Credible Empowering Responsive Impactful Strengthening Compassionate Friend Connecting Stabilizing Efficient Advocate Life-Line

Haitian Neighborhood Center 2011-2012 Annual Report

Sant La



# From Our **Media** Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to share with you, Sant La's 2011–2012 Annual Report, summarizing our achievements this past fiscal year. The report captures the results achieved by Sant La, despite these challenging times for our community.

As we enter our second decade of service, we vow to redouble our efforts to produce lasting impact in the Haitian community through the continued promotion of job, financial and health security, educational attainment, and civic engagement.

Throughout this decade, we will also usher in a new era of giving in the Haitian community of South Florida, such that we celebrate, promote and democratize philanthropy.

I extend heartfelt thanks to the Sant La board for their dedication and commitment; our loyal staff, who continue to give it their all and consistently exemplify our values and mission; our community allies, partners and contributors, whose support advance our shared vision of a self -sufficient, fully integrated Haitian community. Thank you all for joining in and supporting our enterprise.

Forever Sant La,

Gepsie M. Metellus

# The Impact of Sant La's Work

## General Services

In 2011-2012 Sant La **provided over 12,820 units of service** to the community, with **over 2,800 new clients** walking through our doors. The categories below represent our primary program areas. The report reflects the work of 11 individuals, working for over 22,000 hours through the course of the 2011-2012 fiscal year.



#### Assistance to the Unemployed

In 2011-2012 our staff assisted over 460 newly dislocated workers file new Unemployment Benefits claims, and completed over 3,680 bi-weekly benefits claims. Over 375 client cases required additional support including: drafting correspondence, filing appeals and communicating with the Agency for Workforce Innovation staff to research issues and clarify case discrepancies.

#### **Employment Security**

In 2011-2012, our employment team served 3,055 job seekers, 1,744 of them first-time clients. Our staff assisted approximately 150 clients with resume preparation and completion of online employment applications, while 2,068 referrals were made to employment opportunities. This year, our team recruited 98 new employer partners.





The Cornerstone of our work: information, referral, case coordination, application assistance, advocacy, interpretation and translation. This year we referred 1,160 individuals to other services; assisted over 100 clients in obtaining their U.S. citizenship.

Economic Security Sant La's Financial Literacy program assisted over 145 individuals in resolving issues with the IRS through our Low Income Tax Clinic (LITC); prepared taxes for over 770 clients through Sant La's VITA, (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) resulting in over \$1.3 million refunded and reinvested into our local economy; assisted 245 clients with mortgage modification applications, consumer credit issues, identity theft, home-buyer education, and more.





# Health & Food Security

In FY 2011-12 Sant La's Community Health Worker assisted over 1,837 individuals in accessing safety-net benefits and low-to no-cost medical care. 782 were children, connected to health & safety-net benefits — including Food Assistance, Medicaid & Florida KidCare.

#### Strengthening Families

Sant La continues to assist families develop strong parent-child relationships, positive communication, healthy family interactions and educational attainment. This year we doubled our graduates with **43 families, 56 parents and 69 youth.** 



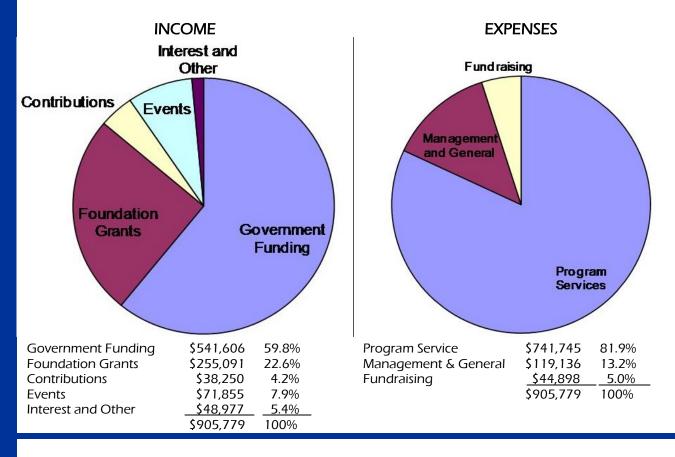


Community Engagement through "Teleskopi" Our weekly TV show continues to educate, inform and engage our community. In 2011-2012 we produced 21 new episodes viewed by 350,000 South Florida households. Teleskopi is among the highest rated shows in the Haitian market.

