



## LIGHTNING COMMUNITY HEROES OF TOMORROW

The Lightning Community Heroes of Tomorrow program celebrates inspiring public-spirited young people from the Tampa Bay community. We are aiming to identify the young leaders and "change-makers" ages 25 and under who are driving social change and making a positive impact in their community. We are seeking individuals who have come up with an idea or initiative that can benefit the greater community, helping them take their volunteer efforts to the next level.

The applicant will not only submit information about their community service work to date, but also submit a community service initiative plan, which will be evaluated based on impact, innovation, and feasibility. If selected, the Heroes of Tomorrow will be celebrated at future Tampa Bay Lightning weekend home games.

The \$50,000 award consists of two parts:

- A scholarship grant of up to \$25,000, to assist the Hero in his or her educational pursuits; and
- A grant equal to the balance of the \$50,000 (at least \$25,000) to a publicly-supported charity in the Tampa Bay area, to help accomplish the Hero's community service initiative plan.

Please find the application form on the following pages.

**Please note that your Heroes of Tomorrow application will not be considered complete until you have uploaded this completed application form, your most recent school transcripts, and your two letters of recommendation to [www.tampabaylightning.com/hero](http://www.tampabaylightning.com/hero).**

**LIGHTNING COMMUNITY HEROES OF TOMORROW**  
**APPLICATON FORM**

Thank you for taking the time to submit your application for a Lightning Community Hero of Tomorrow award. Please fill in the information below about yourself so that we can contact you if we have any questions.

**PART A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Full Name:

Address:

E-mail:

Phone Number:

Date of Birth:

County of Residence:

**SCHOOL INFORMATION [Information about the school you currently attend.]**

School Name:

Main Office Phone Number:

School Address:

Current Year in School:

School Representative Name:

School Representative Title:

School Rep. Phone Number:

School Rep. Email:

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION**

Name:

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Relation to Applicant:

**PART B. PRIOR VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY WORK - EACH ANSWER SHOULD BE 100-150 WORDS**

**Help us get to know more about you and your volunteer work to date!**

**B1)** Please describe a brief history of your volunteer work to date. Include where you volunteered, your role as a volunteer, and approximately how many hours you contributed to the organization(s).

**B2)** Who or what inspired you to start volunteering in the community?

**B3)** What has been your most rewarding volunteer experience to date? Please explain why this particular volunteer opportunity has resonated with you, and how you feel your time volunteering in this role was beneficial to others/the community.

**B4)** What are the challenges/issues that you see facing our community? What are your suggestions to address these challenges? How would you get involved in finding a solution to these challenges?

**B5)** What do you feel you have learned from your time volunteering – about yourself, the organization(s) you volunteer with, and the community?

**B6)** *\*Optional\** Please provide any additional comments regarding your previous volunteering experiences.

**PART C. COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE - ALL ANSWERS SHOULD BE 100-150 WORDS**

Now that we have learned more about you, we need some additional information regarding your community service plan to improve the greater Tampa community.

*\*\*Prior to completing this section, we ask you to identify a nonprofit with whom you would like to partner. We suggest you tap into their knowledge to collect data about the need for your plan. The nonprofit should provide feedback regarding the feasibility of your plan and the resources needed to execute it. The more details and specifics you provide, the easier it will be for us to evaluate the impact and feasibility of your plan. \*\**

**C1)** Please describe briefly your proposed community service initiative. Provide information regarding what community challenge this initiative would address, and how it would help. If the initiative will impact the lives of specific individuals (by category or group), please identify the group(s) of individuals that will be affected. Please use statistics and references.

**C2)** How do you feel your community service initiative is different from other projects in the community? What makes your initiative innovative?

**C3)** What inspired you to want to undertake this initiative? Please feel free to include any previous volunteer experiences that may have spurred your desire to create this initiative.

**C4)** Provide an overview of the resources needed to accomplish your community service initiative. Please include information regarding the supplies needed, the number of volunteers needed, the expected duration of the project, and any additional information regarding resources you would need to make your initiative successful. **You do not need a fully-detailed list or exact quantities, but please work with your designated non-profit to estimate what resources would be required to make your initiative successful.**

**C5)** Provide an estimated budget for your community service initiative. **You do not need exact financial information, but you must show you have a reasonable idea of how much funding will be required to make your initiative successful. The response to this question should be consistent with the resources described in the response to Question C4.**

**C6)** What do you hope is the long-term impact of your community service initiative on the greater Tampa Bay community?

**C7)** Please provide any additional information regarding your proposed community service initiative that you would like us to know.

**PROPOSED BENEFICIARY OF CHARITABLE GRANT FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE**

As described above, one component of the award is a grant equal to at least \$25,000 to a publicly-supported charity in the Tampa Bay area, to help implement the Hero's community service initiative. Please provide the non-profit and contact with whom you have discussed this project. **Please note that we may reach out to the contact at the non-profit referenced below during our review process in regards to your community service initiative.**

Name of 501(c)(3) Organization:

Organization Contact Name:

Contact Phone Number:

Contact E-mail Address:

Please briefly summarize your initial conversation with the nonprofit organization below. Your conversation should highlight whether or not your project meets a need the organization currently has and how feasible the nonprofit feels your project is.

**PART D. EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT - ANSWER SHOULD BE 100-150 WORDS**

If you are selected to be a Lightning Community Hero of Tomorrow, the Community Hero award includes a scholarship grant of up to \$25,000 to pay for the Hero's tuition, books, and similar expenses at an approved educational institution. Payment will be made directly to the educational institution, for the benefit of the Hero. Please describe the amount of scholarship grant you are able to use, and identify the educational institution where you will use it. If you do not already have an academic institution identified, the funding can be held for the benefit of the student until an approved educational institution has been determined.

## **GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

**Please provide one letter of reference from your school, and one letter of reference from the non-profit with whom you hope to partner to execute your community service initiative.**

### **Reference Contact Information**

Full Name:

Organization/School:

Title/Position:

E-mail Address:

Mailing Address:

Phone Number:

The letter must answer the following questions:

- 1) What is your relationship to the applicant?
- 2) What volunteer or service work has the applicant completed?
- 3) What was the applicant's specific leadership role(s) in that volunteer activity?
- 4) What challenges did the applicant overcome during that activity?
- 5) Were there any verifiable results of the applicant's volunteer activity?