

TRIUMPH GULF COAST, INC. PRE-APPLICATION FORM

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. ("Triumph Gulf Coast") has created a pre-application process to provide initial consideration of eligibility for potential ideas of projects or programs that may seek an award of funding. Applicants are required to participate in the pre-application process. Notwithstanding the response from Triumph Gulf Coast on the pre-application form, an Applicant may still elect to submit an Application.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Individual/Entity/Organization: AMIkids Pensacola Inc.
Proposal Title: AMIkids Pensacola Workforce Development Program
Amount of Triumph Funds Requested: \$225,000.
Total Estimated Project Cost: \$583,000, annually.

Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization:
AMIkids is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping youth develop into responsible and productive citizens. AMIkids' mission is to protect public safety and positively impact as many youth as possible through the efforts of a diverse and innovative staff. AMIkids works in partnership with youth agencies, local communities and families. AMIkids serves youth aged 12-24 years old. This specific project serves the 18-24 age group.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Cheri Williams
Title: Executive Director
Mailing Address: 3685 Muldoon Road
City: Pensacola
State: Florida
Zip Code: 34638
Telephone Number: 850-865-2495
Email Address: Pensacola-ed@amikids.org
Website: www.amikids.org

Names of co-applicants, partners or other entities, organizations that will have a role in the proposed project or program:

AMIkids, Inc.
US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice,
Florida Department of Corrections,
Career Source Escarosa

Cheri Williams, MA 2-17-20
Executive Director
AM&Kkids, Pensacola

REQUIRED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In a maximum of two (2) pages, please describe the proposed project or program and anticipated outcomes including (i) the amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast; (ii) the amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program; (iii) the location of the project or program; (iv) summary description of the proposed program, including how the program will be transformational and promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties, and (v) a summary timeline for the proposed project or program.

- (i) AMIkids Pensacola seeks \$1,125,000 over five years to support its Workforce Development Program.
- (ii) The remainder of the program will be funded by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Labor and local funding. Federal funding is provided on a cost reimbursement basis for certain specified employees. Total federal funding is approximately \$250,000 per year, which covers about 55% of program cost.
- (iii) The program is located at 3685 Muldoon Road, Pensacola, FL 34638. This facility in West Pensacola includes classroom space and an onsite workshop for both classroom-based learning and hands-on skills training.
- (iv) The AMIkids Pensacola Workforce Development Program is a comprehensive integrated vocational training program for justice-involved young adults (age 18-24) that is individualized to each participant's needs. Independently validated research has shown the program to be effective in increasing employment outcomes and decreasing the risk of recidivism for a similar population (age 16-21).

The program was first designed and implemented with funding from the US Department of Labor's Face Forward 3 grant program in 2016 and most recently sustained again by US Department of Labor's Reentry grant program. Program services include evidence-informed interventions such as Intensive Case Management, Legal Services, Motivational Interviewing, Employer Engagement, Social Skills training, Mentoring, Financial Incentives for participants and Support Services such as assistance with child care and transportation.

- (v) The AMIkids Workforce Development program was created in response to community needs. The local labor market needs skilled workers to carry out recovery-related construction and rehabilitation projects, and justice-involved individuals in the community need skills training to obtain living-wage jobs. AMIkids Pensacola is working with community stakeholders to ensure that the training program meets the needs of local employers, to support the economic recovery in Escambia County. The population we serve are ideally suited to pursue meaningful employment in construction trades and related jobs. What this population lacks is education (most are high school dropouts) and occupational skills. A high school diploma coupled with nationally recognized industry certifications will provide our graduates with good jobs and our construction industry with qualified employees.

Participants in the program have the opportunity to earn the following certifications:

1. HS Diploma
2. NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) Core Certification and OSHA 10
3. NCCER Carpentry 1 Certification

4. Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
5. Florida SafeStaff Food Handler Certification

AMIkids is sponsored to deliver NCCER training by the Florida Masonry Education and Apprentice Foundation, who affirms that AMIkids Pensacola Workforce Development program adequately prepares participants to transition into their Apprenticeship program in a variety of construction trades. Additionally, the program components work together to identify and remove the most significant barriers to a participant's success in obtaining and maintaining gainful employment. Current program funding is not sufficient to support NCCER Masonry training, in addition to the Core Curriculum and Carpentry. Our desire is to offer carpentry and masonry options to follow the Core and OSHA 10 training.

AMIkids Pensacola enrolled 221 participants under the DOL Face Forward 3 grant, of which 201 participants earned industry recognized certifications in the area of Food Service and Construction. Face Forward 3 served the 16 to 18 age group (Juvenile Justice students).