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# A Snapshot of our Financial Stewardship

We judiciously invest your dollars in services while maintaining relatively low overhead costs.



# philanthropy: noun \fə-'lan(t)-thrə-pē

As defined by the Merriam-Webster's Dictionary, PHILANTHROPY is ...

Good will to fellow members of the human race; especially: active effort to promote human welfare: a : An act or gift done or made for humanitarian purposes.

b: an organization distributing or supported by funds set aside for humanitarian purposes

First Known Use: circa 1623, Late Latin *philanthropia*, from Greek *philanthrōpia*, from *philanthrōpos* loving people, from *phil-+ anthrōpos* human being

Last year Sant La celebrated its first "Decade of Service" to the community. As a team and a family we have dedicated our next decade to CHALLENGE OUR PHILANTHROPY.

We hope to re-define how our friends, family, fans and clients view giving, and help them recognize the transformative and powerful impact they can have as philanthropists.

We also want to celebrate our local philanthropists- from the traditional donor who gives large sums of money to support local causes; to those who volunteer and give of their time for the betterment of the community. Philanthropy is not charity or a "gift"; it is an investment in our future, in our community and in our neighborhoods.

Our challenge begins today, with each of us considering how we want to define our giving.

# Sant La's Board of Directors 2011-2012

Jean F. Renazile, Board Chair Rulx Jean-Bart, Board Vice-Chair and Nominating Committee Chair Ana Rios, Board Secretary and Program Committee Chair Marie Jo Toussaint, Esq., Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair Thamara Labrousse, Development Committee Chair Serge Boisette \* Dr. Joanne Bashford \* Ashaki Bronson-Marcellus Thomas Eugene \* Pierre E. Liautaud \* Maria Pascal \* Jean-Marc Piquion

# Sant La Staff 2011-2012

Gepsie M. Metellus, Executive Director Ludnel St-Preux , Director of Programs & Operations Vensen Ambeau, Director of Employment Training & Counseling Karine F. Auguste, Director of Community Involvement Programs & Media Relations Charles Cazeau, Director of Employment Services Sherline Celicour, Receptionist Junie Dareus, Program Support Staff Arielle F. Dominique, Program Associate Josette Josue, Community Health Worker Rose T. Mainville, Program Support Specialist Desiree Marrero, Special Projects Administrator Alphonse Piard, Director of Financial Literacy Programs Rose Roberts-Desir, Social Worker Marie Claire St. Louis, Custodian

# **Our Funding Partners**

## **Private Foundations**

Bank of America Foundation \* Carnival Foundation \* Florida's Foundation \* Green Family Foundation \* Health Foundation of South Florida \* Helios Foundation \* JP Morgan Chase \* John S. & James L. Knight Foundation \* Marguerite Casey Foundation \* Peacock Foundation \* Publix Supermarket Charities \* The Ethel & W. George Kennedy Family Foundation \* United Way of Miami-Dade \* Wells-Fargo Foundation

### **Government Agencies**

Miami-Dade County \* The Children's Trust \* The City of North Miami \* The Internal Revenue Service Tax Payer Advocate Services, Low Income Tax Payer Services (LITC) \* Office of Refugee Resettlement

### **Corporate Donors**

Aventura Hospital & Medical Center \* Bacardi USA \* Bank of America \* BankAtlantic/BB&T \* Baptist Health South Florida \* Becker & Poliakoff \* Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Florida \* Bogosse \* Coca-Cola \* Doral Cops \* Florida Power & Light \* Great Florida Bank \* Humana \* Island TV \* Seaboard Marine \* The Miami Dolphins & the Dolphins Foundation \* The Miami Herald \* The Miami Marlins & the Marlins Foundation \* Unitransfer \* Waste Management