2024 | Request for Proposals

EskewDumezRipple, the architecture, interior design, and urban planning practice based in New Orleans and Washington, DC, will lead its tenth annual Day of Service on January 12, 2024 to honor Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy. This year, and for the first time, the program will expand to include nine additional architecture and design firms, including, Campo Architects, Rome Office, Cicada, Bell-Butler, Albert Architecture, Goat, Atelier Design, Mathes Brierre, and Chase Marshall.

As architects committed to the civic realm and a sustainable future, these collective firms will donate time and talent to initiatives advocating for equity in the design of the built environment. The Day of Service is an annual initiative, intended to unite design and civic leadership to address social and urban issues with the power of good design and community engagement.

For more information, visit www.edrpl.us
About Day of Service

As part of EskewDumezRipple's commitment to building community, the firm implements an annual, skills-based and hands-on service program to support nonprofit community organizations in the New Orleans and Washington, DC areas. Inspired by the legacies of Martin Luther King, Jr. and our firm's founder, Allen Eskew, we dedicate an entire workday by our staff to engage in community-focused initiatives. This program offers selected nonprofit organizations an opportunity to collaborate with our seasoned team in a tailored design process that is aligned with their mission.

We’re here to help your organization’s potential project, whether it’s through architecture, interior design, construction, site planning, signage, budgets, zoning, marketing, furniture, hurricane recovery, public service, or related fields. This year, we are eagerly expanding our program through partnerships with local design firms, growing our capacity to support an even greater number of organizations. This collaborative exchange promises to enrich EDR, our esteemed partner firms, and the nonprofit community alike, by fostering a deeper understanding of our city through meaningful dialogues, in-depth explorations, and tangible deliverables crafted by dedicated design professionals.

Process

Interested organizations should submit a proposal by 5pm on October 30, 2023. The review committee will assess each proposal and select ones based on outlined criteria (see page 3). Each project will be assigned a team of 5-10 people from EDR or other local design firms.

Team members and their organization will engage in at least two planning meetings to get to know each other, and further define project scope and deliverables. Meetings can be held virtually or in person, with suggested dates of December 1, 2023, and December 8, 2023, from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. An optional third meeting can be arranged for January 5, 2024.

The Day of Service (Friday, January 12, 2024) is a workday dedicated to producing the deliverables as agreed upon during the planning meetings. Representatives from the nonprofit organizations will check in with their design team to give feedback on progress.

Following the Day of Service, each team will present their work to all the nonprofit organizations and participants. Final deliverables will be provided to each organization. The presentation is scheduled for January 26, 2024, from 4:00 to 5:30 pm, with details to follow.

Lastly, all participants will complete a brief follow-up survey to evaluate the experience and impact of the Day of Service program.

Important Dates

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*Meetings will be held in person at the EskewDumezRipple office or at a local partner firm's.

Options for virtual attendance can be accommodated.
How to Apply

Please submit a brief proposal totaling 1,000 words or less that responds to each of the ‘Proposal Requirements’ below. Proposals are due via email by 5:00pm Central Time on October 30, 2023. Please send a PDF file via email to doscoordinator@eskewedmezripple.com.

Proposal Requirements

Please clearly respond to each of the following sections in order:

**ORGANIZATION INFORMATION**
- Name, address, and logo of your organization
- Name and address of the proposed project
- Name, phone number, and e-mail address of the point of contact person
- 501(c)3 or fiscal sponsorship status

**PROJECT AND PARTNER DETAILS:**
- Describe the work of your organization. Include a mission and/or vision statement.
- Share insights into the diversity of your organization, and any goals related to enhancing diversity.
- Highlight some of your organization’s recent accomplishments.
- Provide a summary of the proposed project and the identified need it addresses in your community.
  - Specify which ‘key services’ (see last page) you intend to address with the Day of Service.
  - Describe the community your organization serves and how the proposed project will impact it.
  - Explain how the proposed project aligns with your organization’s mission.
- Describe the next steps for your project after the Day of Service work is complete.
- *Optional Information:* If relevant, feel free to include additional information and images of team members, community engagement, your facility, and the proposed project location.

