

# City of Lawrence Outside Agency Bi-annual Report 2016

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at [dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org](mailto:dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org). Reports on activities from January 2016 to June 2016 are due on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2016. Cumulative reports on activities from January 2016 through December 2016 are due on February 15<sup>th</sup> 2017.

## Agency Name:

### Reporting Period (please check one):

☒ January - June  
(deadline July 15)

☐ January – December  
(deadline February 15)

1. Give a brief narrative of the activities that were funded with City funds over the reporting period checked above.

Since January, 2016, City funds have helped Sunrise Project with operating costs to accomplish many activities that have benefited the community:

Little Nations (LN) child care center joined Healthy Sprouts and Sunrise staff members have been offering farm to preschool support in a more focused way at LN and also at Positive Bright Start, Ballard Community Services and Children's Learning Center, some of the lowest-income child care centers in Lawrence.

Food Rocket after school cooking and gardening club expanded from Cordley Elementary to also include New York Elementary. We were able to offer cooking experiences once a month at each school and gardening experiences once a month at Cordley (New York has its own gardening club).

Lawrence Fruit Tree Project continues to engage new participants at each Lawrence Community Orchard work day and through spring pruning and grafting workshops.

Sunrise Project officially began facilitating Summer of Service (previously of United Way of Douglas County) and has matched nearly 60 youth ages 12-18 with volunteer projects at nonprofit organizations throughout the community including Lawrence Community Shelter, Just Food, Hidden Valley Camp, Humane Society and many more.

2. Provide specific detail (and supportive documents, if needed) to demonstrate progress made toward your goals/objectives.

Through cooking, gardening and community engagement experiences at child care centers, schools, Lawrence Community Orchard and other nonprofit organizations, Sunrise Project is making progress toward our goals of increasing access to fresh fruits and vegetables, improving our local food system and increasing community self-reliance. For instance, 74% of Food Rocket participants reported learning a new culinary skill and 84% reported trying a new food. While we are still compiling data from other programs, approximately 40 people have visited Lawrence Community Orchard over the past two months and the majority of Summer of Service youth have reported an increased interest in volunteering and community involvement.

3. How have you impacted the citizens of Lawrence?

Sunrise Project has impacted citizens of all ages in Lawrence by engaging new voices and offering welcoming and inclusive opportunities to grow, cook and eat healthy foods, as well as become more active in the community (a key component of individual health). City funding has helped us to focus on underrepresented populations in Lawrence and gain feedback from those communities on how to address barriers to health. Sunrise Project provides educational and skill-building programs, driven by the communities we serve, which inspire and empower all citizens, particularly low-income and youth, to incorporate healthy practices into their daily lives.

4. What barriers, if any, have you encountered?

The main barrier we face is the slow progress toward occupying 1501 Learnard Ave., the former Sunrise Garden Center site. However, we anticipate beginning renovations very soon and being able to move in by winter. Once established on-site, Sunrise Project looks forward to engaging even more people who live in the surrounding area and beyond. The site will serve as a neighborhood and community space for skill-building and health-enhancing workshops and programming.

5. Review the line-item budget you provided in your application. How much of your allocation has been spent?

Sunrise Project has spent half of the City funding provided: \$3,415.