

## 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: Holy Nativity Episcopal School

Proposal Title: Applied Computer Science and Engineering Center (ACE)

Amount of Triumph Funds Requested: \$1,140,000.00

Total Estimated Project Cost: \$2,280,000.00

Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization: Holy Nativity Episcopal School is a 501(c3) non-profit. Our mission is to provide a nurturing Christian environment where students with promise receive challenging academics, enriching opportunities, and a solid foundation for developing their potential as good, caring, and responsible citizens. We have been educating students in Bay County, Florida, for over 60 years and are the largest private school in Bay County with a student body of 280. We serve grades preschool through eighth grade. Holy Nativity is also one out of one hundred and fifty schools that carries the prestigious accreditation from the Florida Council of Independent Schools. FCIS (Florida Council of Independent Schools) is a professional educational association that evaluates and accredits independent schools throughout Florida. As an Episcopal school, we believe that education is much more than the attainment of information and should consider the whole child, including integrity, responsibility, and spiritual growth. Holy Nativity is a member of the Bay County Chamber of Commerce and the Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce. We are proud of our historical presence in Bay County and surrounding areas, and we are also pleased to support the work of our award-winning Chambers of Commerce.

Contact Information Primary Contact: Cynthia Fuller

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

**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.

**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.

**Applied Computer Science and Engineering Center (ACE)  
at Holy Nativity Episcopal School  
Executive Summary**

Holy Nativity and its partners are working to provide Bay County students with opportunities for advanced education locally. We believe advanced opportunities in education curricula will not only enhance Bay County currently but will draw more interest for families to move to Bay County. When considering how best to prepare our students to be engaged citizens and productive members of a dynamic workforce, it is imperative that our students have a high level of literacy and competence with the skills developed through the exploration of science, technology, engineering, and math-including computer science.

Creating a space for such exploration and learning is our goal. Our dedicated science and technology lab space will include equipment and safety features necessary for hands-on experiences that can not be performed in our current facilities (ex. chemistry labs requiring a hood).

Additionally, dedicated space for science and technology provides a wonderful site for collaborating with local businesses and government agencies. Proposed partnerships to be developed with students in our lab:

- Develop our students' proficiency in computer science and mathematics partnerships with Proper Fox Consulting Technology Security Specialists, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, Florida State University Panama City, and Gulf Coast State College. Security in the world of technology is a fast-growing field and these partnerships will allow the students to be exposed to the many programming options that are needed to keep our information safe on the world wide web. Our partnership with Carr, Riggs & Ingram will also allow the students to see the importance of mathematical thinking. By working with our local learning institutions, our students can be exposed to a variety of subject areas from local experts. Our applied computer science and engineering center has the potential to even provide a rich learning opportunity for our partners who might even be training to teach in one of these areas. We would like to pursue CAPE certification possibilities such as ICT Cybersecurity Essentials and ICT Digital Citizenship and Ethics.
- Enhance our students' understanding of engineering principles through partnerships with McNeil Carroll Engineering, Anchor Consulting Engineering and Inspection, Inc., Navy Support Activity-PC, and Tyndall Air Force Base. Engineering, especially between civil and government entities, can encompass a variety of applied skills and competencies. We look forward to expanding the relationship we have with Navy Support Activity-PC which currently supports our students as they engage in the engineering design process as a part of our annual Invention Convention.
- Increase the appreciation and understanding of our local resources through partnership opportunities at the local and state levels. Some of those potential partnerships include but are not limited to Bay County Audubon Chapter, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and UF IFAS Extension Bay County. Organizations such as these will allow students to learn more about environmental science and the importance of protecting the environment for future generations to come.

Holy Nativity Episcopal School has a proven track record for developing leaders in Bay County. Our core values focus on love, learning, and leadership. At Holy Nativity, we know that nothing can be done without love, followed by a hunger for learning and thereby creating the leaders of tomorrow. Currently, 100% of our graduating eighth-grade students are accepted to any advanced high school program of their choosing within Bay District Schools. Our students are afforded this opportunity due to the rigorous academic standards we offer. 95% of the eighth-grade students also graduate with high school credit in Math and Science. Two years ago, our school formed a robotics team supported by a Department of Defense grant. This rookie robotics team received numerous accolades right out of the gate, such as an Innovation Project award, a bid to compete in regionals, and a Teamwork award at the regional competition. Last school year, the team

