



Community Grants

The Sprout Fund Supports 8 New Projects to Advance One Northside Vision

Program Background & Context

One Northside is a community-driven initiative to improve the quality of life in all 18 neighborhoods of the Northside. Since early 2014, hundreds of Northside residents have engaged with local leaders and stakeholders in community-wide conversations to create a shared agenda for the revitalization of this vital component of the greater Pittsburgh region.

In 2015, in partnership with **The Buhl Foundation**, **The Sprout Fund** is providing catalytic support to advance the One Northside vision. After supporting 50 citizen-led projects with Neighbor-to-Neighbor micro grants, Sprout invited neighborhood organizations, community groups, and citizen's councils that demonstrate service to targeted communities and/or locales within the 18 neighborhoods of Pittsburgh's Northside to request support of **up to \$10,000** through the One Northside Community Grants.

For more information on the program, visit sproutfund.org/northside.

Community Grants Criteria

One Northside Community Grants support Northside neighborhood organizations for the development and implementation of projects that respond to local opportunities and advance the quality of place, education, or employment on the Northside. For this grant pool, each community's local leaders and major stakeholder organizations worked through a consensus-building process to design one engaging project that will advance the One Northside vision.

To be eligible for support, organizations committed to hosting at least **1 community engagement and/or public brainstorming session** to generate and discuss project ideas with local residents. In addition to a complete project plan, organizations submitted a **50-signature petition** and **letters of support** to demonstrate community and stakeholder buy-in. Lastly, all Northside Leadership Conference member organizations were endorsed in a letter of support from NSLC Executive Director Mark Fatla.

First Round of Applications for Authorization

For the **September 18** deadline, Sprout received **8 eligible applications**. Pending Buhl Foundation approval, the following projects will be considered for authorization on or before October 30, 2015. *Projects are listed alphabetically by neighborhood name. Additional details including full applications and supporting materials are available upon request.*

Allegheny West

Project Rejuvenation is a quality of place project for **Allegheny West** from the **Allegheny West Civic Council**. The project creates an action plan that identifies and strategizes how to act on opportunities that address quality of place issues in the neighborhood. The topics of concern will be determined by community stakeholders including homeowners, renters, landlords, business owners, and employees. A community celebration at the end of the project will be used to present the final plan to the community. Funding will be used to pay for the services of Paschek Associates, a Northside-based urban planning and design organization. *Letters of support are in process and expected before authorization.*

Central Northside

Transforming Sampsonia Way into a Model of Green Infrastructure and Artful Stormwater Management is a quality of place project for **Allegheny Center** and **Central Northside** from the **Allegheny City Central Association**. The project is the first step in transforming a dilapidated streetscape into a model of green infrastructure that engages residents and visitors in design, while educating the community about sustainable urban landscapes. Funding will be used to pay for

the services of Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc., who will develop concept designs to create an inviting, pedestrian friendly space filled with vegetation and art while also reducing storm water outfalls and the local urban heat island by planting trees, green roofs, and rain gardens. Letters of support for this proposal were received from Walter P. Carson, Associate Professor and University of Pittsburgh Fellow of Sustainability; Diane Samuels and Henry Reese, homeowners on Sampsonia Way and Co-Founders of City of Asylum on Sampsonia Way; and Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc., the consulting firm that has been chosen for the project.

Chateau

MCG Youth & Arts is a quality of education project for **Chateau, Manchester, Marshall-Shadeland, and Perry North / Observatory Hill** from **Manchester Craftsmen's Guild**. The project engages eighth-grade youth that attend Pittsburgh Public schools on the Northside in artmaking activities at Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, giving them the opportunity to explore the studios and participate in two make-it-and-take-it activities. The goal of the project is to introduce Northside youth to the empowering atmosphere and experiential learning available through MCG's programming in order to improve their likelihood of taking part in such activities during high school. Funding will be used for program materials and supplies, studio facility fees, and to pay teaching artists and staff. *Letters of support are in process and expected before authorization.*

East Allegheny / Deutschtown

Public Art Mural is a quality of place project for **East Allegheny / Deutschtown** from the **East Allegheny Community Council**. The project engages a local artist to create a mural that highlights positive aspects of area, with a committee of residents and business owners ultimately selecting the mural design. The mural will replace a blank wall in the business district where large community events occur on a regular basis. The funding will be used for the design, materials, and installation of the mural in addition to the preparation of the building surface. Letters of support for this proposal were received from Darlene M. Harris, Councilwoman for District 1 of the City of Pittsburgh, and Barbara Burns, a local resident and business owner on East Ohio Street.

Manchester

Manchester Pittsburgh: Clean, Green, Beautiful is a quality of place project for **Chateau and Manchester** from **Manchester Citizens Corporation**. The project increases the number of Free Little Libraries and trash receptacles in the area, particularly along bus stops and areas of high traffic, and also supports tree care in the Chateau Corridor. Young adults are encouraged to become involved through workshops that teach tree care, carpentry, and design skills as they help build Little Free Libraries and beautify the neighborhood. Funding will be used for landscaping tools, trash receptacles, and materials to build Little Free Libraries. Letters of support for this proposal were received from Jen Kullgren, Community Forester at Tree Pittsburgh.

Perry North / Observatory Hill

Observatory Hill Business District Revitalization Project is a quality of place project for **Perry North / Observatory Hill** from **Observatory Hill Incorporated**. This project focuses on providing financial assistance to refresh the business district with the intention of helping to encourage residents and investors to patronize the area. Funding will be used to provide the 11 existing business owners with budgets of up to \$750 to implement necessary updates to their businesses, such as signage, planters, and paint. Letters of support for this proposal were received from Michael Payne, Notary Public/Co-Owner of M&A Community Services; Dorrie Smith, President of DSMI Group Inc.; and John Richie, Observatory Hill Homeowner.

Perry South / Perry Hilltop

Expanding Youth Opportunities in Perry Hilltop is a quality of education project for **Perry South / Perry Hilltop** from the **Perry Hilltop Citizens Council**. The project provides financial assistance to help families in need afford educational programming and enrichment activities at The Pittsburgh Project and Ms. Terry's Project. Funding will be used for scholarships for afterschool programs, summer camps, and field trips along with pool passes to Fowler Pool. Additionally,

funding will support family events organized by Ms. Terry throughout 2015-16. Letters of support for this proposal were received from Ms. Terry Pegues, Owner of Aunt Terry's Daycare and Founder of Ms. Terry's Project, and William D. Thompkins, Executive Director of The Pittsburgh Project.

Spring Hill / City View

Asylgärten Community Park is a quality of place project for **Spring Hill / City View** from **Spring Hill Civic League (SHCL)**. This project continues the development of Asylgärten, a community owned and supported greenspace, by creating a natural play space adjacent to the family picnic area, functional public art, and infrastructure that will allow the SHCL to host more neighborhood events. Funding will be used to turn on water at the park, level the land, and run a request for proposal process for local artists to create natural play spaces, functional garden art, and site signage. Additionally, a grill pit, lighting, and waste receptacles will be purchased for the park with the grant. Letters of support for this proposal were received from Darlene M. Harris, Councilwoman for District 1 of the City of Pittsburgh, and Robert Sobocinski, President of Steel City Boxing Association located in Spring Hill.