

FAQ's on Sylvania Franciscan Village Green Fund

Question: **What is the Green Fund?**

Answer: Our Green Fund financially supports and invests in environmental projects that will reduce resource use or mitigate carbon emissions, as outlined in our Care for Creation document and subsequent Guidelines. The fund is then repaid by tracking the savings generated by these supported projects, thus creating a revolving pool of money to provide capital for future environmental projects.

Question: **Who may apply to the Green Fund?**

Answer: All those who are actively engaged in the ministries of the Sylvania Franciscan Village are eligible to propose projects. Teams, especially multi-generational ones, are encouraged.

Question: **Is there a limit to how much money may be requested?**

The money requested is limited to the amount that is available each funding cycle. The typical range of funding approved for a project is between \$500 - \$5000. If the proposal requires significant funds, applicants are encouraged to seek out additional sources of funding such as grants.

Question: **What are some specific uses of the Fund?**

Answer: VGF funding will be used to assess environmental needs (energy, water, waste, purchasing or other targeted areas) and offer a specific plan of action to improve campus sustainability and generate cost savings, or to implement an action plan for an already defined environmental need.

Examples: Eliminating water bottles from the campus.
 Develop a composting program.
 Start a bike lending program.

Question: **Are there limits to what the funds may be used for?**

Answer: Basically, funds will be used for materials or products, research or monitoring equipment, professional work or installation, stipends (must be approved by the VGF board.) Funds are for projects on the historic campus, mid-campus and Lourdes Commons.

Question: **What are the parameters for a Green Fund project?**

Answer: Projects must have a clearly defined timeline and must show cost savings or specific non-monetary improvement to the environment. Students must have an advisor (possibly a faculty or staff member.)

Question: **What's the first step in applying?**

Answer: Once you have an idea for a proposal, you need to submit a "Letter of Intent". The form can be found on the website (www.sylvaniafranciscanvillage.org). You must have the signature of the person(s) who is responsible for that part of campus. Once this Letter of Intent is approved, you can proceed with the full application.

Question: **Where do we submit the application?**

Answer: Application should be submitted electronically to Sr. Janet Doyle, Administrator of the Sylvania Franciscan Village, at jdoyle@sistersosf.org.

Question: **Is there a benefit to having matching funding?**

Answer: Yes. Obtaining funding from grants or donations, in addition to funding from the VGF, to support your project is an excellent strategy. Additional or supplementary funding that you can obtain may help your proposed project and helps to stretch VGF dollars.

Question: **How can I find out if others might share my interest in a project? How can I start to form a team?**

Answer: Contact any member of the Green Fund Board to learn if others have a similar interest. Use email or social media to invite others to join your effort.