

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: **Franklin’s Promise Coalition, Inc.**

Proposal Title: **Coastal Resilience Training Center**

Amount of Triumph Funds Requested: **\$10,128,062**

Total Estimated Project Cost: **\$37,778.062**

Brief Description of Individual/Entity/Organization:

Franklin’s Promise Coalition is a 501c3 community based nonprofit based in Eastpoint, Florida. The 22 year old coalition’s mission addresses unmet needs/gaps in services and youth development among the communities served. Coalition efforts focus on addressing multigenerational poverty with an emphasis on investing in opportunity youth through conservation corps (education and career pathways) programs across Northwest Florida (between Pensacola and Tallahassee).

Contact Information

Primary Contact: **Joseph Taylor**

Title: **Executive Director**

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

Partners and supporting entities/organizations:

The Corps Network, The Nature Conservancy, University of Florida/IFAS/ Natural Areas Training Academy, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University/IFAS, Florida SeaGrant, NOAA/Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve, Restore America’s Estuaries, Pensacola Perdido Bay Estuary Program, Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance, CareerSource, Apalachee Regional Planning Council, Northwest Florida Water Management District, and over 30 local high schools, local governments, and state agencies.

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) Amount of funds being sought from Triumph Gulf Coast;

\$10,128,062

(ii) Amount and identity of other sources of funds for the proposed project or program;

Grants (NOAA, EPA, USFS)	-\$4,000,000.00
AmeriCorps (OYSI)	-\$11,400,000.00
Fee for Service (USFS, ARPC)	-\$9,600,000.00
Donations/Foundations (Donations, Sponsorships, Duke Energy Foundation, 11th Hour Racing)	-\$1,600,000.00
School Tuitions (Step Up for Students School Choice Scholarships)	-\$1,050,000.00

(iii) Location of the project or program;

The Coastal Resilience Training Center is located at 60 Island Drive in Eastpoint (Franklin County), Florida. The 22,000 square foot facility features computer training labs, classrooms, a 200 seat community training room, NCCER certified workshop, high school program and administrative offices. The facility is located adjacent to the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve. The program serves youth ages 16-27 from communities spanning all disproportionately affected counties from Wakulla to Escambia.

(iv) Description of the proposed program, including how the program will be transformational and promote economic recovery, diversification, and enhancement of the disproportionately affected counties.

The Coastal Resilience Training Center (CRTC) serves as the home base for Franklin's Promise Coalition, housing the youth conservation corps programs provided by the Conservation Corps of the Forgotten and Emerald Coasts, ED Corps and OysterCorps.

Founded in 2002, Franklin's Promise Coalition (FPC) is highly valued by and broadly entrenched in the communities served. FPC was seeded to host conservation corps programs in 2015 by the Nature Conservancy, The Corps Network and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as part of the Gulf Coast Restoration Initiative, establishing the Conservation Corps of the Forgotten and Emerald Coasts (CCFEC) to restore the region's natural habitats and enhance the economy through workforce education. The initiative now has crews who work in Franklin, Gulf, Bay, Wakulla, Okaloosa, Walton, Santa Rosa

and Escambia Counties. FPC has participated in a regional capacity building program, GulfCorps, from its creation, the coalition now hosts the largest number of crews in the network. To date, FPC has completed 4,231 acres of restoration work and 192,000 hours of crew member service. FPC has leveraged over \$925,367 in Fee for Service funding and \$2,959,273 in AmeriCorps funding to complement the GulfCorps resources.

Now in its 9th year, CCFEC has a history of completing significant environmental restoration projects, placing members on career pathways, responding to disasters, and meeting critical community needs. CCFEC has employed, trained and provided service opportunities to over 460 young adults. They have earned over 1800 industry certifications, completed over 360 conservation and construction projects, as well as responded to 9 regional disasters including the pandemic.

In August 2016, ED Corps High School began as the academic component of the Conservation Corps with the mission of providing an opportunity for members to complete their high school diplomas. The program served as the official alternative school of the Franklin County School District from 2016 to 2020. In the Fall of 2020, ED Corps High School was established as an independent private school and is now based out of the Coastal Resilience Training Center in Eastpoint, Florida, serving students 16 years old and up. The focus is to support vulnerable students to complete high school, graduate on time, and if they desire, to join the Conservation Corps as a career training program. ED Corps High School has graduated 42 members to date.

