



Shreveport-Bossier Community Renewal International Center Shreveport, Louisiana

A Model of Sustainability

The historic 16-story building, known as the Petroleum Tower, is being restored for a new life as a green building—incorporating energy-efficient measures such as the use of solar panels, outside lighting, and recycling its wastewater. This self-sustaining building is expected to be the first in Louisiana to achieve the highest certification—Platinum—awarded by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and demonstrate the principles of Shreveport-Bossier Community Renewal (SBCR) which the organization intends to share with the world. SBCR's mission is to restore the



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Renewal International Center**

foundation of safe and caring communities, changing neighborhoods where fear and violence once reigned to havens of safety and trust.

Redevelopment of the Petroleum Tower is an exciting story of community collaboration. This visionary project has been assisted by three EPA Brownfields grant programs: Cleanup, Revolving Loan Fund, and Job Training. Shreveport-Bossier Community Renewal received a cleanup grant for \$200,000. A \$500,000 loan from the City of Shreveport's Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund grant has also assisted in cleanup. A team of 52 men and women, trained in a Southern University program with the assistance of an EPA Brownfields Job Training grant, were employed to remove asbestos and demolished interior walls in the building. Graduates from this training program included evacuees from Hurricane Katrina who were afforded an opportunity for a fresh start.

The National Center will bring civic leaders from around the world to Shreveport to further their knowledge in building and restoring safe and caring

communities and provide a comprehensive program for training and technical support to those who want to apply the SBCR model in their own cities. The building will house offices, conference centers, classrooms, a library, museum, gift shop, guest rooms for overnight accommodations, and more.



Job Training Program Graduates at Petroleum Building Site

For more information, visit www.communityrenewal.us.