

Artist Statement

The Road to Recovery

“The Road to Recovery” project outlines how the city of Lake Charles, Louisiana experienced major destruction caused by Hurricane Laura in 2020. Fortunately, the people manage to survive the massive storm, and the citizens and the city of Lake Charles are on the verge of recovery. The images showcased in this project will show some insight on how vast the damages were and how the people of Lake Charles continue to live their daily lives while rebuilding again.

Eight months after the massive destruction of Hurricane Laura, I went to Lake Charles, Louisiana to take photographic images of damaged areas, as well as the progress of recovery. Lake Charles experienced city-wide disaster during the storm. Multiple trees and natural surroundings were destroyed. Parking garages, houses, and buildings were mostly blown away. The Boardwalk at Memorial Park had major damage. Homes shows broken doors and windows, along with blown away rooftops. Most of the patios at the pier were covered in water. Roads are still in need of repair, and much more needs to be done.

Despite the fact that Hurricane Laura caused major destruction around the city, I am grateful that there was not a large amount of human loss of life because people found shelter from the storm. During my visit, I noticed that workers are rebuilding. People are continuing their normal activities, sitting at restaurants, going to work, visiting the pier, and so on. They are working towards bringing things back to normal. This is why I called this photoshoot “The Road to Recovery.”

After looking at these photographs, I realize that the damages in Lake Charles, caused by Hurricane Laura in 2020, are consider to be one of the most disastrous events in south Louisiana that we will never forget.