

## **Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District 2019 Organics Diversion Grant Selection Summary**

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### **Background**

As approved by the Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District (District) Policy Committee on July 19, 2018, the Organics Diversion Grant is designed to assist communities, schools, non-profits and for-profit organizations with innovative organics waste reduction and recycling programs that significantly reduce waste in Hamilton County, Ohio. The grant focuses on wasted food and yard trimmings. A total of \$100,000 is allocated for the 2019 Organics Diversion Grant.

### **Selection of Funding**

A Grant Review Committee, made up of Department of Environmental Services' staff, has reviewed and selected the following grant projects to recommend for funding:

- City of Wyoming, Wyoming City Schools, Wyoming PSA Green Team \$5,093.17
- Keep Cincinnati Beautiful \$2,274.98
- La Soupe, Inc. \$15,000.00
- Saint Ursula Academy \$350.22
- White Oak Middle School Student Council \$326.00

### **Criteria for Funding**

The Grant Review Committee evaluated each applicant based on the following criteria:

- Focus on grant priorities
- Cost-effectively diverts a significant amount of waste and/or reaches a significant number of people
- Shows plans for sustainable funding in the future
- Demonstrates ability to complete project objectives in a cost-effective manner
- Application complete and easy to understand
- Application includes detailed information on proposed equipment
- If received funds in the past, grant administration was positive
- Innovative and can be used as a model by others

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### **Grant Proposals Recommended for Funding**

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| <b>Applicant:</b>                | <b>City of Wyoming, Wyoming City Schools, Wyoming PSA Green Team</b>   |
| <b>Project Title:</b>            | Wyoming Composts   |
| <b>Grant Amount:</b>             | \$5,093.17   |
| <b>Estimated Waste Diverted:</b> | 1,050 + Pounds/Year  |
| <b>Estimated People Reached:</b> | 2,068 +  |
| <b>Project Summary:</b>          | This group is requesting funds to build compost bins at the middle school, high school, and community garden. The community garden site will be used to pilot a community and restaurant compost drop-off. They are also requesting funds to purchase waste sorting stations for the high school to assist in capturing food scraps. |

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| <b>Applicant:</b>                | <b>Keep Cincinnati Beautiful</b>   |
| <b>Project Title:</b>            | One Ton, One Year Organic Diversion Project  |
| <b>Grant Amount:</b>             | \$2,274.98   |
| <b>Estimated Waste Diverted:</b> | 1 Ton/Year   |
| <b>Estimated People Reached:</b> | 27,000/Year  |
| <b>Project Summary:</b>          | Keep Cincinnati Beautiful is requesting funds for portable compost collection equipment to collect organics at events and clean-ups. Keep Cincinnati Beautiful is also requesting funds for equipment to start an on-site composting program for the City of Cincinnati's Department of Public Services Administration Building. |

**Applicant:** La Soupe, Inc.  
**Project Title:** La Soupe/Food Rescue US  
**Grant Amount:** \$15,000.00  
**Estimated Waste Diverted:** 350 Tons/Year  
**Estimated People Reached:** 35-40 Restaurants Donating Prepared Food  
**Project Summary:** La Soupe, Inc. is requesting funds to hire a part time, temporary employee to connect restaurants to the Food Rescue US network to divert surplus food from being thrown away at the end of service and redirect it to agencies who feed those in need.

**Applicant:** Saint Ursula Academy  
**Project Title:** Saint Ursula Academy Sustainability Initiative  
**Grant Amount:** \$350.22  
**Estimated Waste Diverted:** 3 Tons/Year  
**Estimated People Reached:** 1600 +  
**Project Summary:** Saint Ursula Academy is requesting funds to purchase a wood chipper, leaf mulcher, and compost bin to convert campus yard trimmings into mulch and compost to be used in the campus gardens.

**Applicant:** White Oak Middle School Student Council  
**Project Title:** White Oak Middle School Composting Project  
**Grant Amount:** \$326.00  
**Estimated Waste Diverted:** 4 Tons/Year  
**Estimated People Reached:** 850  
**Project Summary:** White Oak Middle School Student Council is requesting funds to purchase a compost bin, aerating equipment, and scale to compost cafeteria fruit and vegetable scraps. Finished compost will be used in the school garden and student memorial area.

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### **Grant Proposals Not Recommended for Funding**

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Based on grant review committee's Criteria for Funding ranking, and not meeting the application requirements, the following proposals are not recommended for funding:

#### **Fourth Harvest, LLC**

Fourth Harvest, LLC is requesting \$20,000 for warehouse space, advertising, a warehouse/transportation supervisor salary, insurance, "food transport", and "misc".

#### **Last Mile Food Rescue**

Last Mile Food Rescue is requesting \$16,000 or \$10,000 for educational flyers, advertising/promotion, "website content", and "legal services/scheduling tools".