues of importance in their community.

The first workshop, dealing with services available for the elderly and disabled, will be held Tuesday, Feb. 2, from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., at the Scotlandville Branch Library, 7373 Scenic Hwy. A workshop leader will provide information to the elderly and disabled about services available to them, such as housing, transportation to and from stores and doctors offices.

Yavonka Archaga, Executive Director of Resources for Independent Living, Inc., will be the workshop speaker. Archaga, a Certified Public Accountant, was appointed Executive Director in July 2001. She has worked as a senior auditor for eight years in the state Legislative Auditor's office. She is a member of the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce and the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Resources for Independent Living is a non-profit organization that has served the greater New Orleans area since 1988. Its' mission is to advocate for a fully integrated community and provide services for individuals with disabilities that enhance personal choice and promote social, vocational and economic opportunities. The organization serves 23 parishes southeast region.

Four more workshops will be held on the following dates:

- Feb. 9 – Landscaping, flooding and drainage issues
- Feb. 22 – Business startup and business development
- March 2 – Vision kickoff meeting/ workshop
- March 9 – Community policing

The workshops are free and open to the Scotlandville community and others interested in the focus of the meetings. For more information, contact Jason Lockhart at 225.771.3015.

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