Kirubel Seifu

The eResettlement Initiative:

In Three Realms

This project aims to take a pioneering effort to digitize resettlement center services by introducing enterprise standard web-platform to provide eVolunteering, ESL services, job referrals, and accommodation matching. Seasonal volunteerism has left so many new community members without immediate help. Jobs are sought after with words of mouth in metro areas, such as in DC, MN, and MA. My aspiration is to circumvent such challenge starting from a small community to several resettlement centers across the nation.

Strategic Community Revitalization	Web Platform Deployment	Bilingual Education Law and Policy Compliance
Project Summary	**Project Summary**	**Project Summary**
➢ Revitalizing Afterschool Programs: *La' Cruz Community Center*: About 123 youth residents actively participate in the literacy development segment. *St. Cloud Area Somali Salvation Org*: About twenty community members per day attend an after school program offered at this center. Despite their limited space, both programs strive to meet students' need under scarce resources. ➢ Revitalizing Learning Centers: New families at Maine Prairie Apt. have been using a garage as a learning site. Read Aloud brought 16 out of 80 residents (between the age of seven and fifties).	➢Coordinating volunteers and newly arriving community members for service; providing ESL tutoring and job referrals are some of the common challenges faced by most resettlement centers. These were also SCSU Read Aloud problems faced from the very beginning. Moreover, the difficulty of motivating student volunteers was hard by its own. Our Read Aloud Service Challenge showed some progress despite the fact that service was still about the fourth task after school work, part-time job, and recreational/social activity.	➢ In 2011, I have attended a meeting held between 150 newly arriving community residents and District 742 officials; I witnessed the outcry of considerable number of English Language Learners (ELL) consignments to curriculums which do not allow them to move into mainstream classes as a result of being categorized as students with learning disabilities.
Plan of Action	**Plan of Action**	**Plan of Action**

➢**Set up a learning center (location TBD)**
➢**Set up STEM Lab (location TBD)** to reinvigorate science, tech, eng. & math learning:
  ➢Do It Your Self Projects (Learning Resource)
  ➢Web Development (Learning Resource)
  ➢Purchase computers and devices
➢**Summer Reading (location TBD)** (On site & additional Learning Resource)
➢**Develop literacy terms** on mini-notebooks for parents as they face difficulties on their daily needs, such as in identifying food labels from grocery aisles
➢**Soccer League (La' Cruz Comm. Center)**
  ➢Cleats for Champions: Number of residents play barefoot on soccer fields (Shopping Store)
  ➢Turf grass for soccer field: Organize a fundraising to replace dusty soccer field
	➢Incentivize service through income generating projects in order to prioritize service
	➢Introduce a new project **The Read Aloud Enterprise Service** with two objectives:
	1. Developing/ maintaining database driven website to coordinate service sites/volunteers
	  ➢ Recruit IT student positions: paid, academic credit incentives
	2. Providing IT enterprise Solutions
	  ➢ Partner with businesses, engage students in real world projects; disperse revenue to Read Aloud literacy paid student positions, IT positions
		➢ **Outreach the MN Department of Education**
		➢ **Outreach the Office of Civil Rights (OCR)** by conducting legal research on civil rights laws and cases promulgating federal requirements pertaining to services to ELL students attending public schools:
		➢ *Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*
		➢ *The Equal Educational Opportunity Act of 1974*
		➢ *The 1974 Lau v. Nichols case*
		➢ *The 1981 Casteneda v Pickard case*

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Project Outcome	**Project Outcome**	**Project Outcome**
➢ **On Leaning Center:** Provide sustainable service with literacy resources for 80 residents (2011 head count) ➢ **On the STEM Lab:** to build imagination as a recipe to develop innovative skillsets in STEM fields ➢ **On developing flash cards:** to instill a public service mindset in the youth who have already adjusted to their environment by giving back to their community members ➢ **On Reading:** to develop literacy skillsets ➢ **On Soccer league:** To reward the youth who show a sense of responsibility : I have observed that they take their shoes off when entering soccer fields/basketball play grounds ; to instill the idea that hard work pays off	➢ **Facilitate** effective coordination between student service positions /learning sites ➢ **Revive** SCSU Read Aloud through its pre-approved federal work study opportunity (2011) and forge it with the anticipated new paid positions: the first of its kind student organization to create on campus jobs at SCSU ➢ **Replicate** the website platform of Read Aloud for a new networking social enterprise; I would like to expand this start-up to provide eVolunteer, Job referral, accommodation, and literacy resources to similar new arriving Americans in various resettlement centers across the nation.	➢ **Draw** the attention of the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) in the U.S. Department of Education to enforce education related Title VI regulations so that school districts continue to strive in meeting the *Casteneda* standard