Selection Criteria

Projects will be selected based on the following criteria:

**IDENTIFIED NEED**
Is there a clear connection between the project’s community impact and the identified need?

**ORGANIZATION’S MISSION**
Does the project meet the mission of the organization, and does it have support from those who will be impacted?

**RELEVANCE OF IMPACT**
Does the project support social justice, affordable housing, culture bearers, or climate resilience?

**PROJECT VIABILITY**
Is it feasible to meet the project’s needs within the identified time frame of Day of Service?

**ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY**
Is there a clear plan of action after initial design services are provided?

Questions

If you have questions or would like to discuss your proposal, please contact Thom Smith at doscoordinator@eskewedmezripple.com or at 504.276.5485.
Previous Day of Service Project Examples

STEM NOLA: HQ AND INNOVATION CENTER VISION PACKAGE

STEM NOLA, dedicated to inspiring and engaging students in Science Technology Engineering & Math fields, particularly in underserved communities, acquired a 42,000 sq. ft. building for its headquarters. STEM NOLA worked with EDR to develop a vision package for the building, resulting in successful securement of $1.25 million for construction.

EDR worked with STEM NOLA to create:
Vision Package
- Site Design and Stormwater Management
- Program for Interior Spaces, Interior Floor Plans, and Furniture Layouts
- Interior and Exterior Renderings

Cost Estimate for the Project

HOUSE OF TULIP: RENOVATION AND VISION PACKAGE

House of Tulip (HoT) is a collective, creating housing solutions for Trans and Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) people in Louisiana. With a long-term vision of providing zero-barrier housing to TGNC people in need of a safe place to stay, HoT worked with EDR to create a vision package and roadmap for achieving that goal.

EDR worked with the House of Tulip to create:
Vision Package
- Existing, Demolition, and Renovation drawings for a recently acquired property
- Guide for future properties, including ADA compliance, programming, City resources, and housing types
- Interior and Exterior Renderings

Cost Estimate for the Project
Zoning Analysis

THE NOCCA FOUNDATION: REVITALIZATION AND VISION PACKAGE

New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) worked with EDR on a revitalization study and vision package for vacant land along the historic Press Street corridor (renamed Homer Plessy Way). NOCCA wanted the proposed plan to reflect their mission, generate revenue, and connect to the surrounding community.

EDR worked with NOCCA to create:
Vision Package
- Site Plan and Improvements
- Concepts and Programming for two NOCCA-connected buildings
- Long-term Development Plan

Zoning Analysis
Previous Day of Service Project Examples (con't)

RECYCLATING FARMS: FENCE AND SHED DESIGN-BUILD

Recirculating Farms works with community partners to foster ownership of spaces for growing food and to encourage healthy habits, including gardening and local food consumption. Recirculating Farms worked with EDR to help develop two of their growing sites so they could be ready for the Spring planting season.

EDR worked with Recirculating Farms to:

• Design a fence to be constructed of recycled wooden pallets
• Build the fence at the Recirculating Farms growing site
• Construct a prefabricated storage shed

KEY SERVICES DEFINITIONS

Vision Package: A plan or strategy outlining the goals, design, and roadmap for a specific project or initiative, for fundraising, planning, and implementation. It can include architectural designs, layouts, cost estimates, and other elements to help understand and visualize the project.

Cost Estimate: An assessment or calculation of the expected expenses or budget required to complete a project, providing an estimate of the financial resources needed.

Zoning Analysis: An evaluation of land use regulations and zoning ordinances in a specific area, helping to determine how properties can be used and developed within legal constraints.

Design-Build: A project delivery method where both the design and physical construction are addressed, making for a more cost-effective project with improved communication during implementation.