



2023-2024 NONPROFIT PROJECT APPLICATION

Applications due: June 9, 2023

Tampa Connection Overview:

Since 1986, Tampa Connection has prepared more than 2,500 professionals to become active volunteers and leaders in the Tampa Bay community. The program, consisting of class learning days and execution of a project for a local nonprofit, encourages leadership development, building relationships and community awareness.

The Tampa Connection Board of Directors is seeking local nonprofit organizations to submit project proposals to be considered for the 2023-2024 program. A limited number of nonprofit projects are selected to be carried out by the Tampa Connection class members during the program year (August – May).

Nonprofit Project Overview:

Teams consisting of 10-15 members from the Class Program are asked to take full responsibility for the planning and implementation of the projects selected for the participating nonprofits in partnership with the organization.

We encourage Nonprofits to be creative in identifying a meaningful project that would benefit your organization, while utilizing the diverse skills of Class Members to the fullest. The most successful projects have the following characteristics:

- Tangible
- Well-defined by the organization
- Goal-oriented
- Achievable within 6 months

Examples of past projects can be found [here](#).

Nonprofit Selection Overview:

All nonprofit project applications will be reviewed by the Tampa Connection Board. Applicants will be notified in mid-July whether they were selected as a finalist to present to the Board of Directors. Project finalists will be asked to make a brief presentation to the board members on **August 1, 2023**. If chosen for the program, organizations are expected to attend multiple days including the Purpose and Projects program on **October 5, 2023**, where you will have a chance to explain your project and expectations to the Tampa Connection class members who will be working on your project. Organizations are also expected to attend monthly team meetings to ensure the project is on track and project deliverables are meeting the needs of the nonprofit.

If your organization would like to submit a project idea for consideration, please complete an application as soon as possible. No applications will be accepted after **June 9, 2023**. If you have questions regarding the process or project ideas, please email administrator@tampaconnection.org.



NONPROFIT PROJECT APPLICATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

Nonprofit Organization Name:	Sample Disability Services Organization
Physical/Mailing Address:	
Nonprofit Website:	
Contact Name (for communication regarding this project):	
Contact Title:	
Phone Number:	
Email Address:	

ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION

Mission statement:

To empower individuals with disabilities with life skills for success.
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A brief description of the services provided:

Provide vital services to disabled individuals and their families in Tampa Bay, including employment training and placement services.



Summary of the proposed project (please be specific and include detail):

Plan a speed-dating style event for mock interviews, resume review, small-talk coaching, and resource tables for disabled job-seekers, specifically young adults with autism, to improve their job interview and social skills.

An overview of the goals you hope your project will accomplish, and a description of the current challenges this project would rectify:

Goals:

Prepare location and logistics

Identify program structure and schedule

Develop and execute marketing plan to advertise the event

Challenges:

This project will address the challenges of unemployment and community exclusion faced by people with disabilities, particularly young adults with autism. An estimated 50,000 young people with autism will become adults each year, facing a dearth of services and supports to assist them in meeting their employment goals.

What resources (personal contacts, tools, talent, monetary) are you prepared to contribute?

The team would have the support of appropriate organization staff, including employment specialists, job coaches, and instructors. The Director will be available to assist with social media promotion of the proposed event. The organization can offer its facilities as a potential venue and will coordinate transportation for participants to each event. Our staff will work with participants in advance of each "meet-up" event so that students know what to expect and come prepared.



What would success look like for the team assigned to your project at the end of the program year? Please be specific.

Outcomes for the proposed project would include:

- (1) A well-executed logistics plan for the event;
- (2) A well-planned media and social media campaign to advertise the event; and
- (3) Creating a template that can be easily repeated and enhanced will help ensure a repeat.

(Note: The team is not expected to execute the event, but rather provide all the details for the event to be hosted. The team will be invited to attend!)

Have you tried to create/implement the proposed project in the past? If yes, please explain.

This is a new project which builds on decades of innovative workforce development programs and services for people with disabilities in the Tampa Bay community.

Is there anything else you want us to know about your organization or the proposed project?

For more than 15 years, our organization has built relationships with human resource specialists from employers across Tampa Bay. We also have partnerships with the Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce, Tampa Downtown Partnership, and the Westshore Alliance. These partnerships might be of value to the Tampa Connection team leading the project.

How did you hear about Tampa Connection?

We received an email announcement from Tampa Connection with the invitation to apply this year.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Do you have 501(c)(3) filing status?	Yes
Has your organization previously been selected for a Tampa Connection project?	No
Has your organization ever applied and not been selected for a Tampa Connection project in the past?	Yes
Can your project be completed in the August-May timeframe?	Yes
Will your organization be available to meet with your team members on a monthly (or as needed) basis?	Yes
Do you agree to provide the resources necessary for the success of the project to the project team?	Yes
Does your project require fundraising of any sort?	No
Is the contact person listed above in a leadership position and/or have decision-making ability and availability to connect with the group?	Yes
Do you have a backup contact in the event the dedicated contact is unavailable for any reason?	Yes

Please note:

Fundraising under any capacity for the nonprofit organization is not an acceptable project for the Tampa Connection class members. Any applications with a fundraising component will not be considered. The nonprofit is responsible for funding any needed seed money or supplies for the project. Additionally, our class members typically do not have the skills to create websites. Nonprofits applying for this type of project or any other technology type of project will be asked to have a technology employee available from the organization. Material and information can be gathered, but coding and creation will most likely be outside of the skillset of the class members.

Due to the nature of Tampa Connection’s nonprofit application process and volunteer class members, Tampa Connection cannot guarantee the protection of confidential information, if any, shared through this application or with Tampa Connection’s Board of Directors or class members. Applicants are encouraged to identify proposed projects and share project information, ideas, and goals with this in mind.