



Sant La 
HAITIAN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT

2021/2022



Dear Friends,

We do not doubt that our vision of a fully integrated and self-sufficient Haitian community in South Florida is within our reach. Our work, shaped by our mission, remains guided by this vision.

Thanks to the generosity of steadfast supporter Bank of America, we are now proud owners of our new home. Our offices continue to be located in North Miami, on a bustling corridor with easy access to public transportation, a critical necessity as many of our clients are transit dependent.

Sant La continues to integrate its technology initiatives agency-wide to bridge the ever-widening digital divide impacting our community's access to resources and opportunities. Through **An'n Pale Tek**, we look forward to expanding our reach beyond our walls to churches and community partners. Through Eden Place, we encourage our parents to actively engage in email, Zoom meetings and WhatsApp parent groups; we are proud that many are now tuning in to our weekly Facebook Sant La Live sessions with questions and comments.

We are working diligently with partners to ensure our community's inclusion in the digital space. **Rezo Lespwa**, a Creole-language, early childhood resource app is now in the testing phase; and our extensive collection of newspaper articles and photos is being digitized thanks to FIU's Wolfsonian Public Humanities Lab.

Last year a community survey focused on emergency preparedness was administered in Creole and indicated that our community was not ready for inevitable natural disasters. This year, in partnership with CORE, Sant La launched the first Creole-language emergency preparedness program for the Northeast Corridor. Through this initiative, we will activate communities at the neighborhood level, building our community's capacity to face emergencies.

This year marked the 7th anniversary of the Sant La Fellows initiative to cultivate leaders with the cultural competency to build, grow and serve. With over 70 graduates, including elected officials, entrepreneurs, community organizers and advocates, our goal to produce members of the Haitian community who are ready to lead has already proven successful.

To grow boldly, and impactfully can only happen when our funders, our donors, clients and allies believe in our vision. We are deeply grateful that with your support, we rise.

With Warm Regards,

Gepsie M. Metellus
Executive Director

AGENCY STATS



11,595 CLIENTS SERVED IN 2021-2022

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

800 job seekers increased their employability options with resume preparation, online applications, employability orientation, referrals to training programs and job placements.

495 clients were assisted with re-employment benefits filing.

1,385 unemployment claims were successfully processed.

HEALTH & FOOD SECURITY

1,729 clients gained health insurance through Medicaid & Florida KidCare.

191 with health coverage through the Affordable Care Act.

1,731 families accessed Food Assistance.

1,547 meals distributed.

FINANCIAL CAPABILITIES

905 clients increased their financial capabilities through free tax preparation, financial coaching, consumer credit reduction, resolution of identity theft, and home-buyer education.

CORNERSTONE SERVICES

995 individuals were served through our cornerstone services, including information/ referral, care coordination, review of correspondence and naturalization/ passport and voter registration.

253 clients received rental assistance. **133** clients received assistance with Temporary Status and/or related applications.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES & YOUTH

679 visits for EDEN Place services through educational workshops, coaching, counseling, child behavior support and school advocacy

1,010 family visits for mental health services.

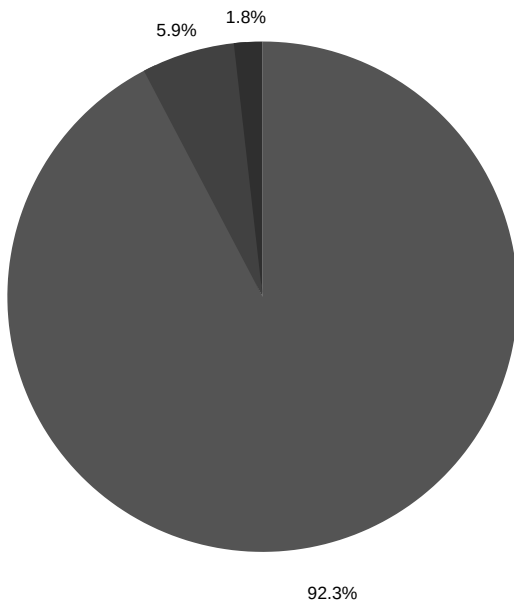
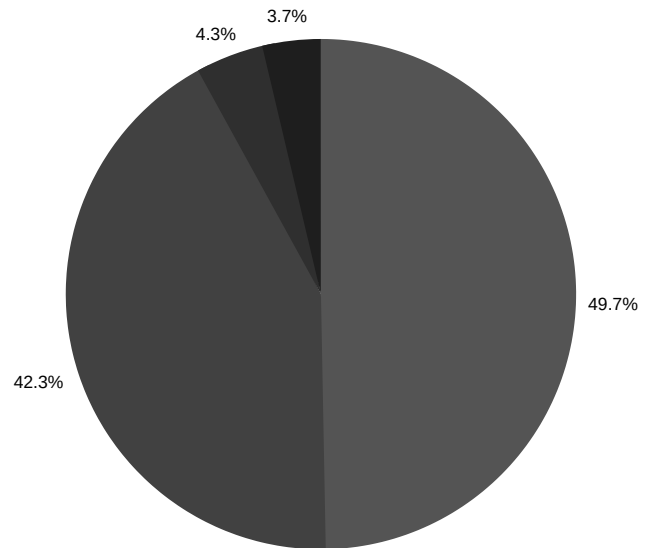
100 students participated in our after-school youth enrichment program

28 families fostered strong parent-child relationships through our parenting program.



INCOME

Government Funding	49.7 %
Foundation Grants	42.3 %
Contributions	4.3 %
Events (net expenses)	3.7 %



EXPENSES

Programs and Services	92.3 %
General and Administrative	5.9 %
Fundraising	1.8 %



FELLOWSHIP MARKS 7 YEARS

This year marked the 7th anniversary of the Sant La Fellows, a groundbreaking leadership development program offered exclusively to young Haitian American professionals living in South Florida. Our goal to produce members of the Haitian community who are ready to lead, invest in local community causes and strengthen their involvement with Haiti-based organizations has already proven successful. We have graduated 77 participants, which include current elected officials, entrepreneurs and community organizers and advocates.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Our emergency preparedness education effort took a leap forward this year. Sant La partnership with CORE and Miami-Dade County to provide Creole-language training to 40 residents of the Northeast Corridor, building our community's capacity to be ready to serve and activate relief efforts at the neighborhood level. Sant La has served as the Emergency Preparedness Hub for the Northeast Corridor since 2017.

TECH INITIATIVES

Sant La continues to integrate its technology initiatives agency-wide to help our community bridge the ever-widening digital divide impacting access to employment and resources. Sant La LIVE offers a weekly dialogue on Facebook with community experts to explore solutions and approaches to pressing community issues. An'n Pale Tèk (Let's Talk Tech), which introduces participants to basic digital skills and tools, had a successful pilot class and is preparing to host its second cohort.

Sant La is also committed to ensuring inclusion for Creole-speaking users through partnerships with the University of Miami, the "Early Childhood Resource" app, a culturally sensitive and user-friendly app for Creole-speaking parents; Axis Helps, a reliable tool for residents to navigate resources; and LaborMiami.org, an interactive portal to provide students, job seekers, entrepreneurs and employers with career development resources.

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 World Central Kitchen

HAITIAN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, SANT LA, INC



Sant La's mission is to empower, strengthen and uplift South Florida's Haitian community by providing free access to information and existing services to ensure its successful integration.

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