

I. Organization Background Information

Name of Organization:

Sabana Grande Community Economic Development Corp(SACED) is the applicant for its Community Resilience and Recovery Center for Southwest Puerto Rico Project

Mission Statement:

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

SACED recently acquired a decommissioned school located in rural Rayo Guaras ward, in Saban Grande. SACED's mission is to convert it into a Community Resilience and Recovery Center. SACED projects to develop this center for a dual purpose. First to plan, revitalize and reconstruct part of the school into a safe room/shelter for vulnerable individuals during disaster incidents. SACED has already applied for mitigation funds from FEMA for the shelter/saferoom project. The second purpose (subject of this proposal) is that during non-disaster (blue skies) period the center will serve as a community capacity building, microbusiness incubator center and general community services center. Thanks to a grant by the Puerto Rico Community Foundation, two of SACED Managers are being trained to obtain a local certification to open an incubator for community microenterprises on site. This center will serve the eight municipalities that SACED already serves through its Disaster Case Manager program.

Overview of Organization:

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

The Corporation for Community and Economic Development of Sabana Grande SACHED Inc., Organized under the US federal code 501c (3) as a non-profit organization since 2012 has been providing development tools for the LMI(low to moderate income) population of the southwest area of Puerto Rico, serving an average of 10,000 people per year. Most of those people were served through the drug and substance prevention coalition that is on its fifth year of reducing the underage substance abuse in Sabana Grande. In the aftermath of Hurricane Maria SACHED worked with the community to help those in need. SACHED office became an oasis for the community. In December 2017 SACHED lead the effort to form a Long-Term Recovery Group for Sabana Grande and became a vetted organization in the Voluntary Agencies Leading and Organizing Repair (VALOR) program from FEMA. The program allowed us access to construction materials. On August 4, 2018 FEMA granted SACHED a cooperative Agreement to provide Hormigueros, Lajas, Sabana Grande, San German, and Youco. The DCM Program allowed SACHED to hire close to 30 professionals to identify the needs for over 4000 individuals. Through the DCM Program we have acute awareness on how Hurricane Maria affected regional jobs and economy. We hope to battle the economic impact of the disaster by empowering people to create their own opportunities through microbusinesses. Just recently, SACHED was awarded a USDA Rural Development Grant Through Puerto Rico Community Foundation to establish a Community Microbusiness Incubator.

Website:

www.saced.org

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

Primary Contact

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Last Name

Pietri

Title

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Secondary Contact

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Last Name

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State

Puerto Rico

Zip

00637

III. Proposal Information

Proposal Title:

Community Resilience and Recovery Center for Southwest Puerto Rico

Support Request (check all that apply):

Investment/Grant

Requested Dollar Amount:

\$500,000

Please list other Significant Partners in the Proposal:

USDA Rural Development, Puerto Rico Community Foundation, Municipalities of Sabana Grande, San German, Maricao, Las Marias, Youco, Guanica, Lajas and Hormigueros. Club Fraternal Sananeno, Cafiesencia, Fundacion Bucarabon.

Proposal Description:

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

SACED will create the Community RESilience and Recovery Center for Southwest Puerto Rico in the former school. Two Saced Manager are being trained to develop the Southwest Community Micro Business Incubator. This will be made possible in part thanks to a grant from USDA Rural Development through the Puerto Rico Community Foundation. This grant will provide some technical assistance in the development. It will incubate community start-ups within a responsible and ethical economy framework. Through DCM program SACED has gotten to know the communities it serves, their assets, needs, limitations and opportunities. This puts SACED a step ahead of other incubators. The incubator will connect with partners from the private, public and academic sectors to create a supportive network, evaluate the candidates, provide first generation services: physical or virtual space, shared services and reactive support. It will grow to provide coaching - second generation, and seed money and financing - third generation. The incubator will have a goal of training 20 individuals from which at least 5 microbusinesses will be incubated. It will also provide coaching to existing microbusinesses. Since great part of the economic development of the zone is in agriculture, SACED has signed an agreement with NGO Cafiesencia, which have been working with farming communities to improve their product, identify new business opportunities and use conservation practices to enrich their property landscape.

The requested funds will be used to:

- Condition room structures for offices, meeting and workshop rooms as well as physical spaces for start-ups.
- Obtain furniture, materials, supplies and equipment - computers, printers, software.
- Hire administrative support personnel.
- Hire special contractors with expertise in feasibility studies, business administration, entrepreneurship, specialists in varied industries depending on the startup needs.
- Funds for Seed Money.
- Administration costs like insurance, Permits, utilities and security, WI-Fi will be provided by SACED.

Through this proposal SACED also intends to create a network of contacts to bring potential investors using the Opportunity Zone legislation, Angel Investors, and promote local investment for its startups.

Besides the Incubator, SACED will provide general community services like capacity building and youth empowerment.

Issues Addressed (check all that apply):

Asset Building / Financial Access, Capability and Empowerment, Community Services and Facilities, Disaster Relief, Small Business Development / Microlending, Stabilization and Sustainability, Workforce Development / Economic Development, Other

If you selected "other" above, please describe.

Eradicate Poverty

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

Geographic Impact

Neighborhood(s)

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.

LMI income families and individuals in rural - often isolated/marginalized communities

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:

All 8 municipalities are rural - with many isolated/marginalized communities-, LMI communities with very high poverty and unemployment rates.

On September 20, 2017, President Trump declared that a major disaster exists in the commonwealth of Puerto Rico. This declaration covered all 78 municipalities of the island. Further, US Code Section 1400Z-1(b)(3) Created a special rule for Puerto Rico, making Practically the entire island an opportunity zone. As such, all 8 SAVED municipalities have census tracts designated as Opportunity Zones.

Service area Statistics;

Poverty Rate: 52.6%

Unemployment: 16.2%

HH Income: \$14,944

Population: 181,382

Anticipated Outcomes/Impact:

Please limit to 2000 characters. Please be aware that your content may be truncated if you are pasting from another source.

SACED will spearhead the economic and community revitalization of the zone creating new businesses and helping struggling ones but it will also serve as an open door to new and solidary opportunities for those who had lost hope.

Describe evaluation methods used to measure success:

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To conduct the local performance assessment and comply with the core measures of the CRA and program objectives, SACED will receive support from the Third Mission Institute (IM3, Spanish acronym) at the Carlos Albizu University. The Institute has conducted evaluation and research projects funded by federal and state government agencies on the mainland and in the island. SACED has been working with IM3 for 5 years. In order to conduct the assessment and evaluate the progress of the objectives identified, IM3 team will continue applying an integrative evaluation approach, that combines participatory evaluation model, continuous quality improvement theory, and organizational development theory to catalyze the program goals. This approach fosters a continuous capacity building to enhance effective management, address organizational change, and promote collaborative efforts. Moreover, it actively engages startup members and stakeholders in developing the evaluation process and all stages of its implementation and incorporates structured organizational process for involving coalition leadership into the strategic planning and execution to improve coalition performance and strengthen resources. Internal program evaluations will continue to be conducted to determine overall effectiveness and status. Based on monitoring results, management should be prepared to make adjustments. In the process to monitor and evaluate the performance, qualitative and quantitative data will be collected. Data collection will include documentation review, questionnaires/surveys, checklists and interviews to gather information. The IM3 evaluator will complete these forms and document observations and recommendations. The evaluation results will be discussed with management and staff to continue improving the work. Recurrent and random audits will be conducted to determine if program goals are being met, these audits may range from review of clients progress records to random client surveys.

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)

saced financials15102019.pdf

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)

video of photos SACED Barbosa School.mp4

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.