

## ACUERDO "FRIENDS OF PUERTO RICO"

PROGRAMA DE OPORTUNIDADES E INNOVACIÓN EN LA FUERZA LABORAL (WIOA)





August 12, 2021

Ms. Angelique Sina Friends of Puerto Rico PO Box 1437 Aguadilla, PR 00605

Dear Ms. Sina:

I write on behalf of the Local Workforce Development Board of the Bayamón – Comerío, Local Workforce Development Area, in support of the Friends of Puerto Rico Proposal to the US Small Business Administration for a grant to fund the Women's Business Center, to improve the economic wellbeing and development of Puerto Rico, specifically in the San Juan – Bayamón Metropolitan Statistical Areas. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on redressing economic underdevelopment by advancing entrepreneurship among economically and socially disadvantaged women.

The Bayamón – Comerío Local Workforce Development Area is one of 15 Local Workforce Development Area of Puerto Rico, as recognized by the State Labor Development Board under the provisions of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The Local Workforce Development Board for the Local Workforce Development Area, operates the One Stop Center or American Job Center that serves the clientele for the Area, in coordination with Employment Service Program (Wagner Peyser Act) an all required Partners.

It is the mission of the Local Workforce Development Board, to serve all clientele in need of employment and training to enter into the labor force or labor market and economic area.

Through this letter, we acknowledge specific roles and responsibilities, we will fulfill in this partnership. In the event this Proposal is funded, we would expect our role in the Women's Business Center to include:

- Forming a genuine partnership to provide access to our Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program that provides 800 hours of experience in the work force. One of our representatives would be designated to work on this effort
- Promote FOPRs services or events in forums, websites and activities for clients interested in Programs





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- Refer clients that may benefit from the programming offered at the WBC to expand the reach of their services to women in the SJBMSA
- Work with FOPR to identify other appropriate partnership opportunities and jointly pursue such projects

Friends of Puerto Rico, will take responsibility to lead the Women's Business Center through the development of :1) Workshops and Seminars, 2) Business Counseling, and a 3) Supportive network and useful resources to empower small businesses and women entrepreneurs in the SJBMSA.

We look forward to working with you in advancing entrepreneurship and development of new economic activity in our community and achieving the economic wellbeing of the women of Puerto Rico.

Sincerely,

Edwin A. Zayas Miranda Local Workforce Director LWDB Bayamón - Comerío

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