

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990EZ for instructions and the latest information.

A For the 2023 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2023 , and ending 12-31-2023

B Check if applicable:
☐ Address change
☐ Name change
☐ Initial return
☐ Final return/terminated
☐ Amended return
☐ Application pending

C Name of organization
TENNESSEE EQUALITY PROJECT

Number and street (or P. O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address)Room/suite
PO BOX 330895

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
NASHVILLE, TN 37203

D Employer identification number
20-1627192

E Telephone number
(615) 390-5252

F Group Exemption Number

G Accounting Method: ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual Other (specify) ☐

H Check ☐ if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

I Website: WWW.TNEP.ORG

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) ☐ 501(c)(3) ☒ 501(c)(4) (insert no. ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

K Form of organization: ☒ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ \$ 107,698

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I ☒

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	107,698
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	
	4	Investment income	4	
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
	c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
	6	Gaming and fundraising events		
	a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
	b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000).	6b	
	c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	
	d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	
	7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	
	b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	
	c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	
	8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	
	9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	107,698
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	
	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	37,549
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	692
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	26,268
	17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	64,509
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	43,189
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	12,196
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	
	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	55,385

Part II

Balance Sheets

(see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	12,196	22	55,385
23 Land and buildings		23	
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)		24	
25 Total assets	12,196	25	55,385
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O).		26	
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	12,196	27	55,385

Part III

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

(see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?
TO PROMOTE EQUALITY FOR LGBT CITIZENS OF TENNESSEE

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

28 GRASSROOTS LOBBYING EFFORTS ADVOCATING FOR LGBT RIGHTS AND EQUAL TREATMENT AT THE LOCAL AND STATE LEVELS WITHIN TENNESSEE.

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here

28a21,750

29 DIRECT LOBBYING EFFORTS ADVOCATING AND PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF LGBT CITIZENS OF TENNESSEE.

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here

29a35,000

30

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here

30a

31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)

(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here

31a

32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)

3256,750

Expenses
(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)

Part IV

List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees

(list each one even if not compensated ; see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV.

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
CHRISTOPHER SANDERS	15.00	0		
EXECUTIVE DI				
GINGER LEONARD	5.00	0		
CHAIR & PRES				
CARLA FENSWICK	1.00	0		
BOARD MEMBER				
BRENDA GADD	2.00	0		
SECRETARY				
BRENDON HOLLOWAY	2.00	0		
TREASURER				
MICHAEL FLUCK	2.00	0		
VICE PRESIDE				
PAUL BRISCO	1.00	0		
BOARD MEMBER				
DAKERRI RHONE	1.00	0		
BOARD MEMBER				

Form 990-EZ (2023)

Part V

Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V.

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O	33	No
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O. See instructions.	34	No
35a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?	35a	No
b	If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	35b	
c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	35c	No
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36	No
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions.	37a	
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	No
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	No
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911; section 4912; section 4955		
b	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	No
c	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958		
d	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization		
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	No
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed.		
42a	The organization's books are in care of CARSON & MCKINNEY CPAS Telephone no. (615) 367-2476 Located at 2723 BERRYWOOD DRIVE NASHVILLE, TN ZIP + 4 37204		
		Yes	No
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country:	42b	No
	See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U.S.? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country:	42c	No
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year	43	
		Yes	No
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44a	No
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	No
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	No
d	If "Yes," to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	No
45b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)	45b	No

		Yes	No
46	Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I.		No

Part VI

Section 501(c)(3) Organizations Only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47- 49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

	Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI	Yes	No
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		
48	Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?		
49b	If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?		

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ▶

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000. ▶

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **NOTE.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A ▶ ☐ Yes ☐ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	Signature of officer		2024-06-25			
	CHRISTOPHER SANDERS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR		Date			
Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name CHAD MCKINNEY CPAPFS		Preparer's signature	Date 2024-06-25	Check ☒ if self-employed	PTIN P01080723
	Firm's name ▶ CARSON & MCKINNEY CPAS PLLC				Firm's EIN ▶ 45-5144567	
	Firm's address ▶ 2723 BERRYWOOD DR NASHVILLE, TN 37204				Phone no. (615) 367-2476	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions ▶ ☒ Yes ☐ No

Additional Data

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Software ID:

Software Version:

Form 990-EZ, Special Condition Description:

Special Condition Description

Schedule B (Form 990) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Schedule of Contributors ▶ Attach to Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF. ▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.	OMB No. 1545-0047
		2023
Name of the organization TENNESSEE EQUALITY PROJECT		Employer identification number 20-1627192

Organization type (check one):

Filers of:	Section:
Form 990 or 990-EZ	☐ 501(c)() (enter number) organization
	☐ 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust not treated as a private foundation
	☐ 527 political organization
Form 990-PF	☐ 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
	☐ 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation
	☐ 501(c)(3) taxable private foundation

Check if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.
Note: Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.

General Rule

☐ For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or other property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33¹/₃% support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of **(1)** \$5,000 or **(2)** 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.
- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.
- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Don't complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year ▶ \$ _____

Caution: An organization that isn't covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules doesn't file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990; or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it doesn't meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

Employer identification number
20-1627192

Contributors

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
RESTRICTED		\$ RESTRICTED	☐ Person
			☐ Payroll
			☐ Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	☐ Person
			☐ Payroll
			☐ Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	☐ Person
			☐ Payroll
			☐ Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	☐ Person
			☐ Payroll
			☐ Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	☐ Person
			☐ Payroll
			☐ Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	☐ Person
			☐ Payroll
			☐ Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	☐ Person
			☐ Payroll
			☐ Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	☐ Person
			☐ Payroll
			☐ Noncash (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)

Name of organization TENNESSEE EQUALITY PROJECT	Employer identification number 20-1627192
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Part II

Noncash Property (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
-		\$	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
-		\$	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
-		\$	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
-		\$	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
-		\$	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
-		\$	

Name of organization TENNESSEE EQUALITY PROJECT	Employer identification number 20-1627192
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Part III

Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions of \$1,000 or less for the year. (Enter this information once. See instructions.) ▶ \$

Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4	Relationship of transferor to transferee	
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4	Relationship of transferor to transferee	
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4	Relationship of transferor to transferee	
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4	Relationship of transferor to transferee	

Additional Data

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2023**Open to Public
Inspection****SCHEDULE O**
(Form 990)Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ****Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.****Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.****Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.**Name of the organization
TENNESSEE EQUALITY PROJECT**Employer identification number**

20-1627192

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990- EZ, PART I, LINE 16	EXPENSES ADVERTISING 1,159 OFFICE SUPPLIES 1,669 TECHNOLOGY EXPENSES 6,933 TRAVEL 444 CONFERENCES & MEETINGS 1,296 INSURANCE 735 BANK/PAYPAL FEES 2,938 BUSINESS FEES 170 DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS 268 EVENT COSTS 72 FUNDRAISING EXPENSES 200 SHARED SERVICE EXPENSE 10,384 TOTAL 26,268

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