

FY 2011 Requests

Project Name - Disease Prevention & Nutrition Outreach Initiative, Los Angeles Mission College

Request Amount - \$500,000

Intended Recipient - Los Angeles Mission College

Full Street Address - 13356 Eldridge Avenue, Sylmar, CA 91342

Purpose - The project will provide professional outreach services to at risk health populations in the Northeast San Fernando Valley. The college will partner with local health care providers, and local community organizations to implement a health outreach demonstration pilot to promote chronic disease prevention through education, outreach and training. The objective is to positively impact Mission College's service area by closing disparities that exist in access to health services and education in addition to promoting lifestyle behavior modifications focusing on obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Project Name - San Fernando Valley Mobile Youth Prevention Program, Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.

Request Amount - \$450,000

Intended Recipient - Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.

Full Street Address - 18646 Oxnard Street, Tarzana, CA 91356

Purpose - Funds are requested for a Mobile Youth Prevention Program that would travel to schools. The mobile van will provide mental health, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) prevention services as part of in-school and after-school activities. The goal of the Prevention Program is to provide prevention services on-site at schools. This approach addresses transportation barriers typically cited by youth as a reason for not accessing prevention services in a timely and effective manner. There is a growing need to provide prevention services to youth, particularly as school budgets are being cut and auxiliary programs eliminated.

Project Name - Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Providence Tarzana Medical Center

Request Amount - \$3,000,000

Intended Recipient - Providence Tarzana Medical Center

Full Street Address - 18321 Clark St, Tarzana, CA 91356

Purpose - In response to the pressing need for specialized inpatient intensive care services for children in northern Los Angeles County, Providence Tarzana Medical Center, in partnership with Childrens Hospital, Los Angeles (CHLA), is requesting federal funding to help cover the costs of developing a collaborative advanced 8 bed Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) to be located at Providence Tarzana Medical Center. Over 750 critically ill children will receive treatment in the unit annually. Currently, Providence Tarzana Medical Center houses a PICU in a 40 year old structure that doesn't allow itself to the newest designs and latest technologies which have proven to effect a patient's treatment and care.

Project Name - Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program for Infants and Toddlers, San Fernando Valley, CA

Request Amount - \$350,000

Intended Recipient- Friends of CASA of Los Angeles

Full Street Address-201 Centre Drive, Suite 3 Monterey Park, CA 91754-2142

Purpose- Funds will be used for a specialized CASA program focusing on early intervention and permanent placement for infants and toddlers (ages 0-3) in the foster care system. This funding will enable CASA of Los Angeles to recruit, train and supervise community volunteers who will help to ensure that 75 additional toddlers in the San Fernando Valley receive critically needed services.

Project Name - Alzheimer's Education and Outreach, Greater San Fernando Valley Regional Office

Request Amount - \$152,743

Intended Recipient - Alzheimer's Association, California Southland Chapter

Full Street Address - 5900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1100, Los Angeles, CA 90036

Purpose- This project will provide education and support for hard-to-reach families struggling to cope with a cognitively impaired loved one. Support services include education, care consultation, support groups, safety services and providing referrals.

Project Name - Resources to Combat Mortgage and Foreclosure Fraud in the Northeast San Fernando Valley

Request Amount - \$431,000

Intended Recipient - City of Los Angeles

Full Street Address - 200 North Spring Street, Third Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Purpose- Funds will be used to hire five contractual investigators for one year to commence widespread mortgage and foreclosure fraud investigations. Specialized investigators are needed to identify criminal enterprises engaging in illegal loan origination, property flipping, home equity line schemes, and foreclosure rescue schemes. Targeting contractual investigatory resources for mortgage and foreclosure fraud cases in the Northeast San Fernando Valley will support economic and community development through the enforcement of lawful business practices and channeling of penalties and/or settlement funds back into the community.

Project Name - LA County NeighborWorks® Foreclosure Education

Request Amount - \$25,000

Intended Recipient - Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.

