

Nikhil Parida: (Founder and Chief Operating Officer)



- **Profile**

- Nikhil is a Junior at Round Rock High School in Austin Texas. He says “community service enables me to advocate for education and health, causes that are special to me. Each experience has been unique and enriching, affording me the opportunity to acquire new skills outside the classroom, anchoring me to reality”.

- **Leadership**

- Nikhil founded ‘HEARD - Healthy Resources for Displaced Children’, a community and school-based non-profit organization that provides a variety of resources to promote physical activity and mental well-being among displaced (refugee, immigrant) children to enable them to lead a healthy and balanced lifestyle.
- As the ‘Chief Operating Officer’ at HEARD, he forges strategic partnerships and relationships with clients, vendors, banks, investors and other professional business relationships.
- Nikhil founded and led the RRHS Mountain Biking Club that focuses on improving the physical, mental, social wellbeing of the club members at his high school. This club helped members stay active and connected following social distancing norms and to contribute towards several community improvement initiatives.

- **Volunteering**

- Nikhil is passionate about community service and has logged in over 200 hours of volunteering time at Charitable/501(c) (3) organizations such as the Round Rock Serving Center, Mathnasium, HC4A, and Light & Salt Academy over the last 4 years
- Over the past couple of years, he has been tutoring and organizing donation drives for displaced children

- **Passion**

- Nikhil loves tennis and he currently plays varsity team tennis (since freshman year) and other competitive USTA Tennis (since he was 10 yrs old).
- He is also an avid mountain biker and makes time to explore the different levels of trails in and around the Austin area with his friends and fellow club members.

- **Work Experience**

- Unpaid (volunteer) work as the Chief Operating Officer at HEARD Non-profit organization where he partners closely with the management team (Board of Directors & other Officers) to oversee the day-to-day administrative and operational functions in alignment with the Non-Profit’s mission, objectives, and goals since Aug 2021.

- **Awards/Honors**

- President’s Volunteer Service Award (Gold) - (Mar 2023)
- City of Round Rock Mayor Recognition award for Students who have gone “Above & Beyond” (Jan, 2023)
- Nikhil is an Honor Roll student throughout his middle and so far in high school, and is currently a member of NJHS - National Junior Honors Society, NSHSS - National Society of High School Scholars, SNHS - Science National Honors Society, NSTEM - National STEM Honor Society, and Mu Alpha Theta - National High School Mathematics Honor Society.