

Three Pillars Initiative

Are you a seasoned fundraiser, grant maker, or philanthropist who is passionate about helping Generation Z become leaders in philanthropy? Do you care deeply about bringing a program to your community designed to prepare high school students for a lifetime understanding of and appreciation for philanthropy? The Three Pillars Initiative is looking to recruit a cohort of volunteer Program Champions who will help them expand this vital program.

About Three Pillars Initiative (TPI)

The Three Pillars Initiative (TPI) is a national 501(c)(3) philanthropy service organization based in Chicago whose mission is to prepare the next generation of philanthropic leaders. The program model provides robust learning experiences for high school juniors and seniors in fundraising, grantmaking and volunteering – the Three Pillars of Philanthropy. For more information, visit <https://www.threepillarsinitiative.org/>

How does the Three Pillars model work?

The primary program consists of the following key components:

- High school juniors apply and compete for participation in the 2-year program.
- Adult community volunteer mentors deliver the program material.
- Student fund raising activities utilize proven methods of gift solicitation.
- Student charitable giving activities including an RFP-designed grant making process.
- Service projects are designed by students to address unmet and/or urgent needs.
- Students continue to engage in philanthropic activities while in college.
- Career networking activities and events continue to spark philanthropic leadership.

The first Three Pillars model, founded in Oak Park a decade ago, has had extraordinary success - 270 teens have been accepted into the program with a 97% completion rate. In 2021, the program received AFP's Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy award. Almost \$300,000 in grant money has been distributed to local nonprofits during that time.





Build Something New

The Program Champion is a senior level fundraiser, grant maker, or philanthropist who volunteers to bring this transformative program to their own Chicago area community. Our goal is to have the new programs ready for implementation in the 2022-23 school year.

With support, materials, and training from TPI, the Program Champion will be responsible for:

1. Securing Angel Funder(s) for Startup Capital - \$50,000 over 2 years
2. Recruiting a Program Coordinator (or serve as Program Coordinator)
3. Assisting with securing Mentors to teach the curriculum
4. Completing TPI training and orientation

The Ideal Program Champion

- Has enthusiasm and passion for the mission of TPI.
- Achievement-oriented with a track record of exceeding goals.
- Ability to proactively engage funders, community members, and volunteers in TPI's mission.
- Strategic and relationship-based approach towards building fundraising relationships.
- Inclusive, creative, and positive approach to collaboration and team building.
- A successful track record of fundraising or philanthropy in their community.

All inquiries and questions should be directed to Amy Funk, Senior Vice President, Ter Molen Watkins & Brandt at afunk@twbfundraising.com. Recruitment will continue through June 30, 2022.

Three Pillars Initiative values a diverse program and strongly encourages women, people of color, LGBTQ individuals, people with disabilities, members of ethnic minorities, foreign-born residents, and veterans to apply.

The Three Pillars program is extraordinary. In the past fourteen years of working in philanthropy and community development, I have never seen a program so comprehensive and exciting. The students are dynamic and the relationship between mentor and young philanthropists will truly change our community for the better.

Chris Hochstetler, MPA Program Mentor
