



HSA
Northeast Delta
Human Services Authority
Mental Health • Addiction Disorders
Developmental Disabilities

Transformations Newsletter

2017 4th Quarter - 2018 2nd Quarter

Vol. 4, Issue 4 -- Vol. 5, Issue 2 | June 30, 2018 [View as Webpage](#)

Visit our website

Message from the Executive Director

Welcome to the summer issue of our Transformation's Newsletter. As we continue into our fifth year of providing services and treatment within our twelve parish region, I find it exciting to look back on our efforts to see how we positively impacted the lives of others.

In recognition that government can't solve significant societal problems alone, we held our fifth Faith-Based Mental Health Summit. The last Summit was done in partnership with the National Alliance on Mental Illness – Ruston Chapter. These



events continue to equip, inspire and call to action hundreds across our region to help strengthen commitments to faith, purpose and hope for those battling mental illness and addiction.

In January 2018, Monroe Mayor, Jamie Mayo, surrounded by community leaders and distinguished guests, presented Northeast Delta HSA the Nashall Harris Humanitarian Award at the 39th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Salute. “The Nashall Harris Humanitarian Award is presented each year to those who have shown an unselfish concern and commitment to the well-being of others.” Receiving this honor is a testament to our NE Delta HSA team and Board of Directors.

In this newsletter, you will read about many exciting programs, initiatives and outreach efforts we spearheaded. For example, our one-of-a-kind radio show, *It Is What It Is*, allows us to reach multiple constituencies in new and creative ways. *It Is What It Is* gives voice and perspective to those battling and seeking to overcome challenges associated with poverty, mental illness, addiction and developmental disability. The show gives listeners valuable information and life strategies on how to navigate broken family and social systems that often restrict individuals from being all they were created to be.

Our brand new, state of the art website, was designed with the consumer in mind. It serves as a go-to resource for anyone dealing with mental health, addiction or developmental disabilities. Additionally, the website was created for varying learning styles and language learners.

We discuss the creation of two innovative programs, Louisiana Reentry Program (LA-Re) and Partners In Employment (PIE). LA-Re is an ex-offender program that seeks to address the socioeconomic issues that increase recidivism among the formerly incarcerated. The goal of LA-Re is to give nonviolent, mentally ill and addicted ex-offenders an opportunity to receive the help they need so that they can avoid the high individual, family, community and societal costs associated with recidivism. PIE is an employment-based program aimed at addressing the lack of employment opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities during and after graduating from high school. PIE also seeks to combat this structural inequity so that everyone who is willing to work can. La-Re is in partnership with Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana. PIE is in partnership with Families Helping Families of Northeast Louisiana.

Continuing to build upon our successes for the year are two summits NE Delta HSA had the distinct privilege of leading. First, was the 2018 Louisiana Opioid Summit. This platform galvanized a community of

healthcare professionals, law enforcement officers and substance abuse advocates from all across our state. We facilitated a much-needed dialogue concerning realities and solutions to the severe public health opioid crisis. In June, Northeast Delta HSA in partnership with Families Helping Families of NELA, hosted our inaugural Partners In Employment Summit.

Lastly, we plan to stay committed to our vision, mission and the three tenets that guide our agency's efforts. We will also seek out partners who share our commitment and passion for the work we do. We will continue to be more outcome driven administratively and programmatically. We owe this outcome-driven approach to those we serve.

Until the next newsletter,

Dr. Monteic A. Sizer
Executive Director

Workforce Summit Opening Doors for Developmentally Disabled Individuals

June 2018

PIE

PARTNERS IN EMPLOYMENT



Pictured left to right: NE Delta HSA Developmental Disability Director, Jennifer Purvis; City of Monroe Public Relations/Media Coordinator, Rod Washington; Families Helping Families of NE LA Executive Director, Stacey Guidry and NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer.

At the beginning of summer, Northeast Delta Human Services Authority and Families Helping Families of NE LA hosted their inaugural 2018 Partners In Employment Summit.

