



MISSION: To prepare class members to become active volunteers and leaders in the Tampa Bay community.

VISION: To be the leadership development, community involvement, and relationship development experience sought after by employers, employees, and not-for-profit agencies

Congratulations and welcome to the 2017-2018 Tampa Connection Class!

The focus of Tampa Connection is to prepare class members to become active volunteers and leaders in the Tampa Bay community. We will accomplish this through class programs, as well as your hands-on involvement in your team project. Like most things, you will get out of Tampa Connection what you put in. Please mark your calendar and make a sincere and honest effort to attend all Tampa Connection events and take advantage of this opportunity to give back in a significant way to our community, while building additional skills as current and future leaders.

Our programming begins with the Tampa Connection Opening Retreat. This **mandatory** event is on **Friday, August 25, 2017** at Busch Gardens!

Program Details:

Who: All Tampa Connection Class Members and Board Members.

Mission: To provide the class of 2017-2018 with a fun and energetic day that will prepare the class for a year of leadership development, community involvement, and relationship building with fellow team members, class members, and the Board of Directors.

What: **Tampa Connection 2017-2018 Opening Retreat.** As a reminder, you were sent an email to complete a KAI assessment (each of you should have received your own email with unique KAI login information). These assessments need to be completed by Monday, August 21. If you have any questions or did not receive the email, please contact Natalie Raymer at: administrator@tampaconnection.org.

When: Friday, August 25, 2017. Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m. at the front gate. Parking will be provided – please follow the Tampa Connection signs. You will be directed to the Gwazi Pavilion where a light breakfast will be provided with fruit and Danishes. The program will begin **promptly** at 8:00 a.m. After the morning program, you will be provided a voucher for lunch in the park and will have time to explore Busch Gardens, enjoy the rides, and get to know your team members. The teams will return to the Gwazi Pavilion at 3:00 for the remainder of the program. A happy hour at Gwazi Pavilion will follow the end of the program. The happy hour is an integral part of your Tampa Connection experience as it is one of your best opportunities to build and strengthen your bonds with your entire class, so please stay as long as you can.

Dress: Weather permitting, we will spend a fair amount of time outdoors enjoying all that Busch Gardens has to offer. Please dress comfortably. We will also spend a fair amount of time in the Gwazi Pavilion conference room, so please be prepared if you are prone to getting chilly indoors. We recommend sunscreen, tennis shoes, and comfortable, casual clothing (t-shirts, shorts, etc.).

Planning Committee: David Pearlman, Erin McKenney, Chris Toye, Rick Garrett, and Woody Pollack

We are extremely excited to start this year off on the right foot and look forward to an exciting, challenging, and dynamic year! If you have any questions, please email administrator@tampaconnection.org.