Latest recipients of Affordable Housing Trust Fund awards

The City of Lawrence is excited to share more information on the eight projects receiving Affordable Housing Trust Fund awards as part of the 2023 funding cycle.

Affordable housing has been and will continue to be a priority for our organization. Within the strategic plan outcome area of Strong, Welcoming Neighborhoods, the City has outlined the goal of reducing the percent of households that are experiencing housing stress, including both renters and owners. One of the City’s strategies for this goal is creating more ownership options for low- and moderate-income residents by increasing the supply of affordable housing options.

Eligible projects for funding from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund include the acquisition, rehabilitation and development of affordable housing and supportive services that help people in the community stay housed and have access to independent living with dignity.

The following organizations and projects were selected to receive funds in 2023.

**Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center** will be awarded $108,000 for a new development supportive and rehabilitative permanent housing project. The project will create 22-24 housing units above a commercial space that will be used for jobs training and development for residents.

**DCCCA, Inc.** will be awarded $200,000 for a new development of affordable transitional homes. The project will create 10 units that will house women who are recovering from substance abuse, as well as their children.

**The Douglas County Housing Stabilization Collaborative** will be awarded $350,000 for support services to provide rental and utility assistance to those experiencing housing instability so they are able to remain housed.

**Flint Hills Holdings Group, LLC** will be awarded $100,000 for an affordable multi-family housing development called the New Hampshire St. lofts. Located at 1000 New Hampshire St., the building will have 48 affordable housing units on the upper floors with commercial space on the first floor.

**Independence, Inc.** will be awarded $50,000 for the Accessible Housing Program, which allows seniors and people with disabilities to make needed accessibility changes to their home.

**The Senior Resource Center for Douglas County** will be awarded $53,000 for accessible safe housing for seniors. The Senior Resource Center will use the funds for low-income seniors who need assistance with maintenance and accessibility modifications to keep them aging-in-place safely in their homes.

**Wheatland Investments Group, LLC** will be awarded $400,000 for an affordable multi-family housing development called The Estates of Lawrence. This is a new construction rental project targeted to seniors. It will have 16 two-bedroom units and 22 three-bedroom units.

To view all projects supported through the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, you can visit the Affordable Housing Advisory Board projects dashboard on our website: lawrenceks.org/pds/affordable-housing/trust-fund.

City information is available at lawrenceks.org and on cable Channel 25.
The Flame is published by the City Manager’s Office, 785-832-3400.
City of Lawrence Contacts

Utility billing customer service (City utilities include water, wastewater, stormwater and solid waste):
785-832-7878

Municipal Services & Operations main administrative line, including inquiries about street maintenance:
785-832-7800

Solid waste customer service, including trash, recycling, yard waste and the household hazardous waste facility: 785-832-3032

Planning & Development Services main administrative line, including Planner of the Day: 785-832-7700

Municipal Court: 785-832-6190

Non-emergency police inquiries, including animal control: 785-832-7509

Non-emergency Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical inquiries: 785-830-7000

Parks & Recreation main administrative line: 785-832-3450

Community Building: 785-832-7920

East Lawrence Recreation Center: 785-832-7950

Holcom Recreation Center: 785-832-7940

Sports Pavilion: 785-330-7355

Lawrence Transit main administrative line: 785-864-4644

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Compost Facility to open for season on March 4

The City of Lawrence Compost Facility reopens to the public for the 2023 season on Saturday, March 4. The facility, located at 1420 E. 11th St., which is east of 11th St. and Haskell Ave. and over the railroad tracks, will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays until December 16 (weather permitting). The hours are subject to change without notice due to weather or other unrelated issues (notice will be given when possible).

The compost facility offers an important service to our community members as it allows you both to drop off yard waste and purchase compost or woodchips for use in your own yard. Lawrence Community Compost is made from the yard trimmings and small woody debris collected curbside as well as grass clippings, leaves, and woody debris from some commercial lawn care providers.

As we (hopefully) near the end of winter and residents get started with spring yard work, you may have a need to dispose of brush and yard waste. You can drop off brush, leaves, grass clippings, garden waste and prunings from trees and shrubs, at the compost facility. Dropoffs start at $10, but it may cost more for large loads.

Materials not accepted at the Compost Facility include lumber, pallets, sod, stones, rope, fill dirt, food waste, metal and plastic.

Residents can also purchase compost or woodchips at the facility. Most Saturdays, the compost and woodchips must be self-loaded, and residents must bring a shovel. The cost is $10 per pickup truck load (more for larger trucks). If a resident is interested in self-loading small quantities, like a small bag or a plastic tote, that is free.

City staff will only be on-hand to help load compost and woodchips on these Saturdays (open an extra hour from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.): April 1, May 6, June 3, August 19 and October 7, subject to the availability of material.

The compost facility will be closed over Memorial Day weekend, Independence Day weekend, Labor Day weekend and Thanksgiving weekend.

More information, including up-to-date news on operations, is on our website: lawrenceks.org/swm/compost-facility

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Compost Facility Guidelines

Customers must bring their own tools (e.g., shovels, pitchforks) to load and unload.

Personal motorized loading equipment (e.g., skid steer) is not allowed.

Gates to the facility will close promptly. All customers must be out of the facility by closing time.

Do NOT stop on the railroad tracks while waiting to enter the facility.

All transactions are CASH ONLY. Please bring exact change.

Absolutely no bills larger than $20 will be accepted.