



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **Minnesota Non-Profit Wins Community Advancement Award**

*The Sanneh Foundation and Local Volunteers Receive International Recognition*

St. Paul, MN. (October 9, 2019) – Last Saturday, the Project Management Institute Education Foundation (PMIEF) announced that The Sanneh Foundation (TSF) was the non-profit partner of its 2019 Community Advancement Through Project Management Award. The award, given jointly to The Sanneh Foundation Advisory Board Member Dr. Michael O'Connor and The Sanneh Foundation as a nonprofit partner, recognizes the extraordinary pro bono contribution of project managers in increasing the capacities of nonprofit and non-governmental organizations.

Dr. O'Connor, Director of Strategy and Project Management at Medtronic and Adjunct Professor of multiple Metro State University MIS Capstone classes, has worked with students in his course over the last several years to provide 422 hours on five (5) projects for an estimated total of \$145,000 in pro bono supports. The projects with Metro State students include technology build-outs at the Conway Community Center, as well as on-boarding strategies for staff and volunteers through G-Suites.

The Sanneh Foundation also received a \$5,000 donation during the October 5, 2019 ceremony at the PMI awards gala in Philadelphia, PA. Dr. O'Connor said of The Sanneh Foundation and his work, "I see a real value that comes from engaging students with The Sanneh Foundation and bringing projects to life to better serve this organization. Over the past years, students have not only supported different projects with The Sanneh Foundation, but also learned more about the many things the organization does for youth and families in our community, and how they can continue supporting nonprofits in the future."

Tony Sanneh, TSF Founder and CEO, said of the award, "For The Sanneh Foundation to receive its second major award for a collaboration with another of Minnesota's incredible higher education institutions really highlights our belief in the importance of partnerships to deliver on our mission of advancing community through youth development." Sanneh added, "It also shows the impact we can make when we partner with mission driven volunteers who invest their time, energy, and expertise to expand developmental opportunities, from technology infrastructure for youth at community centers like Conway, to pathways to careers in teaching and education for young adults."

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**About The Sanneh Foundation:** The Sanneh Foundation (TSF) is a Saint Paul, Minnesota based 501(c)3 created to serve the holistic youth development needs of the increasingly diverse state of Minnesota. TSF's mission is to empower youth by supporting and promoting educational attainment through in-school and after-school support, improve lives by providing programs that strengthen physical health and social and emotional development, and unite communities by advancing diversity, equity, and community well-being. For more information, visit [www.thesannehfoundation.org](http://www.thesannehfoundation.org).

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**About the PMI Educational Foundation:** The PMI Educational Foundation (PMIEF) is a 501(c)(3) supporting organization of Project Management Institute (PMI), the world's leading not-for-profit professional membership association for those who consider project, program, or portfolio management their profession. Founded in 1990, PMIEF cultivates long-term relationships with nonprofits across the globe to help them integrate project management in their youth programs and to build their own project management capacity. The foundation achieves its mission to “enable youth to realize their potential and transform lives through project management” and its vision for “inspiring youth to achieve their goals, making dreams a reality” through the generosity of individual and corporate donors as well as the PMI community. For additional information, visit [www.pmief.org](http://www.pmief.org).