From the Tampa Bay Business Journal :http://www.bizjournals.com/tampabay/blog/morning-edition/2012/04/wells-fargo-invests-500k-in.html

Wells Fargo invests \$500K in Neighborhood Lending Partners

Tampa Bay Business Journal

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The Neighborhood Lending Partners Inc. received a \$500,000 equity equivalent investment from **Wells Fargo & Co.**

The funding will be used to help Neighborhood Lending Partners, a nonprofit lending consortium, to continue creating affordable housing and community revitalization in the Tampa Bay area, a statement said.

Wells Fargo's equity equivalent investment, or EQ2, is long-term capital in the form of below-market rate loans. EQ2 investments are reserved for nonprofit community development partners working to expand affordable housing, job creation and economic development in the areas where Wells Fargo does business, the statement said.

There's a critical need for affordable housing in Tampa and other Florida communities, said <u>Debra Reyes</u>, president and chief executive officer of Neighborhood Lending Partners. The organization provides financing to developers of affordable housing for families, seniors, farm workers and individuals with special needs as well as community revitalization.

The Wells Fargo investment will create more housing options and have a positive impact in the area, Reyes said.

Wells Fargo is committed to investing in and preserving homes and communities, said <u>Carl Miller</u>, regional president.

Wells Fargo (NYSE: WFC), headquartered in San Francisco, is the second-largest bank in the Tampa Bay area by deposit market share, with 149 offices and \$13.2 billion in deposits as of June 30, the most recent date from which information is available from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.