

**The White Family Foundation  
2019 Grant Request  
Mama Africana Network**

<b>Date of grant proposal submission</b>	Friday, February 22, 2019
<b>501c(3) organization</b>	Yes
<b>Legal name of organization</b>	Mama Africana Network
<b>DBA name if Applicable</b>	
<b>Address</b>	P.O. Box 76182 Tampa, FL 33675 United States
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.mamaafricana.org">http://www.mamaafricana.org</a>
<b>Telephone</b>	(813)-727-9423
<b>Organization Director/Title</b>	Evelyn Sekajipo/ Executive Director
<b>Contact Person/Title</b>	Labreia Cherry/ Co-director
<b>Contact Person's Telephone</b>	(813)-727-9423
<b>Contact Person's Email</b>	<a href="mailto:labreia@mamaafricana.org">labreia@mamaafricana.org</a>
<b>Grant Amount Requested</b>	\$6,000.00
<b>Grant Purpose (one paragraph)</b>	Mama Africana is a Christian mentoring program aimed to serve Black girls in the Tampa Bay Area. We pursue this mission through one on one mentoring, group mentoring and academic advocacy. We facilitate weekly gatherings inside and outside of school to provide a safe space for our girls to be empowered. Throughout the years, Mama Africana has affectionately partnered with Hillsborough County schools. We provide space for our girls explore their strengths through the use of workshops, travel, and educational/career visits. With this grant, we will be able to further opportunities for our girls to uniquely explore their God given purposes.
<b>Annual Project /Program Budget (if request is for a specific project)</b>	\$12,800.00
<b>Annual Organization Budget</b>	\$45,850.00



The White Family Foundation Grant Proposal May 2019

Proposal Contents

1. Proposal Narrative
2. Program Budget
3. Board Members/Board of Directors List: (current board of directors with information on the position they hold and their duration of service with your organization.)
4. Additional Information- End of year newsletter for 2018
5. Non-Profit Status/501(c)(3) Determination Letter from the IRS.



## **Proposal Narrative:**

Established in 2005, Mama Africana’s mission is to empower black girls in their ethnic identity and relationship with Jesus Christ. Mama Africana (MA) provides a safe space for girls to be introduced to and develop their relationship with Jesus. Faith, strong sense of self-worth and cultivating academic goals are major components of the Mama Africana mentoring process. The program provides opportunities for the girls to be exposed to personal enrichment opportunities both in and outside of school with activities such as leadership conferences, Bible studies to grow in Christian values, and guest speakers sharing their personal stories of overcoming challenges. These components allow the mentees to make choices throughout adolescence that honor God and themselves.

The MA mentoring model includes weekly small group gatherings where supportive and nurturing relationships are developed between mentors and mentees. Large group (middle school and high school) bi-monthly gatherings include leadership conferences, college tours and relationship workshops. The gatherings provide opportunities for mentors to be aware of the more personal needs of some of the mentees. It also provides a safe place for the girls to bond with each other. The bond that is built with the mentees is genuine and for many has even lasted into adulthood. Week after week of vulnerable conversations and shared laughter, around a meal allow a sisterhood to be formed between the participants; it’s a powerful process to witness and encourages peer accountability.

There are 4 ways that MA mentors interacts with the mentees. Two school based initiatives which are Johari for 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls and Ebony Gems for middle schoolers. Both operate during lunch or club time once a week. The two out of school initiatives are Ebony Bridge for middle schooler and Lineage for high schoolers. Both operate for 2

hours once a week at a central location in Tampa. Lineage encompasses girls from 4 different high schools in Hillsborough County. Currently there are 4 girls in Lineage (high school program), 13 in Ebony Bridge (middle school program after school), 10 in Ebony Gems (middle school-based program) and 20 in Johari (elementary school-based program), a 5-month program operating January-May.

**Mama Africana Network is requesting funds to use for the mentoring program and events that are pertinent to the MA mentoring process. The requested amount is \$5,000. If this proposal is funded, all monies will be used to continue to foster the relationship with the current mentees and new mentees.**

These programs include:

Ebony Bridge and Lineage Weekly Mentoring- This is the weekly out of school mentoring meeting with the middle school mentees (Ebony Bridge) and high school mentees (Lineage) to discuss event of their week, upcoming decisions and a topic of the week.

