

CENTRO CULTURAL "GUANÍN" INC.

Incorporado mediante Decreto No. 384-02, de fecha 15 de Mayo del 2002.
FUNDADO EL DÍA 7 DE MARZO DE 2001

IGUALDAD, FRATERNIDAD Y ESPÍRITU DE COMPATIBILIDAD
RNC: 4-30-02679-4

Villa Mella PROJECT, Phase 1 PROPOSAL

By: Centro Cultural Turístico Guanin, Inc.

Volunteers:

Translator: **Dra. Ph.D Lynne Guitar**

Executive Director: **Yovanny Severino Polanco**

Lawyer: **Dr. Lino Reyes Tamayo**

Counsel: **Dr Ph.D Abdul Karim Bangurar**

Project \$ 40,000.00

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Dar Vida a la Vida: Taking Chances, Giving Opportunities

The Center Cultural Guanin, Inc. in the Dominican Republic is to provide a safe, supportive place where children, youth and every body can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life, motivation, respect and self-confidence for children at risk

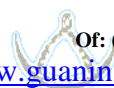
Introduction

throughout the years, Center Cultural Guanin, Inc. have carried on a tradition of helping young people to discover, develop, and achieve their full potential as adults, citizens, and leaders by engaging them in activities that challenge and enrich their minds, bodies, and spirits and nurture their self-esteem. Our safe, caring club environments and enriching programs have enabled for all young Dominicans to play, learn, and develop valuable skills for life.

Many Organizations around the world are implementing peace projects focus primarily on children at risk by giving them physical resources, educational training, or scholarships for future college plans. But what good are the resources if the children don't respect them because they don't respect themselves? What good is the educational training if the children are not personally motivated by school? What good is the scholarship if the children are not confident enough in their own potential to go to college? What differentiates me from others who are applying for this grant is that when I revisit my own experiences as a child growing up in a poor, violent area I can relate to these children at risk on a mental level with lack of motivation, respect, and self-confidence. The newly found respect, for myself and for others, that I received from his class promoted a new self-confidence which motivated me to take the necessary risks in my life because I finally believed in myself. In my opinion, the education is the key that leads people to the progress and the happiness, our children are the future and nothing is more important than ensuring their safety and wellbeing.

Project Description/Villa Mella Project phase 1

Villa Mella Project is the phase 1 of the mean project for the kids in Villa Mella. For more than 400 years, from the slave era through the present day, Villa Mella has been considered one of the poorest sectors, economically, of all the other regions of the Dominican Republic. The sector has been forgotten, even though it is directly under the eyes of the politicians--today Villa Mella is a northern suburb of the Capital--and even though it is one of the riches sectors, culturally, because of its Afro-Dominican and Afro-Caribbean cultural legacies.



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This "forgotten" status was the basis for our decision to found a program catering to the needs of the young boys and girls, both teens and adolescents, of the community of Villa Mella.

- a) Enlarge the small school, classrooms, computer room and other meeting rooms
- b) For the purchase of equipment and supplies for the offices, school supplies and sports equipment, etc.

Objective: A facility for the boys and girls of Villa Mella who have little access to other resources, where they will have the opportunity to participate in all the different programs of Centro Guanín, Inc. This project is aimed at helping all the families in the sector, families with few economic resources. The Club will have both morning and afternoon sessions:

- 1) The morning session is from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon. In this session, boys and girls who do not attend school in the morning will participate in the programs (they can also participate in afterschool programs), so that they are not wandering aimlessly about the streets. They will have the opportunity to participate in all of the Club's offerings and will also be provided with healthy snacks.
- 2) The afternoon session from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM is for those children who attend school in the morning.

We will need \$ 40,000.00

- 1) Homework Salon
- 2) Computer Laboratory with Internet
- 3) Library
- 4) Recreation (SPORTS PROGRAMA)

Program:

1) **Junior Adventures:** This is an after school program for children aged 5 to 12. The purpose of the after school program is to provide a safe environment in which we can promote, support, and enhance all areas of a child's learning and development.

2) **Sports Program:** Today, Center Cultural Guanin, Inc. is dedicated to ensuring that they are given every opportunity to the youth to develop to their full potential and to develop safer and healthier communities, so that Sports program is an initiative to keep youth's out of trouble in the same time they can build their on future.

