

**ON THE TABLE
GRANT APPLICATION**

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Name: SPARK COMMUNITY CAFE

Mailing Address: PO Box 873 Versailles KY 40383

Staff Contact Name:

Tristan Ferrell

Phone Number: 859-576-3238

Email Address: tferrell9701@gmail.com

Rachael Kral

Phone Number: 859-492-0247

Email Address: Rachael.kral@gmail.com

Katie Beth Craig

Phone Number: 859-576-4074

Email Address: kb.craig18@gmail.com

Organization EIN# 82-1517160

Type of Applicant (check the one that applies):

X Tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization

Executive Summary of Project

Spark Community Café strives to diminish food insecurity in Woodford County, Kentucky by providing nutritious farm-to-table meals in a community space that educates, entertains, and accepts all who walk through our doors. This pay-it-forward restaurant invites all people to enjoy, and be nourished by farm-fresh food and community, regardless of the customer's ability to pay. Through the support of the international umbrella organization One World Everybody Eats, and our mentor Grace Cafe located in Danville, Kentucky, the cafe will open its doors in downtown Versailles in early 2019.

Addressing Hunger with Dignity and Farm Fresh Foods

On The Table Community Issue Addressed by the Project

Poverty, inequality, hunger, and health are all community issues identified by On The Table participants that Spark Community Cafe have also recognized, and will address through this project.

Project Summary

To immediately introduce the opportunity for access to nutritious meals in Woodford County, the funds provided by this grant will purchase prepaid meal cards that will be allotted to our community partners: Woodford County Food Bank, Mentors and Meals, and the Family Resource and Youth Services Center at Simmons Elementary. These organizations will each receive allotted cards to distribute to their clients. Each card will have a meal value of \$40, providing a meal for a family of five, or five meals for a single person.

To determine how many members of our community have had access to healthy, locally sourced meals, we will track the utilization of the distributed cards. Through this grant, 56 meal cards will be distributed, totaling to 280 meals to community members.

Total amount of funding requested = \$2500

Total project cost

- A. Purchase of 56 meal cards to be distributed through local community partners
- B. \$260 for administrative costs of distributed cards
- C. \$2,240 for the amount of meals that can be purchased with each card distributed

Provide a detailed description of the project for which you are requesting funding and explain how it addresses the particular community issue you have identified

Woodford County is one of the wealthiest counties in Kentucky with a median household income of \$59,471 compared to the overall state median of \$44,811. Yet, the poverty rate of 14.4% (2012-2016) in Woodford County, and an estimated 25.2% in the city of Versailles, are unacceptable. The 2017 Kids Count Data Book estimates that between 2011 and 2016, 14% of Woodford County children lived in high poverty, which has increased from the 2006-2010 time period.

It is reported that 8% of Woodford County children live in deep poverty (below 50% of the federal poverty level), and 35% live in low-income families (below 200% of the federal poverty level). As a result, 34.8% of children in Woodford County are eligible for free or reduced lunch (2011), and 31.3% of children are eligible for free price lunch (CEDIK Agriculture and Food Profile for Woodford County, 2014). While these statistics hold some truth, it can be estimated that they are highly underreported.

Food insecurity, the inability to not only purchase food, but afford nutritious, healthful food options, is an invisible epidemic that plagues Woodford County. There is no face to food insecurity, no stereotype. The food insecure individuals of our hometown live amongst us, they're our neighbors, our cashiers, our co-workers. The 2017 Kids County Data Book estimates that 15.6% of children in Woodford County live in a food insecure household. Moreover, only 12% of Woodford County adults consume five or more servings of fruits and vegetables per day compared to 19% of adults in Kentucky. The aftermath of this insufficient access to wholesome foods results in the 43% of Woodford County adults reporting they have high blood pressure or hypertension, compared to 39% of adults in Kentucky.

Meal cards used at Spark Community Café would provide nutritious, real, local food in a community space that educates, entertains, and accepts all who walk through the doors. These meal cards would be the start of tremendous change in Woodford County. We believe in the power of food, and the way it brings us together. Spark Community Café will be geared towards targeting the poverty, inequality, hunger, and health issues that Woodford County faces.

The cards will be distributed through partner organizations in Woodford County to be shared with their clients, helping us to reach a larger variety of people in need. Each card will have a meal value of \$40, which would provide a meal for a family of five, or five meals for a single person. Each meal served in the café is valued at an average of \$8, we are requesting funding to purchase, and allocate, 56 meal cards to our partner organizations, for them to distribute based on their own criteria to their own clients.

Who will be served by this project and how many will benefit?

The direct effect will be: $56 \text{ cards} \times \$40 = \$2240$; $\$2240 / \$8/\text{meal} = \mathbf{280 \text{ meals}}$ served to those needing access to nutritious meals served with dignity. Indirectly the cards will allow us to begin addressing food insecurity in Woodford County by distributing the cards through the Woodford County Food Bank.

Explain the desired outcomes from the project

These meal cards will allow us to directly reduce hunger through increased access to nutritious meals for Woodford County residents who are experiencing food insecurity. Additionally, they will increase awareness of healthy food choices, and increase understanding of the relationship between eating nutritious food and the quality of personal health. Another desired outcome would be to establish a database of the utilization of the prepaid meal cards that will be used to apply for additional grants from foundations to increase the availability of meal opportunities.

How do you plan to measure and evaluate the overall success of the project?

The return rate, and utilization of cards will be tracked by our point of sale system (POS), TOAST. This system will enable SPARK to know when a meal card is used and as needed, the organization that distributed the card.

