The Florida Senate
Local Funding Initiative Request
Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1573

1. **Project Title** Sant La Financial Empowerment for Asset Building and Stability - Miami-Dade

2. **Senate Sponsor** Jason Pizzo

3. **Date of Request** 11/06/2019

4. **Project/Program Description**

This program, Financial Empowerment for Asset Building and Stability, will increase the financial capabilities of Haitian families in Miami-Dade County through financial coaching for good financial health; financial education to decrease their vulnerability to financial scams; and ,coaching and education to build assets that lead to financial security. The program components are financial education, tax preparation and financial coaching. The funds will serve to provide a three-prong program including: 1) free tax preparation to eligible low and moderate income individuals and families; 2) financial coaching to reach specific client financial goals; and, 3) community education via radio and television about viable and credible asset-building products and to warn against financial scams that target vulnerable populations. The program's goals are to increase the financial capabilities of Haitian families in Miami-Dade County and improve their financial stability.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of Economic Opportunity

State Agency contacted? ○ Yes ◉ No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	301,220
Fixed Capital Outlay	000
Total State Funds Requested	301,220

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	301220	92.0 %
Matching Funds		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	00	0 %
Local	25,000	8 %
Other	00	0 %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	326,220	100 %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** ○ Yes ◉ No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** ◉ Yes ○ No

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 250,000

10. **Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	50% of Executive Director's salary to provide guidance and leadership for project implementation, outcomes, and continued sustainability [$48,000]. Benefits calculated at 21% of salary and include FICA, MICA, unemployment, worker's compensation, health, vision, and dental insurance [$10,080].	58,080
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/ Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Accounting and auditing services at 10% of agency's annual costs.	5,400
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	100% of salary for 2 full time program staff members: tax preparer and financial coach [$94,000]; benefits calculated at 21% of program staff salaries and include FICA, MICA, unemployment, worker's compensation, health, vision, and dental insurance [$19,740].	113,740
Expense/Equipment/ Travel/Supplies/Other	Program supplies, photo copier lease, program printing and toner at 10% of agency's annual cost [$5,000]; office lease [$40,000]; utilities (telecommunications, electricity, security and maintenance) [$9,000] reflecting one quarter of the utilization costs of office space for program-related activities.	54,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contracted legal services to assist clients with preparation of wills, living wills, powers of attorney, and other asset protection documents [$25,000]; outreach and education via radio and television at negotiated rates [$25,000]; contracted services from a qualified academic vendor to prepare a study highlighting the challenges, progress, and successful and/or common asset-building strategies in this target population [$20,000].	70,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/ Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		301,220

11. **Program Performance**

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?

1) 100% of eligible clients will have their tax returns prepared free of charge and save at least $100 in tax preparation costs.
2) 25% of clients will show an increase in credit scores.
3) 75% of clients will have an active bank account.
4) 10% of clients will opt to purchase savings bonds during tax preparation.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

The main activities are: (1) tax return preparation, tax return amendments, and IRS audits, which saves more than $100 per household. (2) One-on-one financial coaching with a focus on issues such as improving credit scores and introducing clients to traditional savings products and technology-based tools and products. (3) Outreach via Haitian Creole media to educate households about viable financial products and services available and to warn them about financial risks such as tax refund scams, predatory lenders and investment scams. (4) individual and group trainings in using the growing range of financial technology or fin-tech products.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

The direct services to be provided include: free tax preparation for 800 households; one-on-one financial coaching sessions based on specific financial goal(s) identified by the client; support identifying viable asset-building options; and workshops to introduce financial technology products.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The target population for this service are residents of Miami-Dade and Broward Counties who are low-to-moderate income. The project will serve 800 households.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

Our program's outcomes and measures are as follows:
1) 800 or 100% will receive free tax preparation; 2) 800 or 100% of households will save at list $200 in tax filing fees; 3) 400 or 50% will understand their credit history and score; 4) 200 or 25% will take the opportunity to save annually at tax-time with savings bonds or other savings product.
The outcomes will be documented though the official reports provided by the Internal Revenue Service. Outreach-related outcomes will be tracked or documented through client log of phone or in-person inquiries and workshop participant logs.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

A percentage of the total award may be withheld for the number of clients not served or for the percentage of unmet outcomes.

12. **The owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.**

N/A

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

a. First Name: Gepsie — Last Name: Metellus

b. Organization: Sant La, Haitian Neighborhood Center

c. E-mail Address: gepsiem@santla.org

d. Phone Number: (305)573-4871 — Ext. 128

14. **Recipient Contact Information**

a. Organization: Sant La, Haitian Neighborhood Center

b. Municipality and County: Miami-Dade

c. Organization Type

- ○ For-profit Entity
- ○ Non-Profit 501(c) (3)
- ○ Non-Profit 501(c) (4)
- ○ Local Entity
- ○ University or College
- ● Other (please specify): Non Profit 501(c) (3)

d. First Name: Gepsie — Last Name: Metellus

e. E-mail Address: gepsiem@santla.org

f. Phone Number: (305)5734871

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

a. Name: None

b. Firm Name: None

c. E-mail Address:

d. Phone Number: — Ext.