

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/	James B. Washington Education and Sports, Inc
Organization: Proposal Title:	James B. Washington Education and Sports Center
Amount of Triumph Funds	
Requested: Total Estimated Project	2,800,000
Cost:	2,200,000 Phase 1/ 600,00 Phase 2

Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization:

James B. Washington Education & Sports, Inc. (JBWES) is a nonprofit organization providing an academic tutorial and sports program for at-risk elementary and middle school youth in Escambia County. James B. Washington has dedicated the majority of his adult life working with underserved and at-risk children as both a teacher and a coach. Upon returning to his hometown of Pensacola 4 years ago, he recognized there was a greater than ever need to combine his talents of teaching and coaching to create an environment to help children who are struggling academically, socially and in their home lives. At JBWES, volunteers track and measure the level of growth in each student to ensure that they pass from one grade level to the next, consistently in line with, or above their grade level as opposed to performing below grade level. The primary goal of the organization is to decrease middle school drop-out rates and prepare our local youth for high school and post-secondary education, such as college, a branch of the Armed Forces, vocational trade, and preparation for the workforce. The education and basketball programs work in conjunction with each other. We do not cater exclusively to students who play basketball, but those who do play are required to continually provide progress reports from school in regards to their grades and behavior, in order to continue playing on the team. It has proven to be a very effective way to motivate the children and also provide our volunteers with the necessary information to help them focus on areas where they are falling behind. JBWES is an all-inclusive organization with many volunteers and children from a wide range of backgrounds. We have discovered that this open and universal interaction has started to bridge the gap between individuals from different racial and socioeconomic environments in Escambia County. We are excited to play a part in this much needed unification and it is gaining momentum in a very positive direction.

Contact Information Primary
Contact:
Title:
Mailing Address: City: State: Zip:
Telephone Number:
Email Address:
Website:

James B. Washington
Owner/Founder
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(850) 291-9264
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<http://jbweducationandsports.org>

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

Dr. Christopher and Lisa Bosarge.

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

James B. Washington Education and Sports is seeking funds to expand it's education, life skills, and sports program. The current proposed site is property that includes a 2400 square foot building that serve as an education center and an 8000 sq foot building that would serve as an on-site, indoor gymnasium/activity center (phase 1).

The JBWES foundation currently operates out of a 1200 sq. foot rented office space on N. Palafox St. in Pensacola. Activities related to our basketball program are currently dependent on various outside gyms/parks/sites, all subject to availability. Both of these environments greatly limit the growth of the education and sports program, thereby limiting the number of at-risk youth in Pensacola who may benefit from the program. Dr. Christopher Bosarge and his wife, Lisa, recognized early on when they became involved with the organization, that there was a great need for a much larger space for the non-profit to reach more children and volunteers. In August, 2020, the Bosarge's purchased land on Navy Blvd with the intention of building a new space to be available for use by JBWES. Plans have been drawn and submitted for approval, however, hurricane Sally has greatly slowed the progress of the construction. In the time period from the start of this project to today, it has become increasingly apparent that this space is not going to be large enough to accommodate all of the growth requirements of JBWES. Information about the program has been rapidly spreading throughout the community via word of mouth and through media coverage.

Multiple requests from both volunteers and parents of students wishing to participate are coming in daily. In order to meet those needs, we discovered a larger space one door down from the Bosarge site and this is the proposed new site for the James B. Washington Education and Sports Center referenced above.

The new site would require renovations to build out and furnish the appropriate classroom and gymnasium space. We are hoping that if generously awarded funds from Triumph Gulf Coast, we could complete the renovation and add the future addition of a second gym in two phases. We are requesting the amount of 2.2 million to complete phase 1 and \$600,00 for phase 2. Our goal with a renovation of the existing property and the addition of a second gymnasium (phase 2) is that we can provide a location to host weekend basketball tournaments and youth camps, which in turn, will primarily fund the ongoing, future operations of all of our programs. This site would also allow secondary fundraising opportunities.

Construction on the Bosarge property will continue to completion and that location will serve as an arts center, possible extra classroom and event space, as needed for use by JBWES. Mrs. Bosarge and many artists in the community have volunteered to provide art instruction to the children who participate in the JBWES program.

Funds received from Phase one will also allow us to purchase a 12 passenger van needed to transport kids who are part of our after school program. All volunteers are currently using their own personal vehicles for transportation of the children of parents who do not have their own form of transportation. The property's location also allows an opportunity to collaborate with locals schools which are struggling in the community with lower than normal academic standing and higher than normal drop out rates, ie. Warrington Middle School and West Pensacola Elementary School. This location strategically aligns with the mission of JBWES in serving an area that historically has had a lower socioeconomic standing.

