

Communique



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE
GREATER BATON ROUGE SOCIETY
FOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



A Message from the President



We experienced amazing success in 2023! With a year-end total of 597 members, we hosted 11 chapter meetings, 3 special programming events, 1 courageous annual conference, and offered countless opportunities for networking through the many HR Off the Clocks and Coffee Talks.

We started this year by actively listening to you through our membership engagement survey, incorporating the feedback into our strategic planning and setting ambitious goals for the exciting year ahead. We truly appreciate your contribution to GBR SHRM's success and would love to know how we can further enhance your membership experience in 2024!

Meagan West, SHRM-CP, PHR
GBR SHRM President



January Chapter Meeting

Thank you all for joining us for the first meeting of the year! We enjoyed discussing practical ways to set new goals with Melissa Thompson from Success Labs.

Thank you to our sponsor, [Bowman Benefits Dept.](#), and our community partner, the [Baton Rouge Area Foundation!](#)

We hope you enjoyed being in a new space, and we are continuing to do everything we can to make sure you have a great experience each month!



Upcoming Events

Join us for Coffee Talk with Jay Stovall, GBR SHRM's Legislative Director! This opportunity allows members to discuss relevant HR topics with a legal professional.

This event is complimentary for all GBR SHRM members. Registration is not required.

We are always looking for locations to host future meetings.

Email us at gbrshrm@gbrshrm.org.

Coffee Talk

A chance to network and talk about relevant HR topics

Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024
8:00-9:00 a.m.

UPDATE

Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P.
One American Place
301 Main Street, 24th floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70801

Due to the Mardi Gras Holiday, the Feb. 13 Coffee Talk has been cancelled.



February Chapter Meeting



Bianca Chandler

Window Work, Shapes, & YOU

February 15, 2024
11:30am

Holiday Inn South
9990 Airline Hwy
Baton Rouge, LA 70816



Our next chapter meeting is February 15, 11:30am, at the Holiday Inn Baton Rouge South.

Bianca Chandler is an enthusiastic speaker, purpose coach, event curator, and two-time author who is dedicated to serving others. "Window Work" and "Shapes" are both professional development sessions focused on transparency and awareness of others. We'll discuss how to be more aware of others' perspectives, needs, and experiences, which can lead to more effective problem-solving and decision-making.

February Speaker Bio



Bianca Chandler

Bianca lives with the goal of helping people improve themselves, their lives, and the world around them. Her philosophy is simple yet powerful; “Living for impact: motivating, learning, improving, evolving.”

She is an enthusiastic speaker, purpose coach, event curator, and two-time author who is dedicated to serving others. Whether providing professional development, workshops, keynote addresses, youth empowerment sessions, or seminars, she is always ready to meet a crowd with energy and impact that is not to be forgotten.

In addition to her work helping people improve their personal and professional lives, Bianca is invested in helping people build their spiritual lives. She is a licensed evangelist, who unashamedly proclaims the Gospel and is currently in pursuit of a Master’s Degree in Theology. She works tirelessly to help others discover their gifts and how to best utilize them.

Bianca founded Focusing Ahead in 2019, an organization built to enhance the well-being of women by equipping them with tools that can be used in everyday life to thrive spiritually, physically, and mentally to focus on all that is ahead. Additionally, she offers personal coaching and leadership training through her company BriightArc.



Belonging

The 2024 Louisiana SHRM Diversity & Inclusion Summit is back for our 9th year! The Louisiana Society for Human Resources (Louisiana SHRM), an affiliate of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), is proud to present our 9th Annual Diversity & Inclusion Summit, February 22 and 23, 2024. [Learn more!](#)

Community Partner Highlights



GBR SHRM, in partnership with the Baton Rouge Youth Coalition, launched the inaugural Career Catalyst Collaborative this month. The Career Catalyst Collaborative is designed to pair 10 College Fellows and Alumni with HR professionals from across the Capital Region for career readiness development and mentorship.

As part of this initiative, mentees will attend monthly workshops on various career readiness topics. Mentors then support the mentees navigating the topics and support their development of the concepts. The goal is for HR mentors to help these aspiring young professionals land a job here in the Greater Baton Rouge area at the end of the graduating year. We are so grateful for our mentors' support to advance the HR profession and give back to the community in this way. We are expecting great things! [Read the article from BRYC.](#)

How might you, through partnership with BRAF, support your employees, their families, and the community?



Build an Employee Assistance Fund via Employeesist



Join BRAF as a member, offer as a job perk (individual & company-level memberships available)



Launch a Corporate-Advised Fund (CAF)

beautiful.ai

"The Baton Rouge Area Foundation unites human and financial resources to enhance the quality of life in Southern Louisiana."

[Learn more about ways your organization can partner with BRAF.](#)

Partner with us
in 2024!

GBR SHRM 2024
SPONSORSHIP
PACKAGES

Joining a committee is a great way to get involved in GBR SHRM and to give back to the HR community!

[Click here](#) to learn about the different committees within GBR SHRM and to sign up to join one today!

Visit gbrshrm.org for news, upcoming events, and more.



gbrshrm@gbrshrm.org



**UNLEASHING
HR**

**2024 LOUISIANA
CONFERENCE FOR
HUMAN RESOURCES**

**April 18 - 19, 2024
Lafayette Cajundome &
Convention Center**

Louisiana **HR**
Louisiana Society for
Human Resource Management

AFFILIATE OF
SHRM
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

[Learn more and register today!](#)

HR Professionals Magazine

[View the January 2024 digital issue of HR Professionals Magazine.](#)



Welcome New Members!

First name	Last name	Company Name	Title
Ashanti	Perkins	DOTD	HR Specialist
Britney	Noland	DOTD	HR Specialist
Darian	Graivshark	hubley	Business Partner Manager
Ginger	Laurent	Louisiana Bankers Association	Chief Executive Officer
Julia	Fontenot	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of BR	HR Coordinator
Kimberly	Vaughan	LA DOTD	Human Resources Supervisor
Madison	Foss	Louisiana State University	HR Analyst
Mimi	Vidrine	DOTD	HR Specialist
Tammi	Fielding	Westaff	Business Development



GBR SHRM Career Center

EMPLOYERS

For just \$99 GBR SHRM members can post a job for 90 days in the GBR SHRM career center. What better way to target qualified HR Professionals than by going straight to the source where they network? [Submit a request here.](#)

[Human Resources Manager](#) - Hannis T. Bourgeois, LLP

[HRIS Specialist](#) - The Roman Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge

Additional career opportunities are available at [SHRM's HR Jobs.](#)



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