



## Innovation for Good Pitch Competition

### Contest Guidelines

Following the conference theme “Innovation for Good”, this entrepreneurship pitch competition will celebrate amazing ideas that could change the world through Social Innovation. Two awards will be given - one by a panel of judges and one through an audience choice award. Winners will win no less than \$2500 per award (sponsors being added through May 2019). We look forward to coming together, celebrating, and helping to strengthen ideas with connections to Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and the greater Peace Corps Community.

#### General Information

**Peace Corps Connect – Austin, TX**

**Conference Dates:** June 20-22, 2019;

**Pitch Competition Date and Time:** June 22, 2019, 10:45am

**Location:** University of Texas Etter-Harbin Alumni Center

2110 San Jacinto Blvd, Austin, TX 78712

**Expected conference attendance:** 350

**Deadline for submission:** 11:59pm CST May 15th, 2019

**Expected funding awarded:** No less than \$2500 per award (sponsors being added through May 2019)

**Submission eligibility:** Must have one team member who is either a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer or currently serving Peace Corps Volunteer.

**Event format:** Interested organizations must submit an application with all required materials through the link: <https://goo.gl/forms/Kl1Gtqo6qG7OCQu73>

Based on these submissions, a review panel will choose the final organizations that will present for the event. At least one member of the team must be prepared to present on the project or program at

Peace Corps Connect on June 22, 2019. Based on a panel of judges, final funding awards will be made, as well as an award for the audience favorite.

**How funding can be used:** there are no restrictions on what the funding can be used for as long as it is used to support the work that is outlined in the letter of intent and presented during the Pitch Competition.

### **How to Apply**

Peace Corps Connect serves as the premier forum to inform, engage and inspire our community. For over 55 years, the greater Peace Corps community has contributed immensely to addressing global challenges. After service, many Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) choose to start, work with, or volunteer for nonprofit organizations that work on local, state, national, or international issues. This event seeks to provide funding for a project or program for nonprofits and for-profit social ventures with ties to the Peace Corps Community.

To apply to participate in the Innovation for Good Pitch Competition contest, please:

1. Complete the online application here: <https://goo.gl/forms/Kl1Gtqo6qG7OCQu73>
2. Record a 1-3 minute video explaining your idea/business. Upload to YouTube or another platform and ensure the link is listed as public.

Decisions on finalists will be made no later than May 30, 2019 and finalists will be notified no later than this date.

### **Reporting requirements:**

- All finalists must send at least one individual to the conference in order to present on the project or program during the Pitch Competition event.
- All organizations that receive an award must be willing to report back on the progress of their pitch within one (1) year of the award.

### **Know Before You Submit**

- All proposals must be submitted through the link above no later than 11:59pm CST, May 15, 2019.
- The organizers may suggest that applicants with similar projects or programs combine efforts to produce a more dynamic proposal.
- The organizers will **NOT** cover hotel or travel expenses for Pitch Competition participants and does **NOT** provide a stipend of any kind. However, finalists may receive a discount should they wish to attend the full conference.

## Timeline and Major Deadlines

<b>May 15, 2019</b>	<b>Final deadline for submission</b> All materials must be submitted by this date. They will be reviewed by the review committee.
<b>No later than May 30, 2019</b>	<b>Finalists announced</b> Finalists will be contacted regarding their status. Additional logistical follow-up information will be provided at this time. A webinar will be scheduled with Session Organizers and finalists to review responsibilities and key deadlines.
<b>June 1, 2019</b>	<b>Final participation confirmation and registration deadline</b> You must have confirmed participation in the event by this deadline, including registering at least one individual for at least one day of the conference via the NPCA website.
<b>June 15, 2019</b>	<b>Promotional Video Due</b> Organizations chosen to participate in the competition must submit a video no more than 2 minutes in length that briefly describes the organization and why funding is being sought. These videos will be shown online and at the conference in advance of the Partnering for Prosperity to promote all of the competing organizations.
<b>June 20 -22, 2019</b>	<b>Peace Corps Connect Conference</b> A representative of the organizations chosen to participate in the competition will be present at the conference to take part in the Innovation for Good Pitch Competition contest and present to the judges and crowd on June 21, 2019.

### How to Submit Your Proposal:

When you have finished reviewing this document, you may submit your session proposal by sending all required materials to <https://goo.gl/forms/WGidEAp8yxr7KJiA3>. No paper applications will be accepted.

**Thank you very much for your interest in participating at this event at the  
2019 Peace Corps Connect conference!**

**Questions? E-mail Kyle Wiggins at [wiggins.kyle@gmail.com](mailto:wiggins.kyle@gmail.com) with the subject line “Peace Corps Connect – Partnering for Prosperity Application” for any questions on the application, timeline, or support in participating in this event!**

## Rules, Terms and Conditions

Please read these competition rules, terms and conditions carefully. By entering the Innovation for Good Pitch Competition you acknowledge and agree to these rules, terms and conditions.

1. To enter the competition you must have at least one team member who is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (RPCV) or a currently serving Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV) at the time your application was submitted.
2. Submitted ventures must have a quantifiable social and/or environmental bottom line incorporated into their mission and practices.
3. At least one team member must attend the Peace Corps Connect Conference June 20-22, 2019 in Austin, Texas to present their pitch to onsite judges. One or more of the team may participate through video conferencing, barring any technical difficulties. A discounted registration fee may be offered to finalists.
4. Content, representations and ideas presented during the competition may be published and shared with the RPCV community.
5. A panel of judges who will watch and score participants on Saturday, June 22nd will select the winner of the competition. All decisions made by this panel will be considered final.
6. Audience members of the presentation on Saturday, June 22nd will watch and score participants will select the winner of an audience award. All decisions made by the audience will be considered final.
7. Applications must be received by the deadline of 11:59pm CST on May 15th, 2019 to be considered.
8. Any form of plagiarism or the presentation of intentionally unauthentic ideas and solutions will lead to forfeit.
9. Winners from the competition will be posted on the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) website.
10. By entering the competition participants agree to participate in such promotional activity and material as NPCA may request. This includes but is not limited to the use of photographs, videos and testimonials.
11. This competition is being run by the Heart of Texas Peace Corps Association in partnership with the National Peace Corps Association.

The organizers, HoTPCA and NPCA reserve the right to amend these rules at any time and if it does so, will post an update on its website and notify all participants. The organizers may also create rules, which will apply to a specific competition only. If we do this we will publish the amended competition rules and/or specific competition rules on the relevant competition page.