AMIkids has developed exceptionally strong partnerships in Florida that will assure the success of this project. Supporters include educational partners such as the Florida Masonry Education and Apprentice Foundation, Associated Builders and Contractors Inc. (ABC) and community colleges; recruiting partnerships such as local justice agencies and law enforcement; and employers such as Lennar Homes and Canteen.

- (vi) AMIkids Pensacola Workforce Development Program began July 1, 2019 and is partially funded by the DOL grant (at 55% of program cost) through September 30, 2022. Four cohorts of participants will be recruited to attend the training program for 6 months each. Cohorts will begin October 1, 2019; March 1, 2020; October 1, 2020; and March 1, 2021. If funded, AMIkids will hire a Participant Recruiter in May, 2020 to enhance student recruiting through the remainder of the project period. An identified shortfall in the federal grant is funding to increase the pool of potential students so that our staff can identify those most likely to succeed.

In addition to funding for the Participant Recruiter, we request performance-based funding, with Triumph Gulf Coast to provide unrestricted use funding in the following amount for certifications earned by our graduates: Award of High School Diploma (\$1000); NCCER Core Curriculum plus OSHA 10 (\$2,000); and \$2,000 for all approved additional certifications, to include NCCER Carpentry Level 1, Masonry Level 1, and CDL licensing.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This pre-application process will **not** result in an award of funding by Triumph Gulf Coast. Rather, this process is designed to facilitate submission of ideas for potential projects or programs before the Applicant expends time and/or resources to complete a full Application. All Applicants for funding are required to complete an Application, which will be reviewed and then considered for award at the discretion of Triumph Gulf Coast Board.

Please Select the Proposal's Eligibility Category(s)

Pursuant to Section 288.8017, Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. was created to make awards from available funds to projects or programs that meet the priorities for economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties. The disproportionately affected counties are: Bay County, Escambia County, Franklin County, Gulf County, Okaloosa County, Santa Rosa County, Walton County, or Wakulla County. See, Section 288.08012.

1. From the choices below, please check the box that describes the purpose of the proposed project or program (check all that apply):

- Ad valorem tax rate reduction within disproportionately affected counties;
- Local match requirements of s. 288.0655 for projects in the disproportionately affected counties;
- Public infrastructure projects for construction, expansion, or maintenance which are shown to enhance economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties;
- Grants to local governments in the disproportionately affected counties to establish and maintain equipment and trained personnel for local action plans of response to respond to disasters, such as plans created for the Coastal Impacts Assistance Program;
- X Grants to support programs that prepare students for future occupations and careers at K-20 institutions that have campuses in the disproportionately affected counties. Eligible programs include those that increase students' technology skills and knowledge; encourage industry certifications; provide rigorous, alternative pathways for students to meet high school graduation requirements; strengthen career readiness initiatives; fund high-demand programs of emphasis at the bachelor's and master's level designated by the Board of Governors; and, similar to or the same as talent retention programs created by the Chancellor of the State University System and the Commission of Education, encourage students with interest or aptitude for science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical disciplines to pursue postsecondary education at a state university or a Florida College System institution within the disproportionately affected counties
- X Grants to support programs that provide participants in the disproportionately affected counties with transferable, sustainable workforce skills that are not confined to a single employer; and
- Grants to the tourism entity created under s. 288.1226 for the purpose of advertising and promoting tourism and Fresh From Florida, and grants to promote workforce and infrastructure, on behalf of all of the disproportionately affected counties.

4. Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
5. Florida SafeStaff Food Handler Certification

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Please Select the Priorities this Proposal's Outcomes will Achieve

1. Please check the box if the proposed project or program will meet any of the following priorities (check all that apply):
- Generate maximum estimated economic benefits, based on tools and models not generally employed by economic input-output analyses, including cost-benefit, return-on-investment, or dynamic scoring techniques to determine how the long-term economic growth potential of the disproportionately affected counties may be enhanced by the investment.
 - X Increase household income in the disproportionately affected counties above national average household income.
 - Leverage or further enhance key regional assets, including educational institutions, research facilities, and military bases.
 - Partner with local governments to provide funds, infrastructure, land, or other assistance for the project.
 - Benefit the environment, in addition to the economy.
 - Provide outcome measures.
 - Partner with K-20 educational institutions or school districts located within the disproportionately affected counties as of January 1, 2017.
 - X Are recommended by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the project or program will be located.
 - Partner with convention and visitor bureaus, tourist development councils, or chambers of commerce located within the disproportionately affected counties.