

I. Organization Background Information

Name of Organization:

Nuestra Escuela, Inc.

Mission Statement:

Please limit to 1000 characters. Please be aware that your content may be truncated if you are pasting from another source.

Provide an educational environment that is responsive to the interests and psychosocial needs of our students, so that they can complete their secondary education and are capable to continue studies. All in order for them to obtain and retain employment or generate job opportunities that will allow them to achieve self-reliance and a better quality of life.

Overview of Organization:

Please limit to 2500 characters. Please be aware that your content may be truncated if you are pasting from another source.

Nuestra Escuela, Inc. is a community-based non-profit, incorporated in 2000, with the purpose of offering educational services to youth and adults outside of school who have not obtained their high school diploma. Our services are based on personalized education and socio-emotional development strategies to reinforce students' self, so that they discover their talents and participate in cultural and recreational activities to raise awareness of the importance of health. We offer vocational exploration and arrangement services in post-secondary studies at a technical or university level. We also support them to obtain and retain a job and / or generate job opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency and a better quality of life. As part of our model, we offer support services to young people so they can focus their efforts on completing their academic goals. Among them: intermediate and secondary education services, educational clubs, physical training and sports training, talent development with an emphasis on fine arts, childcare in our facilities preschool and elementary education, educational fieldtrips, development of entrepreneurship and microenterprises, among many others. Nuestra Escuela is licensed and accredited by the Puerto Rico Board of Education and is a candidate for accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. A fundamental part of the Services Model are the alliances that Nuestra Escuela maintains with other entities. The alliances consist of bilateral agreements with important sectors of the community. One of the most important is with the associated organizations of the Alliance for Alternative Education. We have received several awards, among which we highlight the evaluation of the Department of Education through the Adult Education Program. By visiting Nuestra Escuela as part of the federal audit we achieved 100% compliance. We was selected among the 19 distinguished schools of the Organization of Ibero-American States. We received the Prize for Solidarity in Education granted by the Miranda Foundation. In 2012, we organized the 21 International Conference on Democratic Education. In 2013, received the Human Rights Defense Award granted by the College of Professionals Social Workers of Puerto Rico. In 2015, we obtained the prestigious Tina Hills Award and most recent recognition was the Carvajal-Fuentes Sisters Award for Social Commitment, awarded to Nuestra Escuela in 2018.

Website:

www.nuestraescuela.org

II. Proposal Contacts - Please enter information for the Primary and Secondary Proposal Contacts

Primary Contact

First Name

Ana Yris

Last Name

Guzman Torres

Title

Executive President

Email Address

anayris@nuestraescuela.org

Phone

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Street Address

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State

4401

Zip

00926

Secondary Contact

First Name

Angel

Last Name

Perez Soler

Title

Director of Development

Email Address

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Phone

7876129226

Street Address

Calle Betances esquina Muñoz Rivera # 75 Caguas

City

Caguas

State

PR

Zip

00975

III. Proposal Information

Proposal Title:

At least one plate of food on your table

Support Request (check all that apply):

Investment/Grant

Requested Dollar Amount:

\$150,000

Please list other Significant Partners in the Proposal:

- Alliance for Alternative Education
- Angel Ramos Foundation
- Banco Popular Foundation

Proposal Description:

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"At least one plate of food on your table" is an initiative of Nuestra Escuela which begins a few days after the passage of Hurricane Maria. As in many places, the atmospheric phenomenon uncovered poverty and food crisis in the country, our students being one of the most affected. Under the interest of supporting our students and their families, Nuestra Escuela decided to offer food services every day without interruption. After the passage of Hurricane Maria, the issue of hunger was born as one of the concerns addressed by the school, so we began a relationship with the Food Bank for the purchase of food with the clear objective of providing at least one plate of food safe.

In the past months, Nuestra Escuela began operations in a new headquarters in the municipalities of Caguas and Loíza. The program "At least one plate of food on your table", has had to be paused, since we are still in the process of building the kitchen and consequently waiting for government permits for the operation. The expectation of Nuestra Escuela is to continue the Project once we complete the rehabilitation of the kitchen area and receive the permits from the government.

To continue with the Project, the organization needs to complete the rehabilitation of the kitchen spaces and purchase of necessary utensils.

