



NORTHEAST  
COMMUNITY  
CENTERZONE

# US Conference of Mayors Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant Award

Expansion of Spokane's Student-Led Youth Wellness Zone

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# Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant

## Healthy Communities

- Increasing access to fresh foods
- empowering community members to engage about issues that directly impact their health and well-being

## Environmental Health & Sustainability

- Food waste reduction initiatives, composting
- Projects that develop parks and other open spaces



Funded by the American Beverage Association

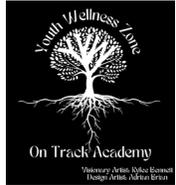


# Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant

- 1<sup>st</sup> place
- Mid-size city (pop. 75,000-250,000)
- \$200,000
- Awarded to support expansion of the Youth Wellness Zone, an initiative of the Northeast Community Center



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**Youth Wellness Zone**

Spokane, WA

MEDIUM CITY



# Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant



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- Expand the Ziltch Project composting program to nearby schools
- Expand fresh food distribution through OnTrack Academy
  - Partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank
- Construct 2 year-round greenhouses to support fresh food access



# Healthy and Sustainable Communities Grant

- Build on existing partnerships
- Integrate civic engagement and leadership development opportunities
- Funding for staffing support and program coordination





# Anticipated outcomes

- Increased academic engagement and graduation rates, evidenced by the first cohort's success
- Expanded access to nutritious food for students and community members through greenhouse and produce distribution projects.
- Environmental impact, including composting outcomes (reduced food waste) and biodiversity gains from native plantings in the Schoolyard Forest.
- Increased civic participation among participants





# Alignment with City Plans and Policies

- Sustainability Action Plan (2021)
- Spokane Regional Food Action Plan (2022)
- Comprehensive Plan (2017)
- Spokane Regional Health District 2024-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment



# Thank you! Questions?

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