Full Street Address -3926 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90010

Purpose - This project will expand foreclosure prevention assistance, education, and counseling to struggling homeowners and families at risk of imminent foreclosure. Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services strengthens communities through the development and maintenance of quality affordable housing, creation and preservation of affordable homeownership opportunities, support of local leaders, providing financial education and increasing the financial independence of families and people in need.

Project Name - West Burbank Road and Safety Improvements, Burbank, CA

Request Amount - \$1,000,000

Intended Recipient - City of Burbank

Full Street Address - 275 E. Olive Avenue, Burbank CA 91502

Purpose - The project will rehabilitate and/or reconstruct arterial and local roadways in the western area of the City of Burbank, including pavement and roadbed reconstruction or rehabilitation, signing and striping improvement, traffic signal loop detectors, four fixed time traffic signals and other signal infrastructure, and other rehabilitation activities. Many of the roadways identified in the West Burbank Street Repair project are regional arterial streets identified as part of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Countywide Significant Arterial Network (CSAN), which are roadways that carry significant amounts of regional traffic. Because Burbank lies within the center of the broader metropolitan area, improvements to these arterials will benefit the efficiency and safety of regional, as well as local traffic.

Project Name - Transit Center, California State University, Northridge

Request Amount - \$650,070

Intended Recipient - California State University, Northridge

Full Street Address - 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330-8353

Purpose - The project will fund construction of an intermodal transit facility on the campus of California State University, Northridge. The project will greatly enhance mass transit commuter safety by providing a centralized transit location for multiple modes of transportation in the heart of campus, with significant ADA pathway and lighting upgrades. The project design will eliminate the need for pedestrian crossings in transit lanes, thereby mitigating the pedestrian/vehicle conflicts that currently exist at various transit stops. In addition, the transit lanes will be restricted to transit vehicles only, which will significantly reduce the overall traffic load at pedestrian pick-up points.

Project Name - Strategic Language Initiative

Request Amount - \$3,496,500

Intended Recipient - California State University system (Including CSU Northridge)

Full Street Address - 401 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802

Purpose - To continue funding of a successful university language program in the CSU system to teach strategic languages such as Arabic, Chinese and Russian.

Project Name - Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration, CA

Request Amount - \$1,780,000

Intended Recipient - City of Los Angeles

Full Street Address - 200 North Spring Street, Third Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Purpose - The study investigates and makes recommendations for a major restoration of the 32-mile Los Angeles River watercourse, stretching from the San Fernando Valley to downtown Los Angeles. The LA River Ecosystem Restoration will build upon the existing study and incorporate input from the City of Los Angeles' Master Plan for the LA River to improve the LA River's flood control ability and include vegetation and recreation opportunities for the City of Los Angeles and the communities that abut the River.

Project Name - Los Angeles County Drainage Area (LACDA) Water Conservation and Supply, Hansen Dam, CA

Request Amount - \$200,000

Intended Recipient - Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Full Street Address - 900 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803-1331

Purpose - This project will enable the Army Corps of Engineers to complete the required environmental documentation and feasibility study regarding alternatives to modify operations at the Hansen Dam. These operational changes will reduce the region's reliance on water imported from other states by increasing the local water supply and improving water supply reliability for the region as a whole.

Project Name - Sun Valley Watershed, CA

Request Amount - \$800,000

Intended Recipient - Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Full Street Address - 900 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803-1331

Purpose - The funds requested would be used by the Corps of Engineers for the feasibility phase of the Sun Valley watershed study. The underserved, urban Sun Valley community has experienced severe, chronic flooding for over 40 years. This will continue the investigation of environmental restoration, water quality improvement, flood mitigation, and other related issues within the Sun Valley watershed.

Project Name- West San Fernando Valley Business Assistance Program

Request Amount - \$282,000

Intended Recipient - Valley Economic Development Center, Inc.