Issues Addressed (check all that apply):

Community Development Finance, Community Services and Facilities, Disaster Relief, Stabilization and Sustainability

If your project affects multiple states or counties, please use the CTRL key to multi-select.

Geographic Impact

National

U.S. States & Territories:

Puerto Rico

Population Served:

Please limit to 500 characters. Please be aware that your content may be truncated if you are pasting from another source.

This program are for young people from 13 to 21 years old without a high school diploma, from low-income families, residents in poor communities and poor living conditions. Some of these young people are lacerated by the social and emotional situations that they have had to live. This context has been decisive in their academic performance. Among the many social situations that contribute to their poor academic performance in the school environment is the little or no family.

Population Income by Area Median Income (AMI) and other identifiers (percentage of Free and Reduced Lunch for youth or designated "Disaster Area" or designated "Distressed or Underserved" served by proposal:

According to the US Census (2017), these four municipalities reported at least 30 percent of their population below the poverty level: Caguas 37.7 percent, Gurabo 31.1 percent, San Lorenzo 45.6 percent and Juncos 51 percent hundred. The same pattern continues in the municipalities of the Carolina region, where Loíza exceeds 51% of poverty levels, Canovanas 43%, Carolina 29%, Rio Grande 38%, and Luquillo 46%. These figures confirm that more than 70 percent of Nuestra Escuela school enrollment reports income less than \$ 10,000 annually.

Anticipated Outcomes/Impact:

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With the program "At least one dish on your table", Nuestra Escuela hopes to ensure that our young people at least have a healthy meal a day, influencing the poverty gap that our population lives. We understand that by providing that plate of food, we release an expense for the families of these young people, achieving savings for other household needs. In addition to achieving an impact on family finances, the program will ensure a nutritious diet which meets the requirements of a menu certified by a professional nutritionist.

Describe evaluation methods used to measure success:

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The metrics to evaluate the success of this program are:

- Finish the renovation of the kitchens at the headquarters in Caguas and Loíza
- Start kitchen operations at the headquarters of Caguas and Loíza
- Count the number of young people served by the program "At least one plate of food on your table"
- Count the amount of food served as part of the "At least one plate of food on the table" Program
- Count the number of students have been retained in Nuestra Escuela in order to finish their fourth year of high school

Count the number of young people who finish their high school room at Nuestra Escuela in Caguas and Loíza.

Project time frame - Is your request for an existing or new program?

New Program

IV. Submit Supporting Documentation - Please attach your most recent audited or reviewed financials in PDF format to this proposal application. Your proposal application will be considered incomplete until the appropriate financial documentation is provided. By submitting a proposal application you agree to share with the Federal Reserve information regarding connections that were made with funders regarding the proposal or other work your organization conducts that was identified by a funder that used the Investment Connection platform. After you submit a proposal application, we will follow up with you to see if Investment Connection was helpful with your informational and business needs.

Upload your most recent audited or reviewed financials

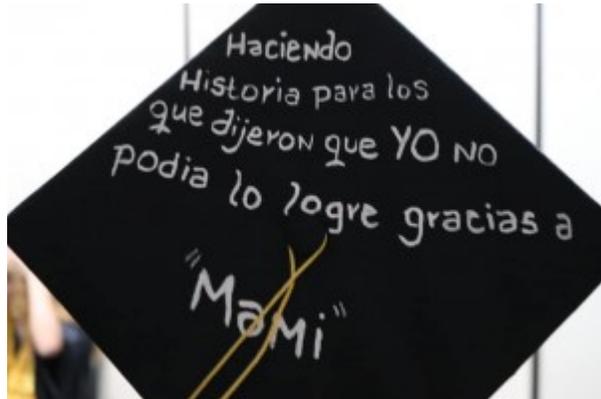
(for internal uses only)

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V. Other Supporting Documentation - You may submit a photo (jpeg) and/or a video (mp3 or mp4) that helps describe your proposal. (information available to funders)

Upload a picture or video that helps describe your proposal or organization

(information available to funders)



Upload additional picture or video

(information available to funders)



Add any additional links to supporting documentation

(information available to funders)

VI. Disclaimer - The Federal Reserve Banks do not endorse or make any representations as to the propriety or suitability of organizations, investments or programs listed. Organizations should perform their own due diligence before engaging in any transactions with these entities to ensure that any such transactions meet the organization's objectives.