NEWS RELEASE

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New Choose Louisiana Scholarship Makes a Positive Impact for Local College student

Lela Awards is First Choose Louisiana Scholarship to Future Nurse

BATON ROUGE – While overcoming the challenges of the COVID19 pandemic, students—undergraduate and graduate—face the added pressure of paying for college. To help Louisiana students meet these challenges, Lela launched its Choose Louisiana Scholarship.

Through the Choose Louisiana Scholarship, students currently enrolled in a Louisiana college or graduate school are eligible to apply to enter a drawing to receive a $1,000 scholarship award to help defray the cost of tuition and educational expenses. Recently, Lela awarded its first Choose Louisiana Scholarship to Kori Williams.

Williams is currently enrolled at Dillard University with a major in Nursing. A Louisiana native, Williams loves the culture and southern hospitality of the state. She looks forward to becoming a Registered Nurse and launching a family practice with her older sister.

As a recent graduate of Scotlandville Magnet High School, Williams excelled in her honor's classes and pursued both law and business electives while remaining an active member of both the cheer team and Beta club.

Williams remains positive and resilient. “I always wanted to go to college so the pandemic did not affect my plans to enroll in college at all” said Williams. She also encouraged students to do the same. “Don’t stop, when you know what you want to do, keep going, no matter what.”

“We applaud Kori’s commitment and are proud to offer support to help reduce the cost of college,” said Assistant Vice President Joni Leggio. “Lela is committed to making college more affordable and accessible; we look forward to continuing to help Louisiana students move forward.

To apply for the Choose Louisiana scholarship, students must be currently enrolled in a Louisiana college or university. Scholarship recipients are chosen quarterly through a random drawing. The deadline to apply for the next scholarship award is December 31, 2021.

Since its inception, Lela has saved students more than $23 million – offering borrowers the potential to save more than $255 million through its program incentives throughout repayment.

Lela, a division of the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority (LPFA), and the LPFA are committed to making Louisiana a better place to live, work and raise families by furthering education, health care, economic development and job creation in the state.

The Louisiana Public Facilities Authority is a self-supporting public trust and public corporation. The LPFA finances industrial and economic development projects, provides low-cost funding for hospitals and hospital equipment, universities and other educational facilities and essential programs for state and local governmental units. The LPFA does not receive any funds from the state for its operations.

For more information about Lela, Choose Louisiana Scholarship eligibility requirements or **to apply, visit lela.org**.

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