



The Louisville Sustainability Council Announces the Do Something Green Community Microgrant Awardees

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Louisville, Kentucky – The Louisville Sustainability Council (LSC) is pleased to announce, through its Do Something Green Program, 4 microgrants totaling \$5,000 were awarded on March 1, 2021. During this first ever grant cycle, over 21 applications were received and over \$50,000 requested by a wide array of organizations and non-profits focused on diverse projects and programs to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and plan for the impact of a warmer future on our most vulnerable citizens.

The Do Something Green Microgrant Program is generously sponsored by Kroger, Yum! Brands, PNC, the Snowy Owl Foundation, and Partnership for a Green City.

The funding recipients and their projects are:

The Muse Farm – Black Market KY – A five-week intensive workshop series that will teach West End residents about horticulture, agri-business, and fundraising to cultivate a richer understanding of food systems. 100% of seeds/food will be purchased from local Black farmers. Participants will be paid a stipend upon program completion.

The Garden Project - Field Elementary School - The Garden Project program is focused on positively impacting our youth and encouraging healthy lifestyle choices by helping children understand the value and importance of locally grown produce, nutritiously balanced meals with fresh vegetables and herbs, and the importance of supporting local growers reducing the need to transport cross-county. By educating future generations on the impact even a small garden has on the environment we cannot always see, we can inform students about the benefits of a garden in absorbing carbon dioxide and minimizing the urban heat island effects.

Energy Conservation Outreach Program - KY Interfaith Power and Light - Targeted communities who are disproportionately affected by pollution and climate change deserve attention when focusing on energy conservation. Communities of color, Black Kentuckians, and low-income communities are directly impacted as a result of abusive industry practices that create pollution, harmful drinking water, and conditions for lower life expectancy. The targets for the Energy Conservation Outreach program are faith communities with median incomes at or below the federal poverty level for Kentucky. Many low-income communities suffer from both the financial drain of heating and cooling aging buildings used for faith worship as well as being disproportionately affected by poor air quality. This grant allows expansion of an ongoing outreach program that works alongside houses of worship and charitable organizations that serve low-income communities to reduce their energy impact through a combination of reducing their carbon footprint and shifting to renewable energy

Jefferson Memorial Forest Electric Vehicle Charging Station - Evolve KY - This dual-charging station will be free for public use and advances grassroots efforts led by Evolve KY to create an even distribution of electronic vehicles (EV) infrastructure throughout the city. This project also includes a component to educate the general public on the benefits of EVs, and the importance of reducing GHG emissions via promotional materials shared on the social media accounts of Wilderness Louisville, Inc., and Evolve KY.



The next grant cycle will commence in November, 2021 and will be open to any person or organization with a project dedicated to community sustainability, resilience, and equity. For more information on the Microgrant Project and the LSC, please visit <https://www.louisvillesustainabilitycouncil.org/microgrant>.

The LSC was born in 2010 when a small group of the Bingham Fellows cohort, assigned the topic “To Position Louisville as a Green Leader”, decided to carry on efforts locally for advancing sustainability. Ten years later, and the LSC is stronger than ever, connecting and convening organizations and individuals through various community programs and events. The LSC gives businesses and organizations the exposure to reach local lives while connecting the community to the tools and resources they need to stay informed and make sustainable lifestyle changes.

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