The event brought together disability advocates, healthcare organizations and employers from across the state to reflect on and discuss the challenges and successes associated with hiring the developmentally disabled.

Experts in the fields of workforce inclusion, disability advocacy and governmental policy presented solutions and practices that inspired and motivated those in attendance to fight even harder for those who are disabled.

"I've listened to what many said can't happen due to a number of real structural challenges associated with improving the lives of people with developmental disabilities. I believe in what is possible!"

- Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, Executive Director of NE Delta HSA



Pictured is keynote speaker, Allan Bergman, at the inaugural Partners In Employment Summit. Bergman is a recognized leader in influencing the development of federal and state policy relating to “best practice” services and supports for persons with disabilities.



Statewide Summit Offers Realities and Solutions to Louisiana's Opioid Crisis

May 2018



Pictured left to right: Special Projects Representative for the Office of the Attorney General, Ms. Monica Taylor; NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer; 4th Judicial District Attorney for the State of Louisiana, Steve Tew; Behavioral Health Medical Director of AmeriHealth Caritas, Dr. Betty Muller and DEA Special Agent, Darrel Cowan.

May was an exciting month for NE Delta HSA, as we hosted a statewide summit addressing the monumental public health emergency of opioid abuse and misuse. The summit took place at the Monroe Civic Center and showcased the current state of the opioid epidemic in Louisiana.

The event included speeches from NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer; Assistant State Health Officer, Dr. Parham Jaber and Medical Director for the Louisiana Dept. of Health - OBH, Dr. James Hussey. A presentation of the federal response to the opioid crisis was given by keynote speaker, Mrs. Allison Bushnell, Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana.

The summit culminated with two clinical breakout sessions and a powerful panel discussion moderated by 4th Judicial District Attorney, Steve Tew. The panel featured healthcare leaders, executives and law enforcement experts from across the state.





NE Delta HSA Honored with Community Partner of the Year Award



Pictured from left to right: NE Delta HSA Board Chair, Michael Shipp, NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer and Goodwill of North Louisiana CEO, David Tinkis.



Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana presented Northeast Delta HSA with this year's Community Partner of the Year award at their 2018 Goodwill Annual Awards banquet in Shreveport, LA.

The award is given in recognition to organizations who show unwavering commitment and dedication to improving the lives of North Louisiana citizens.

We're Always Here to Offer Help When You Need It!

April 2018



Gambling Awareness Campaign

**FREE Treatment, Education
& Prevention Services for
Problem Gambling**

Contact your local Compulsive Gambling Treatment Provider (318) 331-8270

GAMBLING HELPLINE 1-877-770-STOP

A PROGRAM OF NORTHEAST DELTA HUMAN SERVICES AUTHORITY

**Caldwell • East Carroll • Franklin • Jackson • Lincoln • Morehouse
Ouachita • Richland • Tensas • Union • West Carroll • Madison**



FREE Tobacco Cessation Treatment

Tobacco Cessation Counseling

Nicotine Replacement Therapy

Non-nicotine Medication | Tobacco Screenings

Contact a Tobacco Treatment Specialist Today!

318-362-5342 nedeltahsa.org

SERVING 12 PARISHES

Ouachita | East Carroll | West Carroll | Lincoln | Caldwell | Union | Richland | Franklin | Tensas | Morehouse | Madison | Jackson



FRIDAYS 8 am - 9 am



Dr. Monteic A. Sizer
Executive Director



Our agency increased community visibility this year by promoting much needed and sought after services such as tobacco cessation, compulsive

gambling and our one-of-a-kind radio talk show, *It Is What It Is*.

According to the most recent data compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cigarette smoking remains the leading cause of preventable death and disability in the United States, despite a significant decline in the number of people who smoke. Meanwhile, gambling addiction has shown an increased correlation to suicide and depression.

Our agency is confident that these outreach efforts will not go unnoticed. For the population of people who need these services most, they will be provided.

