

March 11, 2025

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Re: Academies for Social Entrepreneurship (ASE) UCLA

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Academies for Social Entrepreneurship (ASE) at UCLA as a potential recipient of grant funding through your organization. I currently serve as President of SHSRP (Sabine High School Revitalization Project) Management Group, Inc., a nonprofit that operates in the Many (Sabine Parish), Louisiana that had the pleasure of participating in ASE from January 2023 through June 2023. I am proud to announce that our nonprofit won First Place for our social enterprise proposal that was presented to the panel of judges in June 2023. We were delighted to win, but the knowledge that SHS gained by participating with other nonprofits competing for the award was priceless.

Without having any knowledge of ASE's function, SHSRP accepted the invitation to participate in the academy. Initially, SHSRP concluded from just from the title that the academy was created to generate social enterprises that impact communities throughout the United States. SHSRP's representatives that agreed to participate were assigned to a group of UCLA students under the guidance of ASE advisors. SHSRP's representatives, UCLA students, ASE advisors, and occasionally guest speakers brainstormed weekly to generate an idea for a social enterprise that would positively impact the residents of Sabine Parish, and the enterprise would generate funds for sustainability. The social enterprise created would be housed on the campus of Sabine High School, a site that was once used as a school campus that educated African American students from 1958-1970, declared a historic stie by the Department of Interior March 2020. The Sabine High School campus was abandoned when the Supreme Court ruled in 1954 in the case of Brown vs Board of Education that schools in the United States would be desegregated. The enterprise generated during the Spring Semester, 2023 by the UCLA students, SHSRP representatives, ASE advisors, and guest speakers was to be implemented on the campus of SHS. The goal of our group was to create a social enterprise on the campus of SHS that would serve as a healing mechanism created a segregated divide for Sabine Parish was a challenge.

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Despite the challenge, our group's proposal impressed the judges enough to select our SHSRP's social enterprise proposal earned a place in the semi-final round and first place in the final round. As the academy progressed through the semester, SHSRP embraced the impact of social entrepreneurships for communities throughout the world. By the end of the course, I believed all participants in the academy developed an appreciation of how social enterprises serve as bond to connect nonprofits to the needs of communities with a sustainability component.

It is of utmost importance that ASE at UCLA continue with their quest to empower nonprofits with the tools to create social entrepreneurships that will meet the needs of individuals throughout the world. The awarding of your grant funds will enable ASE to continue to develop social entrepreneurships that impact societies.

With Regards,



Sandra Garner Coleman
President
SHSRP Management Group, Inc.