

# Nearly 350 Tarkett Employees Volunteering at 5 New Orleans Nonprofits

Press release

DONATION OF LABOR AND MATERIALS TO RESULT IN UPGRADES TO HOMES, EMERGENCY SHELTER, AND CHILDREN'S LEARNING FACILITIES



**SOLON, OHIO, January 31, 2018** — <u>Tarkett</u>, a worldwide leader in innovative and sustainable flooring and sports surface solutions, announces its North America sales team will be volunteering at five New Orleans-area nonprofits on Thursday, Feb. 1. This volunteer effort is made possible through Tarkett Cares, a key part of the company's social responsibility initiative.

Nearly 350 Tarkett team members will be volunteering at nonprofits throughout the city, supporting agencies focused on assisting the families and children of New Orleans. The company-sponsored day of volunteering is part of Tarkett's North America national sales meeting and will result in approximately 1,400 hours volunteered in New Orleans to assist the five following agencies:

• St. Bernard Battered Women's Program's Domestic Violence Shelter

- Arise Academy
- Hoffman Early Learning Center Head Start
- LowerNine.org
- Boys & Girls Club of New Orleans

"Year after year, we rely on volunteers to help us with things that can't be covered by grants," said Gail Gowland, Executive Director, St. Bernard Battered Women's Program. "That includes teams of volunteers coming in and repairing our shelter. The work Tarkett's volunteers are doing will help in the daily lives of those living in our emergency shelter."

In addition to employee time, Tarkett is also donating flooring, paint, landscaping supplies, and other building materials to complete projects such as installing flooring, painting murals, creating playground areas, building group dance spaces, creating outdoor picnic and exercise areas, and installing kitchen cabinets and countertops.

"We couldn't serve the homeowners of the Lower Ninth without the help of volunteers like those from Tarkett," said Emily Steiber, Volunteer Coordinator, Lowernine.org. "Because of generous volunteers, we've been able to rebuild 87 homes and complete 250 home repair projects for people who lost their homes to Katrina. One family will have their home project completed by the Tarkett team."

"Tarkett Cares is our corporate volunteering program that mobilizes teams worldwide to share their time and talents with local communities to help people live better," said Jeff Fenwick, President, Resilient, Tarkett North America. "New Orleans is serving as the host city for Tarkett's 2018 North America sales meeting, and this day of giving back is the company's way of thanking and honoring the city for its hospitality."

Added Len Ferro, President, Soft Surfaces, Tarkett North America, "Corporate social responsibility is at the core of our business's values, and our team takes this to heart. We've made volunteering a tradition of our sales meeting for a decade, and we're grateful we have the ability to give back to New Orleans while we're here."

To learn more about Tarkett and its Johnsonite<sup>®</sup>, Tandus Centiva<sup>®</sup>, and Desso<sup>®</sup> brands, visit tarkettna.com.

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#### **About Tarkett**

With net sales of more than €2.7 billion in 2016, Tarkett is a global leader in innovative solutions for flooring and sports surfaces. Offering a wide range of products including vinyl, linoleum, carpet, rubber, wood & laminate, synthetic turf and athletic tracks, the Group serves customers in more than 100 countries worldwide. With 12,500 employees and 34 industrial sites, Tarkett sells 1.3 million square meters of flooring every day, for hospitals, schools, housing, hotels, offices, stores and sports fields. Committed to sustainable development, the Group has implemented an eco-innovation strategy and promotes circular economy. Tarkett is listed on Euronext Paris (compartment A, ISIN: FR0004188670, ticker TKTT) and is included in the following indices: SBF 120, CAC Mid 60. www.tarkett.com.

# **About the New Orleans Nonprofit Associations**

# St. Bernard Battered Women's Program

The mission of the St. Bernard Battered Women's Program, Inc. is to empower all survivors of domestic violence through strong programs that promote quality assurance and continuous growth and to live independent lives free from power and control by other individuals.

#### **Arise Academy**

Passionately raising each student's academic, social and physical levels to be successful in high school, college and beyond.



# John W. Hoffman Early Learning Center

Hoffman Early Learning Center is proud to serve Early Head Start and Tuition-Paying Families. We seek to be an innovative model for our city by fostering the diversity that exists in New Orleans while offering affordable and accessible care for all of our families.

#### Lowernine.org

Lowernine.org is a non-profit organization dedicated to the long-term recovery of New Orleans' historic Lower Ninth Ward from Hurricane Katrina and the levee breaches of 2005.

# **Boys & Girls Clubs of New Orleans**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Louisiana provides affordable high-quality afterschool programming for children between 6-18 years old.

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