

# INIE Candidate Questionnaire - Spring 2020

The Institute for Nonprofit Innovation and Excellence (INIE) is a non-profit management support organization. The mission of INIE is to strengthen the capacity and impact of the nonprofit sector through education, collaboration and advocacy. We are comprised of over 180 members with a reach of over 2,400 registered nonprofit organizations.

Collaboration with all sectors is vital to having a vibrant community and a thriving nonprofit ecosystem that is prepared to serve the needs of all residents in the Tallahassee and surrounding area.

Please complete and submit this questionnaire to provide YOUR VOICE regarding the nonprofit sector. We ask that this questionnaire be SUBMITTED by FEBRUARY 21st. We will release candidates' responses, including "no response", to our members and the public on Friday, February 28th.

We commend you for your desire to serve our community and look forward to hearing YOUR VOICE. Thank you.

Email address \*

ewynette@gmail.com

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Candidate Name \*

Dr. Elaine W. Bryant

Name of desired commission seat and/or position.

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City Commission Seat One

1. Please describe how you have been personally involved in, supported, or been affected by the nonprofit sector. \*

I have had the opportunity to serve in leadership roles for many nonprofits during my career and residence in this great community of Tallahassee. They include but are not limited to Goodwill Industries Board of Directors, Bethel Empowerment Foundation Board of Directors, Capital City Youth Services Board of Directors, and Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors.

2. There are over 2,400 nonprofit organizations registered in Tallahassee and they have an economic impact of \$3.1 Billion in Revenue. How do you plan to ensure that the nonprofit sector has a voice in the decisions being made in the commission? \*

The City of Tallahassee currently has a CHSP process where nonprofits can apply for and receive funds to support the mission of their organization. We will also continue to support the United Partners for Human Services whose primary mission is to educate, support, and advocate for public and not-for-profit human services agencies of the Big Bend. Individual organizations as well as those who advocate on behalf of nonprofit organizations will continue to find me as a member the Tallahassee City Commission with open receptivity to recommendations from the constituency of each organization.

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3. How would you use the nonprofit sector to advance the vitality of our community? \*

Nonprofit organizations have been a major component in helping the City of Tallahassee address essential needs of our community. Together we have realized a broader reach of critical services to the homeless through the Big Bend Homeless Coalition; a place of safety to youth who no longer want to live at home or find themselves in transitional living at the Capital Youth Services; and, in-depth accessibility to information and activities as offered by the Senior Center Foundation and Elder Care which promote healthy lifestyles and wellbeing. Additionally, City partnerships with various medical centers, societies, and many other nonprofits offer a win-win to advance the unity and vitality of Tallahassee which makes us Tallahassee Proud! I will continue to support nonprofits as a viable and necessary part of our community.

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4. What suggestions do you have to improve the financial deficit that exists among nonprofits to serve the needs of our community? \*

To create additional revenue for our nonprofits, we must collaborate with all facets of our community to identify creative ways to supplement the current funding from governmental entities and provide greater support for the thousands of individuals who receive services from the Tallahassee nonprofit organizations. Ideas include nonprofits being adopted by businesses that align with similar missions, partnerships with churches and other organizations with an established income flow to support the nonprofit, and identifying endowments that could be used in perpetuity. These are only a few ideas and there are many more that could be generated from a brainstorming session with stakeholders and organizational leaders in our effort to serve the needs of our community.

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5. 1 in 10 jobs in Tallahassee are in the nonprofit sector. If our community is concerned about retaining and attracting talent, how would you encourage government leaders to assist in growing the workforce in the social sector? \*

Tallahassee must create workforce training (degree and non-degree) that matches the business and work opportunities in the not-for-profit and the for-profit world of work in Tallahassee, FL. We cannot attract or retain talent if there is no investment in the development of those who have interest in the social sciences and if there are no competitive jobs to keep our talent here in Tallahassee.

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