

Haitian Neighborhood Center

2016/2017 **Impact Report**

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Our Mission and Programs



From Our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We're thrilled to close out another successful fiscal year, in spite of the many unforeseen challenges encountered.

First, the unplanned relocation to our new offices in North Miami. The upside is that this move places us in the heart of the community we serve and presents opportunities to serve more families.

Our collaboration with WPBT-2 resulted in the creation of the monthly English language show, Haitian Voices. We're equally excited about our new clinical services and are elated about our financial capabilities initiatives.

Another point of pride is the graduation of the second class of our community leadership program as we look forward to a successful Class 3.

This year we also welcomed new team members and bid farewell to others who found new opportunities to serve the community by pursuing their passions. We wish them continued success.

Every accomplishment made this year is owed to the Sant La Board, the staff, and our allies, whose passion for this community is deep and endless.

With Bottomless Gratitude, Gepsie M. Metellus #Santla4ever In fulfillment of our mission to empower, strengthen and uplift South Florida's Haitian community, we served 8,862 clients in 2016-2017: 2,089 of which were new clients. 659 individuals were served through our cornerstone services, including information and referral, care coordination, review of correspondence and naturalization support. Below are the number served in our core program areas. The work was done by a team of 15 staff members, 41 dedicated volunteers and interns,

Building A Culture of Health

Assisted 600 families with food security by accessing Food Assistance; 1224 clients gained health security through Medicaid & Florida KidCare, plus an additional 277 who gained health coverage through the Affordable Care Act.

Financial Capabilities

Assisted over **859** clients improve their financial capabilities through free tax preparation, financial counseling, mortgage modifications, consumer credit reduction, resolution of identity theft, and home-buyer education.

Employment Security And Reemployment Assistance

- Assisted 3,385 job seekers increase their employability options with resume preparation, online applications, employability orientation, referrals to training programs, and job placements.
- Assisted 560 clients with re-employment through unemployment benefits filing and successfully managed 1,175 unemployment claims.

Successful Parenting and Positive Youth Development Fostered strong parentchild relationships for 60 families, including 63 youth.

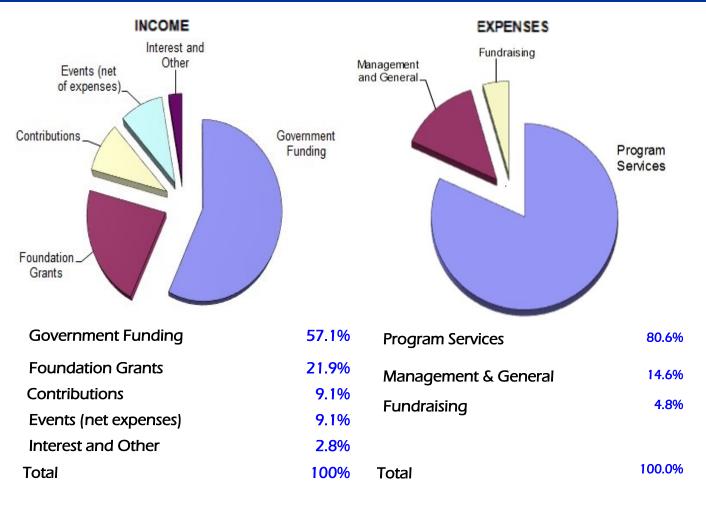
Community Information, Education, Engagement and Advocacy

We completed our 360th episode of Teleskopi this fiscal year. The show is viewed by over 500,000 Haitian-American households in South Florida. Our 20 Neighborhood Advisory members continue to help expand our efforts in community needs assessments, and policy advocacy to benefit the community.

Photos below from left to right: Gepsie Metellus and referees at a Miami FC match; On the set of Haitian Voices; Edwidge Danticat addressing the Sant La Fellows; Commissioner Jean Monestime with Sant La Fellows; North Miami Police Department members visiting Sant La offices; Graduation of Sant La Fellows, Class II.



An Overview of our Financial Stewardship



Haitian Philanthropy, Generation Next and Promenade Atizay

Put Your Money Where Your Pride Is!

The 16-member Haitian Philanthropy Coalition continues to promote philanthropy throughout Miami Dade County's Haitian community, especially among Haitian-American millennials. Give Miami Day 2017 will be an opportunity to showcase our community's generosity.

Generation Next

Class II of Sant La Fellows graduated in June after a year filled with eager questions, deep discussions and complex answers. During the 2016-2017 program year, the 8 Fellows served the Haitian-American community by leveraging the voices of millennials in advocating for the renewal of Temporary Protective Status for Haitian nationals. Class III, consisting of 10 Fellows, began their journey in August 2017.

Sant La Scholars— Summer 2017ended with a Cultural Extravaganza highlighting everything our Sant La Scholars learned about Haiti and its culture during our first Summer Culture Camp, funded by The Miami Foundation. We are thrilled that about 20 children are still with us during the school year for tutoring and cultural enrichment activities to support their scholarly pursuits.

Introducing Promenade Atizay

The first edition of our Promenade Atizay coincided with Connect Miami, an initiative to offer Miamians the opportunity to connect with one another over a week period. Sant La hosted an open house through which 100 guests mixed, mingled and connected over food, music, art and Haitian cultural traditions.

Our Board of Directors

Officers and Committee Chairs

Ashaki Bronson-Marcellus, Chairperson Thamara Labrousse Vice-Chair Jean Renazile, Treasurer Sandra Williams, Ph.D., Secretary Valeska Valencia, Development Chair Jodi Milander-Farrell, Nominating Chair Patrick Martin, Esg, Board Counsel

Directors

Reginald Andre Herve Bony Leslie Bauknight-Nixon, Esq. Gepsie M. Metellus Lody Jean, Esq. Ronald C. Joseph, MD Carl Nicoleau Donard St. Jean

Our Team

Gepsie M. Metellus, Executive Director Stekare Armand-Charles, Youth and Family Advocacy Angeline Bell, Program Assistant Charles Cazeau, Employment Services Junie Dareus, Program Support Sandy Dorsainvil, Special Projects Administrator Josette Josue, Community Health Wilbert Laurent, Employment Services Karine Mompremier, Community Services Karine Mompremier, Community Services Mariline Nelson, Mental Health Counselor/Therapist Alphonse Piard, Financial Capabilities Marie Sanon Canel, Client Services Reception Marie Claire St. Louis, Custodian Vanessa Renfort, Mental Health Counselor/ Therapist

Our Funding Partners

Private Foundations

Bank of America Foundation *Carnival Foundation * FOKAL* Florida Blue Foundation* Green Family Foundation * Health Foundation of South Florida * JP Morgan Chase * *John S. & James L. Knight Foundation * Miami Foundation *Peacock Foundation* * Publix Supermarket Charities *

* The Ethel & W. George Kennedy Family Foundation *Prosperity Now *United Way of Miami-Dade * *Wells-Fargo Foundation * The Women's Fund of Miami-Dade

Government Agencies

Miami-Dade County *The Children's Trust *The City of North Miami *Career Source South Florida * *Miami Parking Authority* Public Health Trust *United States Department of Human Services* *State of Florida Department of Health*

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