

JUMP Capacity Building Initiative Overview

Description

The Journey to Unlock Management Potential (JUMP) Capacity Building Initiative is a unique project designed to help develop a stronger nonprofit sector. Launched in 2008, and the first of its kind in the Tampa Bay area, JUMP takes an organization-centric, team approach to learning, creating change and building capacity. Results are achieved through the use of a personalized organizational assessment, an agency-developed capacity building plan, expert knowledge in change leadership and innovation, peer-to-peer learning and networking, technical assistance, ongoing feedback and direct financial support. These provisions lead directly to achieving the ultimate goal to build the capacity of nonprofits *to sustain mission-driven work*.

Contextual Framework

In Hillsborough and Pinellas counties in 2010 there were 11,271 (6,006 and 5,265 respectively) registered nonprofit organizations (www.taxtextemptworld.com). Florida nonprofits employ six times the number of people employed by the state's renowned agriculture industry, and its workforce exceeds that of the state's real estate, banking, and insurance industries according to a November 2007 policy research report prepared by Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies: *Florida's Nonprofit Sector: An Economic Force*. Though sizable, Florida's nonprofit sector is proportionally smaller than its counterparts elsewhere in the country, accounting for 4.9% of total employment versus the national average of 7.2% and a Southeast average of 6%. Current projections forecast that despite the current economic climate, the Florida nonprofit sector is poised to continue its growth. The report underscores the significance of the nonprofit sector and the importance of building capacity to ensure ongoing organizational strength and ability to meet the needs of those who rely on the services each provide.

A strong nonprofit sector is vital to the quality of life for everyone through helping to provide arts, cultural opportunities, recreation, child care, consumer protection, and education. It also provides basic and critical needs including food, housing, healthcare and health services for individuals in vulnerable situations and facing adverse conditions. Throughout Florida, continued population growth has intensified the demand for the services and programs of nonprofit agencies. Their capacity to meet shifting needs and unprecedented change is even more critical now. Making an investment in nonprofit capacity-building is vital to these organizations as they are on the front lines of service provision and have limited capacity to serve the increased demand and expectations now placed upon them. In this present environment nonprofit organizations need funding partners to boldly and creatively support building their capacity.

Partners

Allegany Franciscan Ministries, Collaborative Labs @ St. Petersburg College, Lackey Consulting, Nonprofit Leadership Center of Tampa Bay, Robertson Consulting Group, Inc. and Tampa Bay Healthcare Collaborative

Stakeholders

Nonprofit organizations, funders and investors, Tampa Bay area residents, elected officials and government