Full Street Address - 5121 Van Nuys Blvd., 3rd Floor, Van Nuys, CA 91403

Purpose - This project provides business assistance services and access to capital to create and sustain jobs in today's difficult economic environment. The project was originally funded beginning September 1, 2008. As of January 2010, it has provided business consulting and training to services to more than 850 clients. The Valley Economic Development Center has access to millions of dollars to lend to small businesses in the West San Fernando Valley area, but lacks operating funds to continue past August 31, 2010, without this appropriation.

Project Name - Homecare Workers Training Center, Mission Hills, CA

Request Amount - \$175,000

Intended Recipient - Homecare Workers Training Center

Full Street Address - 2515 Beverly Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90057

Purpose - The state of California does not currently mandate training for In-Home Supportive Services providers; as a result, the field is saturated with untrained or minimally-trained caretakers who are directly responsible for the daily care and safety of the county's most fragile citizens. This lack of training contributes to the premature deaths of senior citizens and disabled persons.

This program will train 250 caregivers that act as in-home health aides for patients with long-term health care needs. The target student is someone already working as a public caregiver, who has no health care training. The program offers classes for CPR certification, paramedical services, infection control, mobility assistance, and a host of others designed to increase the quality of care to senior citizens, the blind, and the disabled. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds to ensure a higher standard of in-home health services for those in need.

Project Name - Veterans Workforce Development: Strengthening Pipeline of Engineers

Request Amount - : \$122,000

Intended Recipient - California State University, Northridge

Full Street Address - 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330-8353

Purpose - Funds will be used to create a pilot project to increase the number of veterans enrolled and graduating from engineering and computer science programs, and help them find employment. This a valuable use of taxpayer funds because there is a need for new engineers and the project will offer those who have served their county with assistance finding employment.

Project Name - Primary Health Care Clinic Expansion Project, Winnetka, CA

Request Amount - \$575,000

Recipient: El Proyecto del Barrio Inc.

Recipient Address: 8902 Woodman Ave, Arleta, CA 91331

Purpose - The goal is to renovate and remodel existing office space to expand access to primary health care services by the following: addition of six fully equipped exam rooms, a nurse's station, laboratory, intake, registration, records room, two provider offices and waiting area. The proposed remodel/renovation will allow for an additional 3,600 annual patient visits. This increased capacity will provide access to well-child services including full comprehensive episodic care for sick children, well-child exams, immunization, health assessments and health education. Direct health and human services include: primary and preventive care, obstetrics and gynecology chronic disease management, cancer screenings, tuberculosis and communicable diseases treatment. This is valuable use of taxpayer funds because the population served by this clinic has very limited access to health care. This project will contribute to the overall health, and improve the quality of life for the local community.

Project Name - Arts Education, Valley Cultural Center

Request Amount - \$50,000

Intended Recipient - Valley Cultural Center

Full Street Address - 21550 Oxnard Street, Suite 470, Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Purpose - This project will provide music performances and education in Los Angeles Unified School District's San Fernando Valley elementary and Jr. High schools. The program consists of a performance, brief history lesson on the musical and cultural style being presented, followed by a question and answer session with the performers. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds to ensure that youth receive a well rounded education.

Project Name- Equipment and renovations, Canoga Park Health Center, CA

Request Amount - \$101,407

Intended Recipient - Northeast Valley Health Corporation (NEVHC)

Full Street Address -1172 North Maclay Avenue, San Fernando, CA 91340

Purpose - The purpose of this project is to purchase and install new medical records racks, 26 new windows as well as new entrance and exit doors for the health center with the overall goal of improving clinic efficiencies, patient and staff safety and access to care.

NEVHC assumed operations of the site from the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services in 1995. This site has grown tremendously since then, providing over 24,000 health care visits to approximately 7,000 patients. The site's current medical records racks have been used since '95 and they are at capacity. Due to the lack of storage space, some charts are currently placed in wheeled carts, creating a safety hazard and making it difficult easily and quickly find needed records.