The career training program offered at the CRTC is based on the 8-year history and success of the RESTORE Act funded grant, GulfCorps, which is administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and managed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). As one of GulfCorps' largest participating corps organizations (operating five crew locations in Florida), CCFEC crews are local youth ages 18 to 25 (veterans up to age 27) who live in underserved/marginalized communities. All members qualify for the Opportunity Youth Service Initiative (OYSI) AmeriCorps program, requiring members to be low income participants who are suffering one or more barriers to career sustainability. Launched in 2013 through an AmeriCorps grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Opportunity Youth Service Initiative (OYSI) is designed to provide education, training, and conservation service experience to underserved young people experiencing barriers (e.g. poverty, unemployment, education, past court involvement, incarcerated parents, physical or learning disability). During their term of service, OYSI members develop job skills, earn certifications, complete their high school requirements, and receive assistance in transitioning to postsecondary education or the workforce. Members receive weekly living allowances and upon completion of their term of service, they receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award for future education/training advancement (up to \$12,000). No less than 80% of members struggle with at least one of the barriers mentioned above. The proposed project will provide training to no less than 800 members with each earning a minimum of 4 certifications per year. The communities will benefit from the economic impact of crew members' weekly stipends and staff wages totaling over \$14,000,000.

The Coalition will continue to build upon existing project agreements in place with over 40 land management partners spanning the panhandle including Franklin, Gulf, Santa Rosa, and Escambia counties. Hands-on field project training is supported by regional and state agencies such as the Northwest Florida Water Management District, Apalachee Regional Planning Council, Florida Forest Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, Florida State Parks, and Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Crew members will receive training and certifications in transferable job skills and 6 different career pathways outlined below:

Career Pathway	Certification Examples
Career Foundations (Transferable Job Skills)	OSHA Safety Training (PC), CPR/First Aid/AED (PC), Wilderness First Aid (PC), Microsoft Office Suite (MICRO124, MICRO802, MICRO803, ISOGR806, ISOGR807, ISOGR808), GIS Systems (8600200), Drone Operator Licensing (FLFBR006), Heavy Equipment Operator (PC), Commercial Drivers License (FLDDL001) Survey Technician (PC)
Natural Resource Management (Forestry)	Wildland Firefighter (PC), Wildland Chainsaw (PC), Herbicide Applicator (PC), Forestry (FLFBR008)
Coastal Restoration	Marine Contractor (PC), Boat Captain (PC), Upland/Wetland Restoration (PC), Aquaculture Technician (FLAQA001), Marsh Restoration (PC), Natural Resources (FLFBR010)
Construction Trades	NCCER Core (HBINS004), Carpentry (HBINS002, HBINS003, NCCER005, NCCER025), Core Green Construction (HBINS005)
Community and Urban Forestry	Professional Landscaper (FNGLA001, FNGLA003, FNGLA004), Certified Arborist (PC)
Community Resilience and Public Works	Stormwater Management, Water System Operator (FLDEP006, FLDEP007), Wastewater System Operator (FLDEP003, FLDEP008)
Disaster Readiness (Planning, Response, & Recovery)	FEMA Trainings (PC), IS-100 through 800 (PC), HAZWHOPPER (PC)

(v) Summary timeline for the proposed project or program.

The project is proposed for a 10 year period beginning with completion of an executed agreement.

Phase 1- Which could begin January 1, 2024 would last for two years, providing for the engagement of 140 members who earn no less than 420 certifications. Training would implement existing curriculum while expanding certifications to build out the transferable job skills and career pathways. Phase 1 would initiate curriculum development and facilitate training partner relationships to enhance course offerings in Phases 2 and 3.

Phase 2 - will include years 3 through 5, focusing on implementing the proposal for 310 members who complete no less than 1,040 certifications. Through adaptive management, member engagement and partner input the program will be modified as appropriate. Phase 2 will include the development of a 5 year sustainability plan.

Phase 3 - will include years 6 through 10, focusing on implementing the proposal for 850 members who complete no less than 2,400 certifications.

Total members engaged 1,300, total certifications completed 3,860 at a value of \$2,623.85 each.

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.