

Sharing Our Success (SOS) Submission Form

Chapter Name: Greater Cleveland

Chapter Membership Size: Small (Less than 100)

Chapter Contact Person: Brad Withers

Email Address: bradwithers@msn.com

Phone Number:

Chapter Board Position: President

Chapter Website URL: ATDgreatercleveland.org

Submission Title: Trainathin

What did you do? (a 2-3 sentence summary of your effort): We used our collective skills to help a local non-profit

Who benefitted from this effort (Target Audience) Check all that apply:

- Chapter Members
- Board Members
- Non-Chapter Members
- Consultants
- Other: CVATD Chapter members

Why did you do it? What chapter needs were addressed? Most ATD events are learning events. We wanted to work together as a group and share our talents and insights to learn from each other. Especially in L&D, we work in a vacuum. Here is a chance to share our superpowers for a day. Learn from each other. It gave us a chance to get to know each other on a professional and capability level. Everyone contributed in their unique way. We also gave something back to the community too!

What were the measurable outcomes? (May include data regarding financial gains, membership increases, target audience satisfaction levels, publicity for the chapter or for the profession, etc.) We got great publicity through LinkedIn. We are also on a reboot and this gave us a chance to really get to know each other. Our "Client" for the day was really excited as well

What steps did you take to implement this effort? (Remember that other chapter leaders will use this to replicate the effort. Be specific)

1. The hardest part was finding a non-profit. It's hard to give something away for free. Find an organization that needs some new or revamped training or HR support. We totally revamped the PowerPoint for Volunteers and Donors and wrote a volunteer handbook. There is only one full time employee. Finding them took the most time. 2. Communicate well with the "Client" so you know what they expect and that you will be able to accomplish it in a day. 3. Find a space (We used a centrally located public library). 4. Promote! We asked members to give up a full Saturday for this. We used all of our communication tools. 5. Prep for the day. Materials and food. Post it notes to fresh fruit. Lots of markers. Different people approach these problems differently. Have as much trainer material as possible. 6. Have a leader for the day. We had to divide into two groups as there were two tasks. The leader needs to drive that. 7. Keep on task. 4:00 comes around fast! 8. Figure out how you will present this to your Client that day.

Is there anything you would do differently?

I would have started looking for a client much earlier. We are already doing that for this year. I have contacted a local foundation that has tentacles into many non-profits.

Know what your volunteer's gift are. I think we were very lucky that we had a group of diverse talents. One of our participants writes scenarios for trainings. I wish I had known that earlier, but we were able to engage her gifts.

When did you start working on this effort?

Apr 20, 2025

When did this effort go live?

Oct 11, 2025

Approximately how many hours were spent working on this? Include an estimate of hours spent across all board members and volunteers.

100

What resources did you use? Check all that apply:

Board Members
Other: Participants brought materials to work with

Which board positions were involved in the effort?

President, Membership, Events

Do you have any additional insights to share with other chapters implementing this effort?

The 100 hours include 9 people giving their day away. Everyone said they will do it again this year. It was a unique way to share our talents, get to know each other, help a non-profit and have some fun!

The idea came at a board meeting where a member said could we have a hackathon like IT folks? Off we went and that's how it stated.

Any time chapter members can dialogue, share their talents you become a stronger group!

How did you become familiar with the Sharing Our Success (SOS) program? Select all that apply: Chapter Leader

Would you be willing to apply to present on this submission at the ATD Chapter Leaders Conference (ALC)? *Request for Proposals (RFPs) open in October of each year at td.org/alc. Selected session facilitators receive complimentary registration. Yes