Our mission and allegiance at James B. Washington Education and Sports is steadfast to helping others advance in life by cultivating the youth in our society with our academic tutorial program, life skills enrichment program, family workshops, community forums, field trips, sports, and economic development. We also recognize the need for paternal involvement in the lives of at-risk children and we have specific workshops to help educate father's about the importance of involvement in their children's lives. Our main area of focus is at-risk youth, ages 6-16. We anticipate that the work we do will have a long term impact in Escambia County. It is our hope that the children who complete our program will be equipped with the life skills necessary to participate in the work force, will enhance minority owned business development, and will continue our mission of community outreach. For future economic development in these impoverished areas, we must start by working early with the children who reside here. The future impact we hope, will also attract people to the area with lower crime rates, better school options and ultimately, a well-educated work force.

The proposed property site is currently available for purchase. If approved for funding from Triumph Gulf Coast, the goal would be to purchase and renovate the property within a year's time for utilization. The phase 2, additional gym, would be projected to completed within the following year. James B. Washington Sports and Education Program appreciates your consideration and we look forward to telling you more about the important and vital work being done in our community with at-risk youth.

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;
- ☒ 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;
- ☐ 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.

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.
- ☐ 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.
- ☐ 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.

"If these kids are not afforded the opportunity to get involved in something positive, they just get caught up in what's going on in the neighborhood."

James Washington
Nonprofit's founder

PENSACOLA PNJ.COM News Journal

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021 | PNJ.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

'BASKETBALL AS BAIT'

Program gives disadvantaged kids extra tutoring incentive



Benny Washington helps St. Paul Catholic School third grader Jaylen Mathis, 8, with a math problem March 2 during the James B. Washington Education and Sports Inc. tutoring program in Pensacola. PHOTOS BY GREGG PACHKOWSKI/NEWS JOURNAL

Colin Warren-Hicks Pensacola News Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

There is nothing glamorous about the James B. Washington Education and Sports Inc. building in Pensacola. Located at 2020 N. Palafox St., it is small and includes a lobby, a room for reading, a room for math and a restroom. • But inside, the handful of retirees who volunteer as tutors there are changing young lives by working one-on-one with disadvantaged students through a creative strategy that incentivizes schoolwork. • "So we kind of use basketball as bait," explained James Washington, who founded the nonprofit in June 2018.

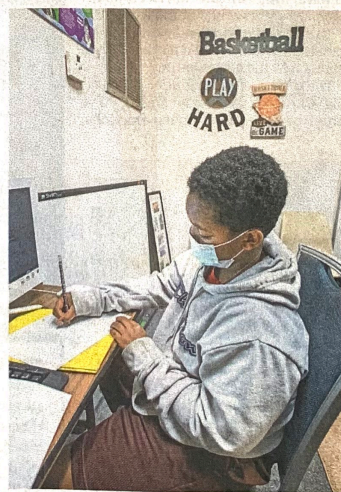
The organization offers kids the chance to join one of its basketball teams, free of charge, on the condition that they routinely show the nonprofit's staff their report cards and prove they are maintaining a satisfactory grade point average.

If a student's grades drop below a 2.5 GPA, they are temporarily off the team and must work with the nonprofit's afterschool tutors until their grades improve before they can once again don their basketball team jersey.

"So the tutoring part is our main goal," Washington said, "but the basketball is the carrot."

The strategy forces devoted basketball players to transform into more dutiful students.

"If I go to the low-income area and say we have a tutoring program, I might get one or two kids. When we go through and say that we have a basketball program, we'll get 30, 40, 50 kids in two full



Pensacola Christian Academy fifth grader Dane Adams, 11, works on a history assignment March 2 during the James B. Washington Education and Sports Inc. tutoring program in Pensacola.

See BASKETBALL, Page 2A

Counties, cities to get COVID aid money

Local governments will receive combined \$125M

Jim Little
Pensacola News Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Many Americans will get \$1,400 stimulus checks soon after President Joe Biden signed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan into law, but local governments will also be getting their own checks in the mail from the new law.

Local governments in the Pensacola area are going to receive a combined total of \$125 million from their share of the American Rescue Plan.

The new law included \$350 billion meant to go directly to states and local

See COVID AID, Page 8A

Gulf Power customers could see lower bills

FPL files rate proposal as merger continues

Jim Saunders
NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

Florida Power & Light on Friday filed a four-year rate plan that would lead to most customers seeing gradual increases in their monthly bills, with the utility saying the proposal would allow it to "continue focusing on ways to deliver low-cost electricity."

The filing at the Florida Public Service Commission set the stage for what likely will be a months-long process of review and debate about whether — or by how much — FPL should be able to increase base electric rates.

The proposal calls for a \$1.1 billion increase in base-rate revenues in 2022 and a \$607 million increase in 2023.

See BILLS, Page 8A