3) **English as Second Language Program:** (This is a year-round, which is important so that they can succeed in the future job workplace) The SAS English as a Second Language Program that is directed to students' at all academic levels and all ages to improve of education levels and to provide opportunities to those who are not normally able to participate in English courses program.

4) **Summer Adventures:** A seasonal program for youth ages 5 to 16 focusing on recreational activities, personal growth and social skills. With many having previously failed in public schools, the camp provides an opportunity for children to learn about their environment, culture and peers through experimental learning and educational excursions.

Beneficiaries:

200 boys and girls of scarce resources in the before-school and after-school programs

500 mothers in the various workshops that will be offered

300 boys and girls in the various sports programs as well as the summer camps and weekend camps. <http://guanin.org/files/proyecto%20villa%20mella.html>



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·structure – Center Cultural Guanin, Inc.

was officially incorporated on May 15th, 2002 as a non-profit charitable organization, through decree No. 384-02

· Knowledge – In 2001, the "Centro Cultural Turístico Guanín, Inc." Together with the Vanderbilt University we built in the Iguamo 1, small batey in San Pedro de Macorís.

- a) School for 200 kids
- b) Water Pump(instalación de bomba o pump de agua)
- c) Construction of latrines
- d) Improvement of housings
- e) Construction of a center of attendance and of first aids
- f) Reforestation
- g) Donations of school supplies, clothes for children from 1 year-old to 15 years.
- h) <http://guanin.org/files/higuamo.html>
- i) May 2001, Jimany the border between the DR and Haiti, donations
<http://guanin.org/files/damnificados.html>

The Chosen Organization/Demographic

Located in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. San Felipe de Villa Mella, is a Municipal District in Matías Ramón Mella Province. Villa Mella, in the municipality that Matías Ramón Mella province that is located north of the Isabela River, about 6 miles (or 10 kilometers) to the north of the center of Santo Domingo, and is considered an additional neighborhood of the capital. This sector is considered one of the economically poorest in the Santo Domingo metropolitan area.

Our mission statement includes giving children a supportive place to experience new opportunities, overcome barriers and develop lifelong confidence. Guanin is building a project to help Afro-Dominican children from Villa Mella.

Yovanny Severino Polanco, Executive Director of Guanin, believes that the Villa Mella project phase 1 will be a valuable asset to the Villa Mella project. Guanin's website: www.guanin.org

History:

The town of Villa Mella was founded in the 1680s by fugitive African slaves from the French part of the island, today's Republic of Haiti. Fugitive slaves from the French side also founded the town of San Lorenzo de los Mina in 1676 and 1677. These fugitives were granted freedom and united together in their own towns by the Spanish governor, Sr. Francisco Sandoval y Castillo, a policy used by the Spanish to weaken the French colony, seeing as how Spain was constantly at war with France—the freed slaves had to promise to fight for the Spaniards should the need arise.

Villa Mella attracted other Africans who escaped the rigors imposed upon them by the French—some wrote that the Spanish owners were less cruel than the French because the French side of the island was dedicated to the production of sugar cane, which required constant hard labor that killed the workers.

Cultural:

Villa Mella is known for its retention and preservation of African cultural roots and heritage. One of the strongest manifestations of this can be found in the local, 400-year-old *cofradía* (brotherhood or voluntary association) of the Congos of Espíritu Santo. The Congos perform African-derived drum-centered music, primarily during traditional religious feast days, such as during Pentecost,



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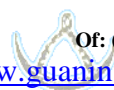
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and at funerals. However, it is also home to the musical organization known as the **Brotherhood of the Holy Spirit of the Congos of Villa Mella**, recognized in 2001 by UNESCO.

Conclusion: Our children are the future and nothing is more important than ensuring their safety and wellbeing. The Center Cultural Guanin, Inc., is looking out for the children of our community and we want to be able to offer our people and general a facility that our community can be proud of. We offer programs for ages in the different programs We assist the community through programs such as Education, Sports, Cultural, Tourism Activities, Donation, Shuttle Bus service for special occasions like New Years Eve parties, and bouncing castle rentals for Birthday parties. Our dream is to expand the Country keep our Children, Youth an Adult serve, from the all kind necessity. Help our people to grow up healthy and strong and never have to turn a child away due to space constraints. In order to fulfill the needs of our children and community we need a larger building for our home.



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