



THE BAHAMAS FOUNDATION

INCREASING THE CAPACITY & IMPACT OF THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR

The Problem

When Hurricane Dorian hit in 2019, the country was challenged in all sectors by the depth and breadth of relief and rebuilding needs. While agencies across the country responded with all of the resources they had, historical challenges in the nonprofit sector were spotlighted including lack of capacity to scale and collaborate to meet the ongoing challenges, let alone the double blow to the economy and health presented by COVID-19. Non-profits need support, connections and capacity building so that they can grow and better serve the community in times of crisis and beyond.

Our Solution

Our solution is to scale up One Eleuthera Foundation's Social Enterprise Accelerator to the national level as The Bahamas Foundation so that it can provide broad-based support for the non-profit community by:

- Incubating and accelerating non-profit organizations (NPOs)
- Supporting the national eco-system for NPO development and national development
- Providing opportunities for public-private partnerships to enhance the work of the third sector

The Bahamas Foundation will strengthen the capacity of non-profits across the country, provide technical support services and mentoring to NPOs and social enterprises such as the One Abaco Foundation franchise and support collaboration of the third sector with public and private partners nationwide.

The highest impact change begins when local community members take the leading role in driving community development efforts. When these leaders are provided with mentorship, training, coordination and access to capital, they will build and grow organisations that transform lives and create self-sufficiency and sustainability in their communities. The social capital created by an enhanced third sector will not only enhance the recovery efforts needed after Hurricane Dorian and COVID-19, but also continue to enrich the community for years to come.

The Bahamas Foundation and its US 501(c)3 will build on the experience of the One Eleuthera Foundation (OEF) to create a transparent and trusted umbrella organization which will enhance the impact and resiliency of the sector through the following services:

INCUBATE & ACCELERATE NPO'S

Commented [GG1]: I don't know if it is possible now but it would be good to have some npo stats. Like X amount of npos are underfunded, X amount are not registered/don't have a business license, X amount of leaders are in need of training in whatever areas, X amount are not in compliance with new npo laws, X amount could increase impact by X percent if they had access to proper resources and support, etc. I guess in the absence of data we could express the need to collect.

Maybe add some stats on revenue/jobs npos provide in other parts of the world US, UK and connect it to the possible grow and impact of the nonprofit sector in The Bahamas.

Commented [GG2]: Would it be helpful to include a summary of the expected outcomes and impact?

Commented [JP3R2]: yes. Can you assist @Mark Palmer

- Accelerate established NPO partners through a systematic program to build readiness to scale and maximum effectiveness
- Incubate new NPOs related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and link opportunities to Bahamian social entrepreneurs in those areas
- Provide concierge learning plans, online resources and one-on-one mentoring for non-profit leaders and staff to build their capacity
- Serve as a board representative on start-up or established governing committees

SUPPORT THE NATIONAL ECO-SYSTEM FOR NPO'S

- Serve as a hub for collaboration and coordination amongst the partners.
- Provide carriage of the regulatory and governance processes for partners. Assist NPOs and social enterprises in their regulatory requirements in terms of registration and reporting.
- Act as the fiscal sponsor for Bahamian NGOs through The Bahamas Foundation 501(c)3.
- Provide fee for service administrative functions (fundraising, accounting, reporting, technical assistance) when it isn't affordable for NPOs to do so themselves.
- Integrate monitoring and evaluation protocols for each program to determine their effectiveness and impact.
- Influence policy development to support the needs of the sector and collaboration.

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

- Coordinate public-private partnerships to grow the third sector and build the capacity of civil society to respond to crisis and ongoing development efforts
- Attract national and international funding to further the aims of the Foundation, its partners and programs

Budget

PHASE 1 (MONTHS 1-6) - \$250,000

- Build the capacity of One Eleuthera's Accelerator in preparation for scaling (\$150,000)
- Build capacity in Abaco by incubating the One Abaco Foundation (included in above)
- Map the non-profit sector to identify baseline data and stakeholder needs (\$100,000)

PHASE 2 (MONTHS 7-12) - \$1,500,000

- Launch OAF and provide technical assistance services during start-up (\$275,000)
- Implement initial community development projects in Abaco based on the OEF model (\$750,000)
- Transition the OEFSEA into The Bahamas Foundation to develop the national ecosystem for NPOs (\$275,000)
- Incubate and accelerate four NPO's (\$200,000)

PHASE 3 (MONTHS 13-24) - \$2,575,000

- Support the ongoing operations of OAF (\$425,000)
- Implement additional community development and reconstruction projects in Abaco (\$750,000)
- Expand services of The Bahamas Foundation to address the unmet needs of NPOs and social enterprises across The Bahamas so they can better serve their communities (\$550,000)
- Accelerate 12 non-profits throughout the nation to independence (\$600,000)

Why Us?

OEF is uniquely positioned to launch this service and incubate OAF and The Bahamas Foundation. OEF has launched numerous community development projects and carried out significant research on best practice in the NPO sector to determine the key factors that allow NPOs to successfully grow past their initial seed funding. The staff has diverse industry experience which will allow it to scale operations to the national level. Local expertise is also present for franchising to Abaco and the following partners have signed on to provide support:

- Abaco Chamber of Commerce
- The Bahamas Development Bank
- One Eleuthera Community Credit Union
- Small Business Development Centre
- Volunteer Bahamas
- Youth Build International

Commented [GG4]: What if we are asked about the impact of OEF on nonprofits in Eleuthera? Can we say? We could probably mention \$ given and projects implemented, but what if a donor wants to know how the nonprofits we have worked with are currently doing?

Commented [JP5R4]: yep