



January 25, 2019

**TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION FORM
ADDENDUM**

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Casa Laxmi Foundation's institute (the "**Institute**") aims, among other things, to support programs to prepare students for future occupations and careers. The Institute's reach will not only be to its own students, but to students in the community, directly and indirectly, to the maximum extent possible.

Direct Benefits

K-12 Students

As the Institute will need to remain open twelve months of the year, we will offer a comprehensive summer enrichment program covering a variety of topics, designed and operated by university professors and students. The goal of this program is to keep children learning and engaged during the summer. These programs will be open to all community children in need. "Summer Learning Loss" is a very real concept. It is well understood that children, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, suffer greatly over the summer break on account of a lack of stimulation and supervision.¹ We aim to bridge this gap. Nurturing children to maintain a love for learning outside of the classroom is critical in preparing them for their future careers. Furthermore, exposure to varying topics of interest will only enhance their prospect as they get older. This can easily be extended to extra-curricular weekday or weekend programs.

Many of these programs will be STEM related, and the Institute will encourage middle and high school students who have shown an aptitude for same, to enroll in these programs. Nurturing this interest will not only teach these students technical skills and knowledge, but will motivate them to pursue post-secondary education in this field. This will directly complement the talent retention programs as mandated in the Florida Statutes.

There are numerous studies which show a positive correlation between extra-curricular activities and academic success.² These activities may not all necessarily teach technical skills, but they will certainly teach "soft skills" that are so highly sought after by employers. These

¹ For one example, see: <https://www.economist.com/international/2018/08/09/long-summer-holidays-are-bad-for-children-especially-the-poor>

² For one example, see: <https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/la-grange/news/ct-dlg-student-activities-tl-0324-20160317-story.html>

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include communication, creativity, problem solving and judgment. The World Economic Forum in its newly released Future of Jobs Report states that 7.5 million job will be gone by 2022.³ It is not disputed that the bulk of today's jobs will not exist in 20 years. The best way to prepare a child for a job that does not exist today is to ensure that he or she masters these soft skills.⁴

The second component is the ongoing flow of lecturers, speakers and other distinguished visitors we will bring to the Institute. The auditorium that will comprise the Centre for Excellence will accommodate 600 people. We will undoubtedly open up these events to the local community. Our collaboration with PeaceJam Foundation will bring Nobel Peace Laureates to the Institute, our business network will bring corporate executives to address the students, and our extensive partnerships with universities will bring scientists and leading experts to the Institute to motivate the students. Having access to these events will provide a direct benefit to local students who ordinarily would not have such an opportunity.

Post-Secondary Students

We are discussing with local post-secondary institutions, including Florida State University and Gulf Coast State College, to have their students play an active role in summer enrichment and extra-curricular activities. By using their knowledge and skill to teach young students will not only provide them with practical experience, but will improve their ability and knowledge base.

In addition, these local post-secondary institutions offer several programs that require a co-op placement for successful completion. The Institute is prepared to create certain co-op spots to assist these students to fulfill their academic requirements.

Further, some post-secondary institutions have agreed to design programs for educators, upon the completion of which, these educators will receive certificates from these institutions. One example, is the prestigious University of Pennsylvania. Their Graduate School of Education is assisting us in designing professional development programs in various areas affecting education. They will offer these programs to our teachers, and we can invite teachers in the community to participate. Upon successful completion, the teachers will receive a certificate from the University of Pennsylvania. McMaster University in Hamilton, Canada, is similarly designing a program in coding and has offered to provide a certificate to those who complete it successfully.

Indirect Benefits

Parents

It is undisputed that parents are the most important role models in a child's life. A parent is critical to molding that child and giving him or her the resources to succeed in life, through motivation, encouragement and support. By investing in our staff (who will all fill the role of

³ http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Future_of_Jobs_2018.pdf

⁴ <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/08/why-personality-and-not-skill-makes-you-a-great-employee>

parents) and extending this benefit to parents in the community, we can ensure that all children, whether it be our students or the local children, have an advantage in life. We aim to do this through workshops and seminars.

For example, the Dalai Lama Centre for Peace and Education will be designing programs for our staff in self-care. If a person does not care for himself or herself, he or she cannot care for someone else. The concepts of mindfulness and meditation are imperative in today's fast-paced world where parents are constantly feeling rushed. The impact of this on children is devastating. By giving parents in the community the tools to better themselves will have a tremendous effect on their children.

Another example is that of Yale University who will be designing an EQ program for our teachers and students. We can easily open this training to local parents. It is undisputed that having a high EQ is the formula to not only creating exceptional humans, but exceptional employees. By providing training to parents on how they may be able to improve their children's EQ will have a significant trickle-down effect on the community.

Educators

Our founders are adamant that when we create this world-class institute, we must ensure that we develop it into a teaching ground. Accordingly, we will be investing significantly in our teachers. We hope to open up these training sessions to teachers in the community. The following are some examples of universities that will be running professional development programs.

- Yale University – developing EQ in the classroom
- NYU – teaching children mindfulness and meditation; philosophy for children to promote healthy debate and discourage bullying
- UPenn – teaching pastoral care for older students
- University of San Diego – cultivating change makers and peacemakers in the classroom
- Stanford – bringing design thinking into the classroom
- McMaster University – incorporating coding into K-12 curriculum

All of these programs will improve the quality of teachers and the delivery of education in the community. This benefit will be directly passed along to students, and will manifest itself by producing more motivated, inspired and driven students.

GUARANTEE

As this is a long-term project, the Foundation does not have an immediate need for Triumph funds. In fact, if it receives a commitment from the Triumph Board, it is prepared to invest its money into the Institute first, with the Triumph disbursement to come at a later date.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

The Foundation understands that there is some debate as to whether Triumph funds can be disbursed to a private entity. To eliminate any ambiguity in this regard, the Foundation is discussing the possibility of adding a co-applicant to its submission. Discussions are underway with Florida State University, Gulf Coast State College and Bay County to determine which entity or combination of entities would make the most sense for a project of this nature.