Johari and Ebony Gems Weekly Mentoring- In school based initiatives for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

The participants of MA are all residents of Tampa, mainly from lower income urban neighborhoods. There is a specific need in the community for positive role models and mentors for black female youth. There is often a deficit in the time and attention of mature adults that encourages our mentees in developing in leadership and healthy communication skills.

In many aspects of their lives, black teen girls are faced with monumental obstacles. Mama Africana (MA) is addressing the need of minority girls living in poverty that are at a greater risk of teenage pregnancy, violent crime and dropping out of school. The challenges faced by black teenagers in 2019 are significant and occur as part of a

socioeconomic cycle that is difficult to interrupt without consistent role models and mentoring

Mama Africana is currently funded by the support of grants, private donors, and churches within the Tampa Bay Area. Some grants and donations have been received in the past from The Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Las Damas De Arte, Tampa Underground Network, Florida Medical Clinic, as well as many small businesses and individuals within the community. Mama Africana also relies heavily on volunteers to donate their time as mentors. Our budget reflects the total cost of our agency, which includes in-kind services and supplies.

# Mama Africana Network

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of May 19, 2019

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Business Checking (XXXXXX 0848)	3,657.15
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$3,657.15</b>
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$3,657.15</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$3,657.15</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	
Equity	
Retained Earnings	5,413.56
Net Revenue	-1,756.41
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$3,657.15</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$3,657.15</b>

# Mama Africana Budget 2018/2019

October 1, 2018-Sept 30, 2019



## Staff Salary

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Director Salary	\$18,000
Co-Director	\$10,000

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TOTAL: \$28,000

## Administrative (Professional) Expenses

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Business Meal	\$200
Postage	\$100
Marketing (Website, Advertisement, Promo)	\$2500
Office supplies	\$150
Occupancy	\$0
Insurance	\$1500
Background checks	\$100
Staff, volunteer and Mentor appreciation	\$500

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TOTAL: \$5,050

### A. Lineage Leadership Cohort

<i>Food</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
Supplies	\$1,500

Workshops and retreats	\$800
EXPERIENTIAL FIELD TRIPS	\$1,500

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TOTAL: \$4,800

**B. Outreach Events**

<i>Ebony Bridge</i>	\$2,500
BEAUTY WORTH AND FAITH CONFERENCE	\$1,000
FLYNESS & HEALTH (HEALTH & WELLNESS DAY)	\$1,000
LUNCHEON	\$1,500
TABOO STATIONS (RELATIONSHIP ROUNDTABLE)	\$1,000

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TOTAL: \$7,000

**C. School-Based Programs**

<u>EBONY GEMS (MIDDLE SCHOOL INITIATIVE)</u>		\$500
Greco Middle		
<u>JOHARI (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INITIATIVE)</u>	5 MONTHS INITIATIVE	\$500
SHAW		
BTW		-

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TOTAL: \$1,000

**TOTAL= \$45,850**





## **Mama Africana Board**

The Mama Africana team has strong management skills and sound leadership to responsibly execute intended activities with all monies granted.

### Demetrius Cherry (Board Chair)

Demetrius Cherry was born and raised in Rochester NY. He attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro on a basketball scholarship where he attained a Bachelor Degree. He then played professional basketball in Europe for several years and returned to meet his wife Nina. They have four kids and serve as pastors over the marriage ministry at Extraordinary Life Church. He has self-published a book entitled 3 Veils to Christ and works as a business account executive for Sprint. He has been a board member for 1 year.

### Evelyn Sekajipo (Executive director and board member)

Evelyn Sekajipo was born in London, England and immigrated to the United States at 8 years old, moving to Roxbury Massachusetts. In 2009, she received her BSW from University of South Florida. She worked as a Family Development Specialist for a while until realizing that she needed to leave that position to invest more of my time in building the Mama Africana program. As a student at Hillsborough Community College, Evelyn had the opportunity to participate in an enrichment program at Robles Park (Tampa housing authority residences) for three summers. She was able to cultivate a relationship with the black girls in that neighborhood and it became evident that the girls were in search of positive role models. The skills and assets needed were once that Evelyn had and she reflected on the role that she would be able to play in their lives. As she reminisced about when she was a young African girl growing up in Roxbury, Mass and how she desired for an older woman that looked like her to be her mentor. Since she didn't have that privilege, she wanted to provide that for the black girls of Tampa Bay. In 2005 she started Mama Africana with 3 of her black female colleagues and 5 girl participants. The goal in Mama Africana has always been to provide an environment for girls to grow in a deep knowledge of their identity and faith. Mama Africana encourages girls to be leaders in every aspect of their lives and remind them that every decision they make now could affect their future. Mama Africana has been providing over 12 years of service in Hillsborough County, impacting well over 150 black girls navigate some of the toughest years of their lives during adolescence. Evelyn makes it her priority to empower black females at every stage of their lives. She has been a board member for 12 years.

