

Battaglia Fund Request for Proposals

Introduction:

The Diocese of Richmond's Haiti Ministry has been bequeathed the amount of \$80,000.00 from the last Will and Testament of Gaspare Battaglia. The will directs that the bequeathed funds are "to be used by the order to provide food and medical assistance for the poor of Haiti". The money is being made available to twins/partners in the Diocese of Richmond and their twins/partners in Haiti through the Sustainable Development Committee of the Haiti Commission for projects which provide economic sustainability for Haitians; which are themselves economically sustainable after the implementation period; and which are ecologically sustainable.

Guidelines for the request for proposals:

- During the first Battaglia Fund grant cycle \$40,000 of the bequeathed amount will be made available. Grants will be awarded in amounts of up to \$5,000.00 and will be available until the \$40,000.00 is exhausted. The second Battaglia Fund grant cycle will be announced in the future.
- All applicants must include both the Diocese of Richmond twin/partner and Haitian twin/partner. The Richmond and Haiti twin/partner must work together on all aspects of the grant and implementation process including identification of the project, developing and submitting the proposal, implementation of the project, evaluation of the project and reports.
- The applicant must contribute matching funds. The Battaglia Fund will match the funds provided by the twins/partners up to \$5,000.00. The applicant may need to contribute or acquire more than \$5,000.00 in order to fulfill the project. The award of the Battaglia grant will be contingent upon matching funds being secured.
- No funds from the Battaglia Fund will be used for administrative overhead.
- The proposed project or program must meet the requirements of providing food or medical services to the poor in Haiti.
- The applicants are encouraged to work with other organizations (Fonkoze, Heifer Project, Catholic Relief Services, Caritas Hinche, Bon Secours etc.) for consultation and technical support.
- Funds will be used for the project implementation period after which the initiative should be economically sustainable and self perpetuating OR the

economic benefits of the project will continue after the initial funding is exhausted and the project itself is terminated.

- The proposed project or program must meet the requirements of providing economic sustainability for Haitians:
- The initiative must meet the goal of providing a means by which the beneficiaries of the grant will be provided a way to secure an increased net income for the purpose of providing food security or health care. Additionally, the initiative must be self-perpetuating following the implementation period or the economic benefits of the project will continue after the initial funding is exhausted and the project itself is terminated.

Example #1: Micro-credit loans with a training component can be made available to the community to begin a revenue-producing business (i.e. capital can be provided to buy sewing machines and sewing and business skills training provided). The initiative can be economically self-sustaining by using the interest received upon the payback of the loans. Haitian participants of the project will be economically sustainable as they receive income from their business and with the increased revenue purchase food and health care for their families.

Example #2: A school community can be assisted with start-up funds to begin a food program for the children of the school. The community could use grant funds to grow beans and rice. Or start-up funds could be used for the community to make peanut butter sandwiches by growing peanuts, grinding them to make peanut butter and baking bread. The business can be economically sustainable if the community sold excess produce to the wider community for income generation.

Or

The initiative must meet the goal of providing a means by which the recipients of the grant will have a way to provide health care for a community which will be self-sustaining.

Example #1: An individual in the Haitian community may be identified as a candidate to attend training or receive education in the medical field. The individual would contract to return to the community to be employed in the health care field. The salary would be provided by fees charged to individuals receiving services. The person would then be employed and be economically self-sustaining.

- **The project must be ecologically sustainable meaning it can continue indefinitely without causing harm to the environment.**

- Priority consideration will be given to proposals which have training or educational components. For example, if micro credit loans are given for the purchase of sewing machines, projects with sewing lessons and/or business skills would be given priority.

Timeline:

Requests will be received on an ongoing basis beginning April 5, 2008 until the funds are exhausted.

Once the request is received, The Sustainable Development Battaglia Committee will review the request and respond within 60 - 90 days. If the project is rejected, suggestions for changes that would meet the requirements of the grant will be shared with the applicant.

The funds for approved grants will be dispersed via check issues to the Diocese of Richmond twin within four weeks of the applicant obtaining or securing commitment for all funds necessary to fulfill the project.

The grant recipients will send in reports every six months and a final report at the conclusion of the implementation period. See the attached requirements for the reports.