

## **Project Title:** To Springfield with Love

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### **Overview:**

This project, produced by Teaspoon & Pound Media, seeks to address the rise in hate and toxic rhetoric towards newly arrived Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio, and Charleroi, PA, exacerbated by the current political climate. The digital series, supplemented by a robust social media campaign, will focus on capturing immigration stories, providing words of comfort, and building solidarity with those communities under fire.

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### **Project Scope:**

The series will document the experiences of Haitian immigrants in the U.S., sharing stories of both recent arrivals and long-time residents. The project will specifically target individuals living in areas with large Haitian populations, culminating in stories from Springfield, OH, and Charleroi, PA, where Haitian communities face the brunt of hostility. The goal is to amplify voices that inspire resilience, offer advice, and nurture unity through digital storytelling.

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### **Objective:**

To create a digital series, subtitled and dubbed in both English and Haitian Creole, aimed at fostering solidarity and offering a sense of belonging for recently arrived Haitian immigrants, while addressing the growing xenophobic rhetoric in local and national media.

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**Target Audience:** Haitian immigrant communities in the U.S, general U.S. audience for educational purposes, including non-profits and activist organizations involved in immigrant support and media and political influencers.

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**Proposed Activities:** Documentary filming, social media campaign, community screenings (partner with local organizations for screening events in areas like Springfield and Charleroi to foster in-person discussions and outreach.)

**Conference Story Capture:** Capture stories at the 2024 Haitian Studies Association Conference in Brooklyn, NY (completed on 10/10/24.)

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**Distribution Strategy will include** digital platforms, community events and media outreach.

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## Impact & Expected Outcomes:

1. **Empowerment and Solidarity:**

The project will provide newly arrived immigrants with vital information, emotional support, and a sense of community through shared stories and lessons from those who have walked similar paths.

2. **Countering Hate with Hope:**

By highlighting stories of resilience, this series aims to offer a counter-narrative to the hostile rhetoric many Haitian immigrants face in places like Springfield and Charleroi.

3. **Increased Awareness:**

The content will raise national awareness of the plight of Haitian immigrants and the broader immigration debate, calling attention to media inaccuracies and the human cost of political rhetoric.

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## Contact Information:

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We aim to secure funding for the production and distribution of the project, with an emphasis on amplifying the voices of Haitian immigrants and combating hostile media narratives immediately. The funds will ensure the project is properly resourced and distributed across the most effective platforms.

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