

Verizon Foundation Awards \$10,000 Grant to the Children's Board Foundation for a Micro-lending Initiative.

News Release

TAMPA, Fla. – October 6, 2009 –

The Children's Board Foundation, along with the Verizon Foundation, and Leadership Tampa Alumni (LTA), as part of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce are spearheading an economic stimulus effort for Tampa/Hillsborough County.

The Children's Board Foundation has partnered with LTA and has announced the availability of funds through a Request for Proposal (RFP) to identify a nonprofit organization that will deliver a micro-lending program to qualified low income individuals. The successful respondent will develop a new, or expand an existing project, that will utilize funds from the award to identify individuals for microloans, provide loan funds, and support services such as mentoring to maximize success. This grant will be awarded in January 2010.

The grant recipient will receive an approximate award of \$15,000 for a micro-lending pilot project. This loan granting organization will provide support services to their loan clients including credit recovery, business plan development and counseling, and mentoring a service that would not be available to them in a regular bank loan. The funds repaid to the grant recipient will be re-loaned by that same grant recipient, to other entrepreneurs for years to come.

For additional information, contact Bobbi Davis at 813 204-1752

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