Prisoner Re-entry Program Seeks to Transform Lives of Ex-Offenders in Ouachita Parish

March 2018



Pictured from left to right: NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, Goodwill Industries of North LA, Inc. President and CEO, David Tinkis. Standing: Goodwill Industries of North LA, Inc. Program Manager, Jamie Donaldson and Goodwill Industries of North LA, Inc. Chief Program Officer, Julie Bass.



Created by Northeast Delta Human Services Authority in partnership with Goodwill Industries of NELA, the Louisiana Re-entry Program or LA-Re, seeks to address the socioeconomic issues that increase recidivism among the formerly incarcerated.

The goal of LA-Re is to give non-violent, mentally ill or addicted ex-offenders an opportunity to receive post-incarceration services so that they can build and maintain a positive social role within their communities.

HSA Executive Director Appears as Special Guest on Local TV Show, Faith To Believe

February



Pictured left to right: Faith to Believe host, Dr. Carolyn Hunt and
NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer.



Pictured left to right: Dr. Kelvin C. Wade and NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer.

Dr. Monteic A. Sizer appeared as a special guest on the local TV show, Faith To Believe. Dr. Sizer discussed a myriad of topics of both local and national importance that included mass incarceration, mental health and addiction. Faith To Believe is moderated by Dr. Carolyn Hunt and airs locally on KMCT MY39. Be sure to check it out!

Walking In History



Pictured left to right: Wellness and Prevention Services Director, Dr. Avius Carroll and Health and Wellness Coordinator, Dee Dee Toney pose for a picture at the 35th Annual Black Heritage Parade in South Monroe.

The 35th Annual Black Heritage Parade was held in South Monroe this February and two of our own were helping lead the way. Health and Wellness Coordinator, Dee Dee Toney and Wellness and Prevention Services Director, Dr. Avius Carroll, passed out lots of Northeast Delta giveaways and enjoyed a wonderful Black History Month parade.

South Monroe is a part of the Northeast Delta HSA Opportunity Zone; an initiative created to better serve fragile communities. The theme of this year's parade was "Walking in History."

Prevention Efforts Keeping Kids

Safe in Monroe



Prevention Coordinator and Certified Car Seat Technician, LaTonya Owens, helps a parent install a car seat.



Prevention Coordinator and Certified Car Seat Technician, Latonya Owens, helped keep kids safe in February by hosting a child car seat installation event at the Pecan Land Mall Target in Monroe. This free event instructed parents and caregivers on the how-to's of child seat safety and car seat installation. The event was held in partnership with Louisiana State Police - Troop F and the Louisiana Office of Public Health/OBH.

NE Delta HSA's Monroe Clinic Celebrates Diversity With Food, Fun and Fellowship



A photo of our Monroe clinic staff enjoying a soul food luncheon and ceremony presentation.



Our Monroe clinic staff capped an amazing February in style by hosting a ceremony and luncheon for Monroe clinic employees. This event was a heartwarming display of togetherness and appreciation.

Fuel for the Future



Pictured left: NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer speaking at Walk In The Word Family Church.

NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, had the honor of being the keynote speaker for Walk In The Word Family Church's 2018 Fuel for the Future Program.

Northeast Delta HSA Recognized, Awarded Nashall Harris Humanitarian Award

January



A banner depicting Martin Luther King, Jr. hangs above stage at the Monroe Civic Center during the 29th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Salute.



Pictured left to right: Northeast Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer and Northeast Delta HSA Board Chair, Michael Shipp.



Pictured left to right: Monroe City Councilwoman, Juanita Woods; Monroe City Councilwoman, Gretchen Ezernack; Monroe Mayor, Jamie Mayo; Northeast Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer; Miss Monroe 2017, Alyssa Garner and Monroe City Councilman, Michael Echols.

Northeast Delta HSA was honored at this year's Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration in January. Monroe Mayor, Jamie Mayo, presented Northeast Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, with the Nashall Harris Humanitarian Award at the ceremony. Keynote speaker for the event was Grambling State University President, Richard J. Gallot, Jr.

New Website, New Us!