The current windows, entrance and exit doors were installed at the center when the clinic was constructed 58 years ago. Since then, the original wood frames around the window panes have rotted, which has created a security risk (a person could easily remove a window pane with a butter knife and enter the clinic). The front doors, along with three exit doors, are no longer functioning properly. Changing weather conditions often make them difficult to open and close, which could pose a security risk to patients and staff in event of an emergency and the need to evacuate the facility.

Key outcomes of this project include a) increased storage capacity by 62%, b) improved clinic flow, c) improved staff and patient safety, d) reduced patient wait times, e) reduced health risks, and f) ADA compliance.

Project Name - Unity Lab

Request Amount - \$255,629

Intended Recipient - Capital Unity Council

Full Street Address - 1410 Ethan Way #104, Sacramento, CA 95825

Purpose - The Capital Unity Council was established in 1999 after thousands of concerned citizens gathered downtown to protest a rash of hate crimes plaguing the region. The council decided to create an institution that would embrace inclusion and honor California's diversity with programming on unity and social justice.

In partnership with Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSC), the council is now working to establish the Unity Lab. This digital arts studio will provide career technical education while serving as a development and demonstration site for the Unity Center's interactive learning experiences.

This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because of the career training it will provide to students who otherwise may not have the opportunity to learn these skills. The project will also increase students exposure to programming intended to reduce bias-related violence.

Project Name - Gang Prevention and Intervention

Request Amount - \$150,000

Intended Recipient - New Directions for Youth, Inc

Full Street Address -7315 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91605

Purpose - The project will help prevent youth involvement in gangs among 10-18 year olds in the San Fernando Valley, specifically targeting a number of local high schools and feeder schools. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because intervention in the lives of at-risk youth reduces the incidence of serious and enduring problems that can perpetuate a cycle of poverty, underachievement and anti-social behavior. The project will utilize an intensive case management/service integration model to achieve the following objectives: (1) enrich the lives of high school aged youth through the provision of after-school enrichment programs and structured extracurricular and recreational activities; (2) build individual self-esteem and positive life-affirming attitudes and behaviors through the provision of core services including tutoring, counseling, and intensive case management; and (3) strengthen the families of at-risk youth through family counseling, parenting classes, training on the dynamics of gang behavior and warning signs, referral services, and the promotion of community involvement.

Project Name - Community Technology Center

Request Amount - \$150,000

Intended Recipient - New Directions for Youth, Inc

Full Street Address -7315 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91605

Purpose - The technology center provides intensive computer education, technology training, and computer access to at-risk youth. The curriculum is designed to move youth progressively through three 10-week sessions of computer education. The program has successfully graduated over 450 participants. The program helps develop job skills, promotes positive values/work ethic, provides computer literacy skills and decreases the digital divide between those with access to technology and those without. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because intervention in the lives of at-risk youth reduces the incidence of serious and enduring problems that can perpetuate a cycle of poverty, underachievement and anti-social behavior.

Project Name - Prevention, Resource, Information and Drug Education (PRIDE) Project

Request Amount - \$100,000

Intended Recipient - Chabad of the Valley

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 18181 Burbank Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356

Purpose - The project will provide at-risk youth with drug and alcohol prevention and crisis intervention services through nonsectarian, educational and social services programs. In hiring and in providing benefits the Prevention, Resource, Information and Drug Education (PRIDE) Project will not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, etc. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because by providing services to prevent drug and alcohol abuse taxpayers can actually save money in the long run. Research from the National Institute on Drug Abuse shows that for every dollar spent on drug abuse prevention, communities save up to \$10 in costs for drug abuse treatment and counseling.