continued to improve, earning a Champion's Award, a bid to compete at regionals, an Innovation Project Award, and a bid to compete at the state level. Also, the Robo-Bolts earned the opportunity to compete in the Virtual Open Invitational sponsored by Amazon. They were one of the only seventy-seven worldwide teams that received the prestigious invitation. This year our team of Robo-Bolts has already received recognition for outstanding Robot Design, and the competition season has just begun. We would like to further prompt this rigorous curriculum standard by pursuing possible program certifications such as RECF pre-engineering, RECF robotics, Coding in Minecraft, and Python Coding. As a Google-focused school, we would like to pursue certifications such as TOSA Cyber Citizen, TOSA Google Docs, TOSA Google Sheets, and TOSA Google Slides. Providing these opportunities to our students and families will allow for more growth not only in our school but also in Bay County. We are a top choice in education for military families looking into the area, and these additions in programming will aid the area in the diversification of families looking to relocate to Bay County. Currently, approximately 20% of our faculty are current military spouses, active or retired duty military.

Also, our school demographics show that nearly 25% of our students are from military families and we would like to see that percentage grow back to pre-hurricane percentages. Due to COVID, our teachers across all grade levels have vastly expanded their knowledge and utilization of technology in their classrooms. Of course, our school knows all too well about the impacts of Hurricane Michael on our area, and now more than ever, it is essential to focus on the future of Bay County. What better way to help the region in economic recovery than concentrating on the education of our future leaders.

#### **(I) AMOUNT OF FUNDS BEING SOUGHT FROM TRIUMPH GULF COAST**

The total cost of the project is estimated to be approximately \$2,280,000.00 dollars. Holy Nativity Episcopal School is requesting \$1,140,000.00 dollars to supplement the \$1,140,000.00 we plan to raise through a capital campaign and in-kind donations. The estimated budgeted costs will be used for construction, the impact of additional school services listed below, and to furnish materials for the new labs. This cost is an estimate based on the current market comparable such as the square footage price of \$487.18 from the Bay High School St Joe Center project that was recently constructed.

#### **(II) AMOUNT AND IDENTITY OF OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OR PROGRAM**

Holy Nativity Episcopal School will allocate an estimated \$1,140,000.00 of fundraising dollars and in-kind contributions towards this project. In 2017 our school ran a capital campaign to build our Holy Pavilion and raised \$400,000.00 through alumni support before we even broke ground. We have also been very blessed to receive donations from Holy Nativity friends and alumni, such as \$50,000.00 in 2019 for every classroom to have interactive Smartboards and a

\$160,000.00 donation for new window replacement after Hurricane Michael. These are just a few examples of the school's ability to assist through in-kind donations.

### **(III) LOCATION OF THE PROJECT OR PROGRAM**

Holy Nativity Episcopal School is located in the heart of the Cove and downtown Panama City, Florida. Our address is 205 Hamilton Ave., Panama City, FL 32401. We anticipate that more military families will choose Holy Nativity for their children's education with the growth of our facilities and program options. Locally, Tyndall Airforce Base is expanding its services and bringing more families to the area with that expansion.

### **(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**

This request centers around expanding our science, technology, math, and engineering programs. We are housed in a historical building which is beautiful but allows for limited facility growth opportunities. The Holy Nativity School Foundation owns the building, and we lease their facilities from them for a small nominal amount. Part of the school's agreement with the foundation is that we do not change the front exterior of the main building and that any future development is also approved by the foundation to match the existing structure. We are proposing an additional facility construction onto the southeast end of the main building that includes a breezeway, outdoor covered classroom space, expansion of existing sprinkler system, and covered walkway tying all structures on that end of the campus together. Holy Nativity strives to keep the health and safety of all of our students, faculty, and families at the forefront of all future planning. With that in mind, COVID prevention equipment and materials will need to be included in the facilities, such as but not limited to temperature check stations and air sanitation systems, as well as safety equipment to maintain a safe campus in keeping all persons physically safe from any harm or threat. We are not merely looking for additional structures to enhance our campus, but the primary goal is to strengthen our students' availability of academic programs.

### **(V) SUMMARY TIMELINE FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OR PROGRAM**

We are working with Buchanan and Harper on a complete survey of the school grounds. In summer 2022, we plan the demolition of the existing portable and will begin the initial building phase. We would like to have the building operational by August 2023. Timeframes are all depending on the availability of materials and labor. As we look forward to the future of Bay County and the multiple opportunities that are available, we are also planning to develop a phase II of further enhancing our early education programs.

**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.