Mental Health & Addictive Disorders

1-800-256-2522

Developmental Disabilities

1-800-637-3113

f in t y e

Select Language ▼

Search

ABOUT US

SERVICES FOR CONSUMERS

OUTCOMES & REPORTS

EMPLOYMENT

POTENTIAL CONTRACTORS

CONTACT

IT IS WHAT IT IS

Transformations Are Happening— Come Be A Part Of It!

We are inspired to catalyze
and transform the lives of our citizens.

Services for Consumers

Special Initiatives

The front page of the new www.nedeltahsa.org offers visitors quick access to everything from services and programs, to a list of partner agencies and clinic locations.

NE Delta Launches Revamped Website in 1st Quarter

As a forwarding thinking agency, we are always working toward newer and more innovative ways to reach our constituents in order to improve how they learn about the many services and programs we offer throughout our 12-parish region.

Our new website was designed to be a more useful, user-centric site that can be accessed across all platforms and on multiple smart devices. This means it is easier for the people we serve to learn more about who we are, what we do and all the programs, services and help that are available to them.

The new nedeltahsa.org has been revamped from top to bottom. Through the home page, visitors are now able to quickly and accurately access information vital to their health or the care of a loved one. Our partner clinics and the organizations that help us provide services are classified and listed, so that finding help is no more than a click away. There is even a FAQ section that visitors can read for the most up-to-date information. Haven't been to the website yet? Check it out, [here!](#)

**New Light Economic
Empowerment Corporation Presents**

"Planting the Seed"



NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, served as the keynote speaker for New Light Empowerment Corporation's Sponsors and Supporters Reception in January.



NLECC celebrated its 20th year of sustainability in 2018. The theme of the reception was "Planting the Seed." NLEEC is located within NE Delta HSA's Opportunity Zone community.

NE Delta HSA Partners With Local Non-Profit for New Employment-Based Initiative

December



Pictured left to right: standing Tenille T. Terry, Brandi Croft, Michelle Conti, Jennifer Purvis, Jimmy Powell, Kay Langham. Sitting left to right: Luke Guidry, Stacey Guidry and Dr. Monteic A. Sizer





Pictured left to right: Families Helping Families of NELA Executive Director, Stacey Guidry, Luke Guidry and NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer.

In November 2017, Northeast Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer and Families Helping Families of NELA Executive Director, Stacey Guidry, created the new developmental disability initiative, Partners In Employment.

Taking these steps to eliminate barriers to employment will aid in the transition from secondary school to adult life for those with developmental disabilities.

South Monroe Christmas Parade



Kids are all smiles in their Christmas costumes as they celebrate the upcoming holiday season at the Second Annual Southside Christmas Parade in South Monroe.

Our staff had an amazing time celebrating the Second Annual Southside Christmas Parade in South Monroe this holiday season. It was a beautiful day to spend with the members of our Opportunity Zone community in support of their efforts to improve the quality of life in Southside Monroe.

12 Days of Christmas NE Delta Style



This holiday season, employees from each of our seven clinics and regional office starred in the 12 Days of NE Delta Christmas and holiday greeting videos. Those who participated spread holiday cheer through song and wished the people we serve, family and friends a wonderful and safe holiday season. The videos also included fun facts about NE Delta HSA and important information about the programs and services we offer throughout our region.

Opportunity Zone Coalition Meeting



Project Coordinator, Dr. Bianca Teats, (standing) speaks to organization leaders and members of our Opportunity Zone Coalition.

NE Delta HSA Launched New Radio Program "It Is What It Is"

November

Dr. Monteic A. Sizer
Executive Director

FRIDAYS 8 am - 9 am

One of the more remarkable ways NE Delta HSA increased outreach in the community this year was through the launch of our radio show, *It Is What It Is*. Each hour-long segment discusses a different topic as it relates to mental health, addiction disorders or developmental disabilities.

It Is What It Is, broadcast it's first season November 2017 on KOUS-LP 96.3. The second season aired on KMLB 105.7 FM/540 AM. Be on the lookout for season 3!



Pictured left to right: Northeast Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer and KMLB Station Engineer, J.R. Smith.