Explain how the proposed project will have a lasting impact on the community and be sustainable beyond an initial investment made by the Community Fund

We will track the utilization of the distributed cards through the TOAST system to determine how many members of the community have had access to healthy and nutritious meals, and based on this, develop an estimate of the health impact of this program. This information will be used to provide evidence in seeking donors and additional grant funds from other programs (e.g., Singing for Change Foundation), to help purchase and distribute more meal cards.

Identify the community partners who have been involved in the development of this proposal and how they will be part of its implementation

Woodford County Food Bank (see attached letter of support) will be the recipient of the initial set of gift meal cards. However, it is our desire to expand our impact on hunger and poor nutrition in Woodford County by distributing additional cards to Mentors and Meals, the Woodford County Family Resource Center at Simmons Elementary School in order to assist families in emergency situations and families whose children participate in afterschool programs.

Who are the key staff members, board members, and/or volunteers who will ensure the success of the project and what are their qualifications?

Board members will be volunteers in the café, conduct community outreach, and analyze meal card utilization data, along with other day-to-day responsibilities to ensure the success of the project.

Timeline for the proposed project (see below)

How will the full cost of the project be met?

The Board has identified some potential donors/sponsors who we are seeking matching funds from in order to, at a minimum, double the number of meal cards to be distributed. The Woodford Forward Foundation has included Spark Café as a recipient of a share of funds raised from a scheduled event in January 2019 which will be used to purchase additional cards. We will also be encouraging local civic organizations and churches to consider purchasing the meal cards for distribution through their own networks of support.

III. Required Documents

1. **Project Budget** – see above
2. **Letters of Support from Collaborating Organizations** – letter from the Woodford County Food Bank
3. **List of current Board Members*** – provide a list of Board Members for the current fiscal year.

SPARK CAFÉ BOARD MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 2018

NAME	EMAIL	CELL PHONE
MARIA BOHANAN	mariapbohanan@gmail.com	
<p>Maria is a business woman and former owner of Pretty in Pink in downtown Versailles. She is President of the Downtown Versailles Merchant's Association and actively involved in several other civic organizations.</p>		
KATIE BETH CRAIG	kb.craig18@gmail.com	859.576.4074
<p>Katie Beth is a sophomore at the University of Kentucky and was a student in the Community Activism class at Woodford County High School that visited Grace Café in Danville, also a member of One World, Everyone Eats, which inspired the beginning of Spark Café.</p>		
KEEGAN ELVIDGE	keeganelvidge@gmail.com	
<p>Keegan is a sophomore at the University of Kentucky and was a student in the Community Activism class at Woodford County High School that visited Grace Café in Danville, also a member of One World, Everyone Eats, which inspired the beginning of Spark Café. Keegan is currently Vice Chair of the Spark Café Board.</p>		
KYLE FANNIN	kfannin@me.com	859.699.1196
<p>Kyle developed the Community Activism senior class at Woodford County High School where he taught for 20 years. Upon retirement from teaching, Kyle returned to an earlier career as a real estate agent and remodeler. Kyle has guided the renovation of the building where the Spark Café is located. He has also been instrumental in fundraising for the Café. Kyle is currently the Treasurer of the Board.</p>		
TRISTAN FERRELL	tferrell9701@gmail.com	859.576.3238
<p>Tristan is a sophomore at the University of Kentucky and was a student in the Community Activism class at Woodford County High School that visited Grace Café in Danville, also a</p>		

<p>member of One World, Everyone Eats, which inspired the beginning of Spark Café. He has been instrumental in obtaining donors and sponsors for Spark Café.</p>		
LORI GARKOVICH	lgarkov@uky.edu	859.519.0889
<p>Lori retired from the University of Kentucky where she was an Extension Specialist and professor. Her areas of expertise are community and leadership development, nonprofit Board development and fundraising, and sociodemographic analysis.</p>		
RACHAEL KRAL	rachael.kral@gmail.com	
<p>Rachel is a sophomore at the University of Kentucky and was a student in the Community Activism class at Woodford County High School that visited Grace Café in Danville, also a member of One World, Everyone Eats, which inspired the beginning of Spark Café. Rachel is the Secretary of the Spark Board.</p>		
OUITA MICHEL	ouitamichel@aol.com	
<p>Ouita and her husband, Chris, opened the fine dining restaurant Holly Hill in May 2001. Ouita's use of locally sourced foods both helps sustain Bluegrass family farms and provides her customers only the freshest, best-tasting fine cuisine. The devotion to local foods is evident also at Wallace Station Deli just outside Midway; Windy Corner Market and Restaurant, Smithtown Seafood and Honeywood (open Spring 2017) in Lexington; The Midway Bakery, Midway; and Woodford Reserve Distillery outside Versailles, Ky., where Ouita is chef-in-residence and operates Glenn's Creek Café and Glenn's Creek Catering. Ouita contributes her restaurant management expertise to the Spark Café.</p>		
ANDY SMITH	seldomseensmith@gmail.com	
<p>Andy is Chair of the Spark Café Board and a teacher at Woodford County High School. He began teaching the Community Activism class on the retirement of Kyle Fannin. Andy took his 2016-2017 Community Activism class to visit Grace Café and then supported those students who decided that establishing a pay-it-forward café in Versailles KY was essential to begin addressing hunger and the lack of access to healthy locally grown foods among those with limited incomes in Woodford County.</p>		

4. Timeline of the proposed project

January, 2019	Distribution of cards to the Woodford County Food Bank
January – June	Track use of distributed cards Seek matching donations and sponsors for additional cards Submit one grant for funding of additional cards
June – December	Analyze data collected on the use of cards

Prepare a summary evaluation of card use
Submit a second grant for funding of additional cards
Continue seeking donations and sponsors for cards

January 2020 Submit a final report to Woodford Community Fund

5. Organizational Budget for the Current fiscal year* – see attached

6. Financial Statements* – see attached