Project Name - Pedestrian Improvements Project, Los Angeles Mission College, Sylmar, CA

Request Amount - \$500,000

Intended Recipient - Los Angeles Mission College

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 13356 Eldridge Ave, Sylmar, CA 91342

Purpose - The project will provide an ADA compliant pedestrian link between the main community college campus and the new east campus. The two campuses are separated by the El Cariso Golf Course at a distance of 2,000 feet, with the connecting sidewalk being a hazardous path of travel for able-bodied pedestrians and an unacceptable barrier for disabled individuals. The project includes replacement of broken and buckled sidewalks, curb and gutter. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the enhancements will facilitate safety and mobility of pedestrians, improve access to intermodal linkages, enhance accessibility to on campus transit stops, and make walking a more viable form of transportation.

Project Name - North Valley Family YMCA Capital Expansion Project

Request Amount - \$50,000

Intended Recipient - North Valley Family YMCA

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 11336 Corbin Avenue, Northridge, CA 91326

Purpose - Currently the North Valley Family YMCA reaches approximately 40,000 community members each year through various programs. They will be able to serve an additional 6,000 members at the main branch location, and to allow an additional 1,600 youth and adults to participate in classes. In addition, the Capital Expansion will create approximately 30 new permanent jobs (Y instructors and staff). This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will increase the community's access to the center's programming and will stimulate the local economy by creating jobs.

Project Name - Pedestrian Safety Improvement, Pierce College, Woodland Hills, CA

Request Amount - \$1,500,000

Intended Recipient - Pierce College

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 6201 Winnetka Ave, Woodland Hills, CA 91371

Purpose - Pierce College is one of the nine Los Angeles Community Colleges. This project will construct a new pedestrian and bicycle corridor, with crosswalk improvements, on Pierce College's campus. The project addresses ADA concerns, which are the result of the campus being built around a 300 foot high hill. Students who use the school parking lots, which are along the peripheral edges of the campus, will also benefit from improved pedestrian safety while crossing major roadways to reach instructional facilities. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the corridor will provide safe passage for students, including those with mobility disabilities.

Project Name - Los Angeles County MTA Bike Parking Station, San Fernando Valley, CA

Request Amount - \$100,000

Intended Recipient - Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Purpose - This project will create a high capacity bicycle parking facility next to a transit facility in the San Fernando Valley. The facility will offer seamless convenient and secure connections for transit riders using bicycles for the first and last mile of a transit trip. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because there is a shortage of bicycle parking for transit users and creating more parking will reduce vehicle trips and greenhouse gas emissions.

Project Name - ONEgeneration Senior Enrichment Center and Intergenerational Day Care Center Renovation of the Senior Enrichment Center and Intergenerational Day Care Center

Request Amount - \$97,000

Intended Recipient - ONEgeneration

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 17400 Victory Blvd. Van Nuys, CA 91406

Purpose - The repairs and renovations will allow ONEgeneration to continue to provide very necessary services in a safe, clean and sustainable environment. ONEgeneration is a nationally recognized organization offering child and adult day care, senior enrichment programming, care management, and meal delivery to the elderly, infants and children and developmentally disabled youth and adults. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because of the vital services this organization provides to those in need.

Project Name - Mobile Unity Center e-bus

Request Amount - \$200,000

Intended Recipient - Capital Unity Council

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient -1410 Ethan Way #104, Sacramento, CA 95825

Purpose: One third of middle and high school students responding to the California Healthy Kids survey reported being bullied or harassed. This classroom on wheels will provide learning experiences and programming on unity and social justice intended to reduce bullying and bias-related harassment among students. The curriculum and experiences will provide educators with methods to meet academic objectives and explore societal values through content and activities that are relevant and engaging to students. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it aims to prevent bias-related harassment and bullying in schools.

Project Name - Substance Abuse Treatment for Underserved Youth in Los Angeles County

Request Amount - \$900,000

Intended Recipient - Phoenix Houses of Los Angeles, Inc.

