



Project Prosper

Assisting recent immigrants through loans, savings and financial education

PROJECT PLAYBACK

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WWW.PROJECTPROSPER.ORG

We have a new Loan Recipient!

Rafael Calas of St. Petersburg Florida is Project Prosper's first loan recipient of 2011. Rafael attended our Financial Literacy Course held at PTECH's Pinellas Refugee Education Program (PREP) earlier in the spring. We are so excited about his plans for this loan we would like to share his story with you.

Rafael is a retired chemical engineer from Cuba who arrived in the United States in 2009. Prior to his U.S. arrival, Rafael suffered at the hand of religious persecution, and was imprisoned for two years. He was financially able to pay off his debt to the Cuban Government, and immediately began the legal proceedings to leave his country. As you can see, he successfully immigrated to the U.S. and

was granted permanent residency status. However, he not only left behind his native land, but also his wife who was caring for her ailing mother. About 6 months ago his mother-in-law passed away, and it is now time for Rafael and his wife to be reunited.

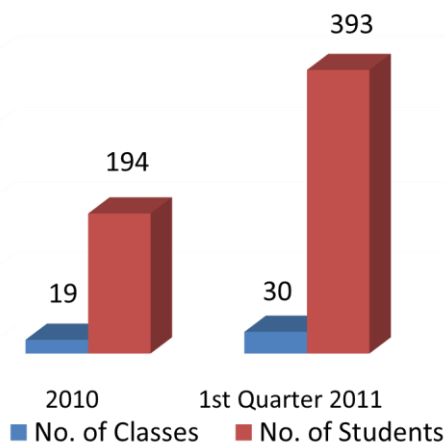
With the loan Project Prosper awarded him, Rafael will travel to Cuba to begin the same legal proceedings to bring his wife to her new home with him and their daughter, who also resides in Pinellas County. Rafael explained that he was so excited about his wife coming to America, that he has already purchased for her a closet full of clothes and shoes! Congratulations Rafael!



Top: Rafael is presented with a Project prosper Loan check gathered alongside PREP staff members.
Bottom: Rafael's Project Prosper Loan Mentor, Luis Garzon, will mentor Rafael throughout his loan repayment period

Financial Literacy Classes: 1st quarter down, 3 more to go

The first quarter of 2011 has proven to be one of our most successful to date. Thanks to our wonderful and diligent volunteer financial literacy instructors, we have taught over 30 class modules and close to 400 students. To offer a brief comparison, that is 58% more classes and more than double the number students for the entirety of 2010. Project Prosper now has a new standard!



Here we grow again!

Project Prosper is proud to announce that we have added an additional North Pinellas County Financial Literacy Partner. Just recently, we successfully completed our first course at the Clearwater High Adult Education Center in Clearwater, Florida. Each class had 25 students in attendance.

Patricia Linzie, Coordinator at Clearwater Adult Education Center commented, "Often new immigrants are afraid and confused about the basics of the financial world—yet it's so important to their well-being. Thanks so much for your classes, Project Prosper! Our students have really enjoyed them."

The school's administration was so pleased with Project Prosper's Financial Literacy classes, that they have already invited us back for their fall classes!



Left: Robin Warren (Project Prosper Board Member), Patty Linzie (CAEC Coordinator), and Nada Duheric (ESOL Teacher).

Right: Class that received Financial Literacy certificates of completion.

Feel free to forward to a friend





PAID IN FULL

The following borrowers have successfully repaid their loans to Project Prosper. Project Prosper would also like to thank to those mentors that guided these borrowers throughout the term of their loans. **WAY TO GO!**

- **Phuoc Tran** - Mentor: Ms. T of the Lealman Asian and Family Center. *Pictured in top right with Kitty Rawson, Project Prosper Board Member (left) and Ms. T (right) presenting him with certificate of completion.*
- **Giang Nguyen** – Mentor: Ms. T of the Lealman Asian and Family Center. *Pictured in center right with Lola Walker Project Prosper Board Member (left) and Ms. T (right) presenting her with certificate of completion.*
- **Nelson Fernandez** - Mentor: Lydia Rice of Raymond James Bank. *Pictured in bottom right with Lydia (left) presenting him with Project Prosper loan check 2 years ago.*



SAVE THE DATE

It is that time of year again when we at Project Prosper are beginning to plan our annual breakfast fundraiser. Last year was our first and highly successful event. We were able to share our message with over 80 individuals and raise \$7,166 which allowed us to fund more loans and host more financial literacy courses than before.

We hope those of you that attended last year will return this year and bring a friend or two. The breakfast will be held on the morning of Thursday November 10th, 2011 at Feathersound Country Club. You will be updated as we plan more of the particulars, but please make sure to schedule the Project Prosper Breakfast Fundraiser on your calendar! Also, if you have an interest in helping Project Prosper planning this year's breakfast, we would love to have you on the planning committee. Please email Maxi Wood at mwood@projectprosper.com and she will contact you promptly!



JOIN OUR FAMILY!

There are two easy ways you can also help Project Prosper keep assisting recent immigrants with financial education and loans.

1. Go to www.projectprosper.org and click [DONATE NOW](#) to make your tax-deductible contribution to Project Pro\$per.

Or mail your contribution to: **Project Pro\$per, PO Box 8411, Madeira Beach, FL 33738**

2. Email us at info@projectprosper.com to get involved in a number of unique activities from mentoring a borrower to teaching financial literacy classes. We are always in need of volunteers!

Project Pro\$per is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Contributions to Project Pro\$per are tax-deductible as allowable by the law.

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