Non-Profit FOSS Institute

Free open source software for non-profits from students and professionals



Bridging Digital Divides

The Non-Profit FOSS Institute (NPFI) creates collaborative learning teams to build open source software for non-profits

Classes and Instructors

Develop open source software to meet non-profit needs

Non-Profit Clients

Collaborate with classes, providing requirements and interactions

IT/Software Firms

Deploy software products, and provide ongoing maintenance

NPFI

Creates triads and provides resources to support success

Benefits for Participants

Classes and Instructors	Non-Profit	IT/Software Organization
 Unique practical learning experience. Builds communication and team skills critical for professional success. Supports student, instructor, and school community service values and goals. 	 Receives software tool that directly supports its mission. Software lasts beyond the class, through a reasonable contract with a software firm. Offers a good news story for donor base. 	 Provides an immediate recruiting pipeline for interns or entry-level developers Establishes a new client for support services Helps meet community service goals and values Positive press and visibility.

Success Stories

- In 2008, 2011, 2013, and 2015 Bowdoin and Whitman College classes built and customized volunteer scheduling software that is now used by two Ronald McDonald Houses in Maine and one in Rhode Island.
- In 2012, Bowdoin College classes built a database and mobile app that a South Carolina non-profit uses to track food donations. A software firm supports the app.
- In 2015, Whitman College class built inventory tracking and reporting system, used by a non-profit food bank in Washington and supported by a local software firm.

NPFI In Action



Spring 2015: Whitman College class presents its prototype and discusses project with non-profit staff



The NPFI Value is in the Process

Students report that the NPFI experience was their most valuable class, building real-life skills

Non-profits pleased with customized sustainable tools supporting unique mission needs

Yes, these non-profits could just buy software tools..... Why NPFI?

Local software firms have hired talented students with NPFI experience

NPFI brings triads together to collaborate, learn and grow.

NPFI: Current Priorities

Building Resource Base for Instructors/Classes Recruiting New Instructors and Classes Recruiting Software Firms to Support Sustainable Operations Identifying Sustainable Funding Sources to Fund Instructor and Non-Profit Grants

The Institute Vision

- Computer science graduates who are fluent in user communication and software development.
- Non-profit organizations that actively participate in building technology to serve their clients.
- IT/software companies connected through service to non-profits.
- A vibrant Institute that connects and educates: serving those who serve.



The Bowdoin College class team that developed a volunteer scheduling tool for the Ronald McDonald House in Portland, Maine in 2008.