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 11652 Eldridge Ave, Lake View Terrace, CA 91342

Purpose - The requested funds will be used to ensure that a greater number of Los Angeles County adolescents have the opportunity to receive substance abuse and mental health treatment that they need. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will diminish the likelihood that these kids will return to the juvenile/criminal justice system and become a burden to society.

Project Name - Energy Efficiency Street Lighting Retrofit Project

Request Amount - \$1,000,000

Intended Recipient - City of Los Angeles

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient- 200 North Spring Street, Third Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Purpose - This project will replace 2,000 existing streetlight fixtures in the west San Fernando Valley area of Los Angeles with Light Emitting Diode (LED) fixtures. The LED fixtures will consume a minimum of 40% less energy than the existing fixtures and save the City \$143,000 annually. The light from LEDs is a white light preferred by law enforcement agencies because it provides greater visibility than traditional street lights. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

Project Name - Zuma and Trancas Canyon, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
Request Amount - \$6,000,000

Intended Recipient - Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, National Park Service

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240

Purpose - Funds will be used for land acquisition. The failure to protect inholdings for the public can sometimes result in increased management challenges - such as fire risk or water quality degradation - in our nation's recreation areas. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because by purchasing critical sites, federal land managers can reduce costs associated with protecting existing public investments and carrying out management plans.

Project Name - Encino Channel Habitat Restoration

Request Amount - \$200,000

Intended Recipient - City of Los Angeles

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 200 North Spring Street, Third Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Purpose - The project will restore the ecosystem and enhance its functioning. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will increase the publicly-accessible open space, wildlife habitat, area for passive recreation, and will create both short- and long-term jobs. The project will create an increase of natural resource-related tourism that will improve the quality of life and will result in reduced rates of crime (e.g., graffiti, vandalism, theft, and illegal dumping) and associated enforcement and cleanup for such crimes.

Project Name - Smart Grid Initiative for California State University, Northridge

Request Amount - \$1,000,000

Intended Recipient - California State University, Northridge

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330

Purpose - This project will add storage capacity and smart meters to permit the campus to store and use energy to meet peak demand needs. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because it provides for more efficient energy distribution thereby reducing our dependence on fossil fuels as we deal with global warming.

Project Name - Twin Lakes Pump Station Transmission Pipeline Expansion and Emergency Connection Project

Request Amount - \$675,000

Intended Recipient - Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302

Purpose - The project will increase drinking water pressure to safe and efficient levels and install an emergency intertie to the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District main backbone system. This is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will enable LVMWD to provide service to this area in times of peak demand.

Project Name - Emergency Food And Social Services Referral Center

Request Amount - \$250,000

Intended Recipient - Chabad of The Valley

Full Street Address of the Intended Recipient - 18181 Burbank Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356

Purpose - Chabad is seeking funding for the renovation of an existing commercial-grade kitchen into a one-stop food and social service center. In hiring and in providing benefits the Emergency Food and Social Services Center will not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, etc. The Center will have the capability to serve 1,500 meals a day. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the Center will aid youth and families in crisis by providing food and access to comprehensive information about social services.

Project Name - Creative Technology Incubator

Request Amount - \$450,000

Intended Recipient - Valley Economic Development Center, Inc.

Full Street Address - 5121 Van Nuys Blvd., 3rd Floor, Van Nuys, CA 91403

Purpose - This project will support start-up small businesses and job development for the region. It will provide a place for employing minority populations who are receiving a cutting edge education in their field of interest. Valley Economic Development Center, Inc.'s has 34 years of experience providing financing, training and one-on-one consulting services to the small business community. Their partner, Woodbury University, offers cutting edge education and training in creative technologies, including media and entertainment production, software development, and hardware service and development, which are in demand in our region. Additionally, Woodbury's distinction of serving nearly 60% minority student population -- 70% of which are Hispanic, provides a unique opportunity to support minority small business owners. These factors will contribute significantly to the emergence of businesses that will create jobs in our region.