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Florida Department of State  
Division of Corporations

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**FLORIDA PROFIT/NON PROFIT  
CORPORATION**

D. O'KEEFE

DEC - 1 2022

**Bridge the Gap Lakeland, Inc.**

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**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
BRIDGE THE GAP LAKELAND, INC.  
(A CORPORATION NOT FOR PROFIT)**

FILED  
2022 NOV 30 PM 12:30  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The undersigned acknowledges and files in the office of the Secretary of State of Florida, for the purposes of forming a corporation not for profit in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida, these Articles of Incorporation.

**ARTICLE I  
NAME**

The name of the corporation is Bridge the Gap Lakeland, Inc.

**ARTICLE II  
PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND ADDRESS**

The address of the principal office of the corporation and the mailing address is 229 N Tennessee Ave. Lakeland, FL 33801.

**ARTICLE III  
PURPOSE**

The corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, or scientific purposes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, as amended, and to do any other act or thing incidental to or connected with the foregoing purposes or in advancement thereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. The corporation shall not be used to gain pecuniary profit for its members or to engage in any acts prohibited by chapter 617, Florida Statutes.

**ARTICLE IV  
POWERS**

The corporation shall be authorized and empowered to exercise any and all corporate powers conferred by Section 617.0302, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to time, provided such powers are exercised in a manner that is consistent with, and reasonably necessary and incidental to, the objects and purposes of the corporation set forth in Article III hereof. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the corporation will not exercise any powers or engage in any activities, other than to an insubstantial extent, that in themselves are not in furtherance of: (i) Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, its rules and regulations, all as amended now or hereafter, (ii) Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, its rules and regulations, all as amended now or hereafter, or (iii) the purposes of the corporation, as set forth herein.

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**ARTICLE V**  
**DURATION**

The corporation shall commence existence on the filing of these Articles of Incorporation, and shall have perpetual duration.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**REGISTERED OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT**

The initial registered office of the corporation shall be located at 229 N. Tennessee Ave. Lakeland, Florida 33801. The initial registered agent at the address shall be Chris McLaughlin.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**INCORPORATOR**

The name and address of the incorporator is:

**NAME:**

Chris McLaughlin

**ADDRESS:**

229 N Tennessee Ave.  
Lakeland, Florida 33801

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**NO PRIVATE INUREMENT**

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any director, member, trustee, officer or the corporation or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the corporation affecting one or more of its purposes), and no member, trustee, officer of the corporation, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the corporation.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**DISTRIBUTIONS UPON DISSOLUTION**

Upon the dissolution of this corporation, assets remaining after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the corporation shall be distributed exclusively for the purposes of the corporation or for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code to a charitable, scientific, religious, literary, or educational organization which at that time qualifies as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its Regulations as they now exist or as they may be amended.

**ARTICLE X**  
**DIRECTORS**

The affairs and property of this corporation shall be managed and governed by a Board of Directors, composed of not less than three (3) individuals. The number of Directors may

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thereafter be increased or decreased from time to time in accordance with the bylaws of the corporation; provided that in no event shall the corporation have less than three (3) Directors.

The Board of Directors may, by resolution or resolutions, passed by a majority of the Board, designate one or more committees, which to the extent provided in said resolution or resolutions or in the bylaws of the corporation shall have and may exercise all the powers of the Board of Directors in the management of the activities and affairs of the corporation and may have the power to authorize the seal of the corporation to be affixed to all papers which may require it; and such committee or committees shall have such name or names as may be stated in the bylaws of the corporation or may be determined from time to time by resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors.


The corporation may in its bylaws confer powers upon its Board of Directors in addition to the foregoing, and in addition to the powers and authorities expressly conferred upon them by statute.

The following individuals shall constitute the initial Board of Directors:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
President/ Treasurer	Chris McLaughlin	229 N. Tennessee Ave. Lakeland FL 33801
Secretary	Stacey Zaychuk	229 N. Tennessee Ave. Lakeland FL 33801
Director	Brian Nash	229 N. Tennessee Ave. Lakeland FL 33801

For the purpose of forming this corporation not for profit under the laws of the State of Florida, I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided for Section 817.155, Florida Statutes.

**INCORPORATOR:**

  
Chris McLaughlin

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32310


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**CONSENT OF REGISTERED AGENT**

Having been named as Registered Agent to accept service of process for MS Friends United, Inc. at the office designated in the foregoing Articles, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as Registered Agent and agree to act in this capacity.

**REGISTERED AGENT:**

  
Chris McLaughlin

Date: October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Address:  
229 N. Tennessee Ave.  
Lakeland, Florida 33801

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