### Chinwe (Ivy) Enekwa (Board Treasurer)

Ivy Enekwa assisted with Mama Africana creation in 2005. She is passionate about education and mentoring and served as a mentor for 10 years. Ivy sits on the Board of Directors as the board treasurer for MA. A graduate of the University of South Florida, she resides in Tampa and is an Accountant with Tampa Bay Port Authority. She has been a member of the board for 12 years.

Stéphania Everett (Board Secretary)

Stéphania Everett was formerly a counselor at the YMCA for 7 years. She used the Girl's Circle curriculum when it was first introduced. She incorporated Girls Circle groups with her girls in small groups in a branch of the YMCA called the Teen Success Center, that targeted at risk youth. She was also a mentor in Mama Africana for 7 years and in her last year she started a Mama Africana group at the Tampa Park housing complex. She has lead women's bible studies through InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. She was a part of the planning committee for the Voice of Legacy Conference for Black leaders throughout the community. She completed the Tampa Urban Project where she worked at a summer camp in the inner city and volunteered in different programs that served poor families. She is a governing elder in the Underground church movement and has been a part of the Underground since its inception. She also completed in intense season of inner healing for women who have been sexually abused, through the ministry of Unveiled and will be starting her own group for college age women in the fall. She graduated from the University of South Florida with a degree in Liberal Arts with a concentration on Creative Writing and is a published writer. She has been a member of the Mama Africana Board for 12 years.

Jeremy Stephens (Board member)

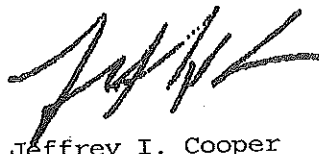
Jeremy Stephens is the Associate Director of the Underground Network and has worked to empower missional initiatives all over the world. He also served as Intervarsity staff for 10 years, planted churches in Manila, Philippines and currently lives in the inner-city of Tampa with his four kids and wife Jessica. He has been a board member for 12 years.

Labreia Cherry (Mama Africana Co-director and Board Member)

Labreia Cherry was born and raised in Rochester, NY. She escaped the cold weather of NY and came to Florida to attend the University of Florida in Gainesville. She obtained a B.A. in Sociology and worked for a number of years providing case management for severely mentally ill adults. Desiring a change of pace she relocated to South Florida and became a special education middle school teacher for children with emotional disorders. During that time God opened her eyes to the large number of children who have unstable living conditions and limited family support. Labreia soon transitioned to go back to school to get a degree in social work to be able to give in a different way to children that deal with these circumstances on a daily basis. Labreia attended the University of South Florida where she received a Master's in social work and a Master's in Public Health (behavioral health concentration). She has been a volunteer with Mama Africana since 2013 and loves being able to be a support and mentor to the girls of MA. In 2014 she came on staff part time with Mama Africana and also works part time as a therapist at Bay Area Behavioral Services. She has been a board member for 1 year.

MAMA AFRICANA NETWORK INC

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey I. Cooper". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long, horizontal stroke at the end.

Jeffrey I. Cooper  
Director, Exempt Organizations  
Rulings and Agreements

**+ Mama Africana Network, Tampa, FL**[Print](#)

Registration Number :CH53215

Expiration Date : 10/17/2019

Revenue Source : DCS Statement of Support/Revenue (09/30/2018)

Total Revenue : \$36,000.00

Program Services Expenses : \$7,500.00 **28%**

Total Expenses : \$26,500.00

Administrative Expenses : \$19,000.00 **72%**

Surplus/Deficit : \$9,500.00

Fundraising Expenses : \$.00 **0%**