Developmental Disability Quarterly Meeting



Education never ceases, we're always focused on providing great services. Our quarterly meeting for developmental disability service providers inspired dozens of people from all across our state. The meeting featured presentations from OCDD Resource Center and Operation House Call Director, Angela Shockley, BS, RN, HCM.

Louisiana Primary Care Association's 34th Annual Continuing Education Conference

October



Northeast Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, delivers his speech to attendees of the 34th Annual Continuing Education Conference. The topic of Dr. Sizer's speech was "Using An Integrative Healthcare Approach to Dealing With The Opioid Crisis."



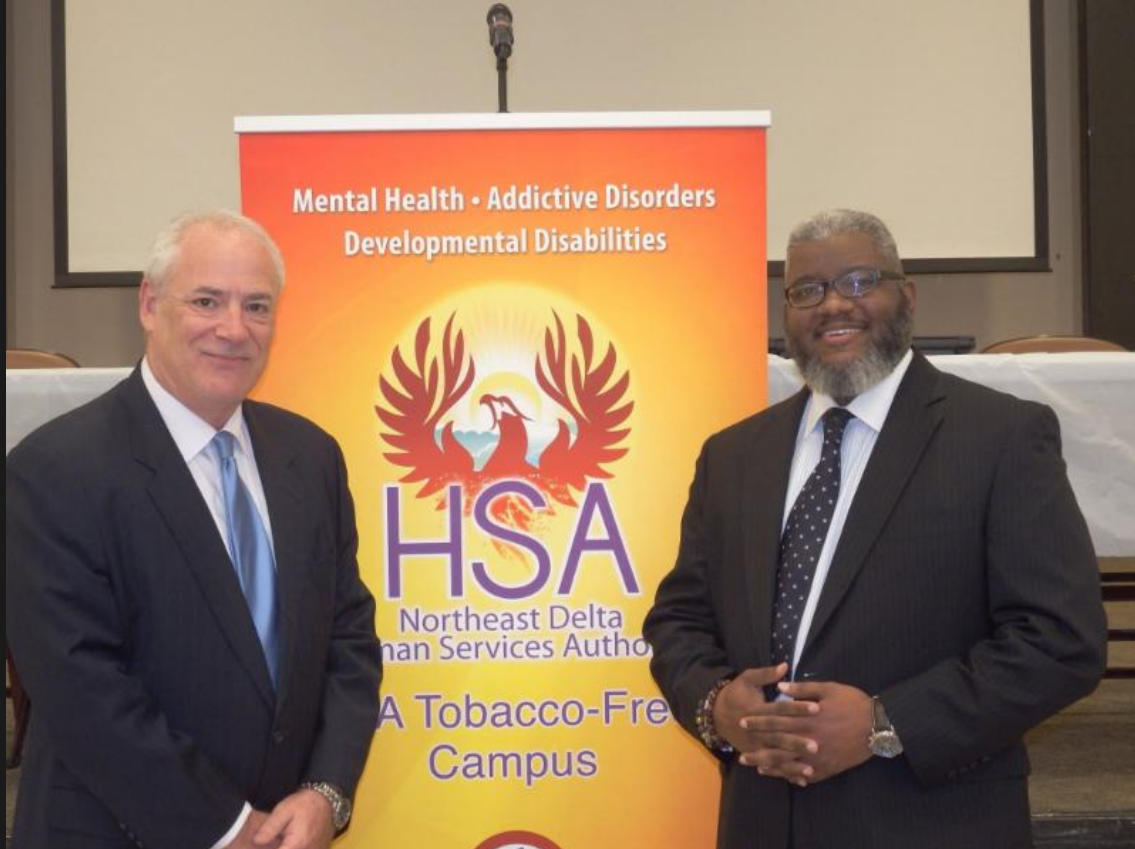
Pictured: 34th Annual Continuing Education Conference



Pictured left to right: East Baton Rouge Parish Coroner, Dr. William “**Beau**” Clark and NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer.

NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer, was one of the keynote speakers for the Louisiana Primary Care Association’s 34th Annual Continuing Education Conference in October. Dr. Sizer brought a wealth of knowledge and expertise regarding NE Delta HSA’s approach to dealing with the opioid crisis using integrative healthcare.

Faith Strategies That Build Communities



Pictured left to right: NAMI - Louisiana Executive Director, Anthony Germade and Northeast Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer.

Our Fifth Annual Faith-Based Behavioral Summit galvanized a crowd of religious organizations, community leaders, nonprofits, mental health agencies, educational institutions, governmental agencies and local officials.

Featured panelists spoke on a series of subtopics bringing awareness to the dire need for faith and integrative healthcare. City of Ruston Mayor, Ronny Walker, also presented proclamations to Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer and Northeast Delta Human Services Authority.





NE Delta Tackles Prescription Drug Abuse With Take Back Boxes



Pictured left to right: Monroe Police Detective, Chris Bates; Public Relations/Media Coordinator for the City of Monroe, Rod Washington; NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer; NE Delta HSA Board Members, Thelma Merrells, Alisa Lear and others.

NE Delta remained proactive in addressing prescription pill abuse in 2017 by donating prescription take-back boxes to the Monroe Police Department and Union Parish Sheriff's Office. Take-back boxes prevent prescription drug misuse by promoting safe medication practices in our homes and communities.



A donated Take Back Box is pictured in front of the Monroe Police Department after its unveiling.

Monroe Clinic Wins Penny Wars for Breast Cancer Awareness



Pictured left to right: NE Delta HSA Executive Director, Dr. Monteic A. Sizer and Demetrius Roberts.



Pictured: Monroe Clinic staff

Our Monroe Behavioral Health Clinic won an office wide pizza party as part of the NE Delta HSA Penny Wars competition that pitted each of our seven clinics and regional office against each other for a wonderful cause. All proceeds raised were donated in support of breast cancer awareness.

NE Delta Staff go for Halloween Hijinks!



Pictured left to right: Demetrius Roberts (Peanut Butter) and Chief Fiscal Officer, Angel Williams (Jelly).



The NE Delta HSA Waiver services division was the life of the party during Halloween dress up day.

Our staff always makes a little time for fun and games around the office. Check out what some of the team members were up to at the regional office this past Halloween!

NE DELTA CELEBRATES RED RIBBON WEEK



Students at Delhi Middle School ready for some Red Ribbon Week® activities.



LACAP of Ouachita Parish celebrating Red Ribbon



Tallulah staff posing in front of their red ribbon

Week. Pictured: Dr. Carolyn Hunt, Rupert Jones,
Joyce Lewis, Claudia Matthews and Vanessa Brown.

door. Pictured left to right: Rebecca Brooks, Keith
Wilkerson, Consuela Hunter and Mary Branch.

NE Delta HSA was proud to be a part of National Red Ribbon Week in 2017. Red Ribbon Week highlights a healthy lifestyle free from drugs and abuse. October 23rd through 31st children, teens and teachers committed to living a drug-free lifestyle by decorating classroom doors, wearing red ribbons and taking the red ribbon pledge.

The Red Ribbon Campaign is the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation, reaching millions of young people during Red Ribbon Week.



Opportunity Zone Summit Inspires Monroe Youth

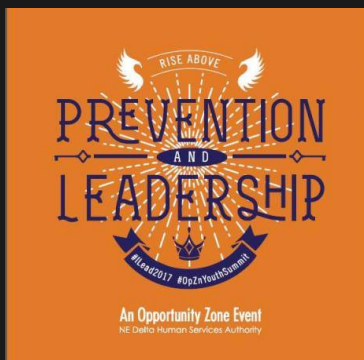
September



Pictured: Monroe youth releasing balloons into the air at the 2017 Northeast Delta HSA Prevention and Leadership Summit.

Northeast Delta Human Services Authority hosted our Opportunity Zone Youth Summit this September at Wossman High School.

Dozens of area students participated in sessions that addressed topics including health and wellness, college readiness, addiction awareness, crime and leadership.



See You Next Quarter!

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