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#### Submission information

Form: [Special Service Contract Program](#) [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Sun, 09/07/2025 - 5:03pm

#### Title of Project

Supporting Youth and Seniors through CommunityConnect

#### Applicant Organization

AntFarm

#### Federal Tax-Exempt ID Number

[REDACTED]

#### Organization Address

39140 Proctor Blvd

#### Organization City, State, ZIP

Sandy OR, 97055

#### Name of Project Manager

Neal Hatley

#### Project Manager Phone

[REDACTED]

#### Project Manager Email

[REDACTED]

#### Project Beginning Date

Thu, 01/01/2026

#### Project End Date

Thu, 12/31/2026

#### Please describe your 2025-2027 SSCP project

Supporting Youth and Seniors through CommunityConnect will provide no-cost home management support to seniors and individuals with disabilities living within Sandy city limits. This service is designed to help our most vulnerable residents age in place safely, avoid code infractions, and maintain the health and livability of their homes. Typical tasks include mowing, trimming, blackberry and invasive plant removal, firewood preparation, accessibility improvements, and general yard or property upkeep.

A key component of this project is AntFarm's partnership with the City of Sandy's Code Enforcement team. We will respond quickly to 100% of referrals for eligible community members, offering a positive, service-based alternative that prevents punitive action and ensures community safety and attractiveness.

At the same time, the program will engage 60 local youth, ages 14 to 24, in meaningful service-

learning opportunities. Youth work alongside adult mentors, learning job readiness skills, teamwork, tool use, and customer service. They also develop empathy and leadership by connecting with Sandy's eldest generations and experiencing the value of service to their community.

Over the 2025–2027 grant cycle, the program will support at least 350 seniors and individuals with disabilities, while also providing consistent beautification for properties across Sandy. By bridging generations, addressing code compliance issues, and strengthening civic pride, CommunityConnect represents a proven, sustainable investment in Sandy's health, safety, and livability.

**What is the dollar amount of SSCP grant funding you are requesting?**

\$10,000.00

**Which of the 2025-2027 program objectives will your project achieve?**

- Drive tourism-related economic development within Sandy city limits
- Support the health and physical well-being of residents within Sandy city limits
- Enhance community livability within Sandy city limits (especially safety & attractiveness)
- Preserve and / or celebrate Sandy's history and heritage

**Please specifically describe how your project meets the selected program objective(s)**

AntFarm's CommunityConnect meets all four SSCP program objectives by combining direct service to vulnerable residents with visible improvements to Sandy's livability and long-term community pride.

**Drive Tourism-Related Economic Development:** By providing consistent beautification for more than 150 properties, especially along gateway corridors and visible neighborhoods, the project enhances Sandy's image as a safe, attractive, and welcoming community for visitors. Rapid response to 100% of City Code Enforcement referrals prevents neglected properties from becoming deterrents to tourism and strengthens the local economy by stabilizing neighborhoods and supporting the city's reputation. Youth engaged in public-facing work serve as ambassadors of community pride, helping Sandy present itself as vibrant and inviting to both tourists and businesses.

**Support the Health and Physical Well-Being of Residents:** The project enables at least 350 seniors and individuals with disabilities to age in place by offering no-cost home management tasks that reduce accidents and health risks. Services such as mowing, trimming, firewood preparation, and pathway clearing directly improve home safety. Intergenerational service also reduces social isolation, while 60 youth benefit from supervised outdoor work that promotes both physical activity and emotional resilience.

**Enhance Community Livability:** CommunityConnect improves neighborhood safety and attractiveness through consistent property care, reducing blight and hazards. Code Enforcement referrals are resolved quickly, preventing escalation into fines or unsafe conditions. At the same time, youth learn civic responsibility and pride by participating in service-learning projects that directly improve the look and feel of their own community, creating safer, more connected neighborhoods.

**Preserve and Celebrate Sandy's History and Heritage:** The program fosters intergenerational exchange, allowing youth to learn from Sandy's elders and hear stories that reflect the city's heritage. At least 50 seniors' stories will be documented during service visits, preserving cultural traditions and lived history. Skills passed down, including gardening techniques, wood stacking principles, plant and animal identification, natural medicine knowledge and home maintenance skills, reflect Sandy's roots while strengthening belonging and civic pride. Success stories are shared through community presentations and reports, celebrating the unique connections that tie Sandy's youngest and oldest residents together.

**Please specifically describe how residents within Sandy city limits will benefit from the project**

Residents within Sandy city limits will experience direct, meaningful benefits from CommunityConnect. At least 350 seniors and individuals with disabilities will receive no-cost home management support, enabling them to age in place with greater safety, dignity, and independence. Simple but critical services such as landscaping, property clean-up, brush removal and accessibility improvements reduce the risk of accidents, prevent code violations, and ease the physical and financial burdens faced by vulnerable residents.

Neighborhoods also benefit as properties are consistently maintained, improving curb appeal, preventing blight, and enhancing the overall attractiveness and safety of the city. By responding to 100% of Code Enforcement referrals for eligible residents, the program helps the City resolve compliance issues quickly and positively, reducing strain on enforcement systems and creating stronger, safer communities.

In addition, 60 youth ages 14 to 24 will gain paid and service-learning opportunities that build job skills, teamwork, and empathy. These young people become more engaged, resilient, and community minded, directly benefiting Sandy's workforce and social fabric. The program also fosters intergenerational connections between youth and elders, reducing social isolation while strengthening civic pride and cultural continuity.

In short, the program provides a triple benefit: supporting vulnerable seniors, uplifting youth, and improving the livability and appearance of Sandy for all residents.

**Please identify and describe the measurements that will be used to assess the project's positive impact on Sandy residents**

The impact of CommunityConnect will be tracked through clear, measurable outcomes that demonstrate benefits to Sandy residents:

**Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Served:** At least 350 residents will receive no-cost home management support, documented through service logs and referral records.

**Youth Engagement:** A minimum of 60 youth, ages 14 to 24, will participate annually in supervised service-learning and workforce development activities, with hours and training documented.

**Code Enforcement Response:** A 100% response rate to referrals from the City of Sandy Code Enforcement office will be maintained, with resolution outcomes recorded.

**Property Beautification and Safety Improvements:** At least 150 properties per year will be improved through tasks such as mowing, trimming, blackberry removal, pathway clearing, and fence maintenance. Each service visit will be tracked and photographed when appropriate.

**Service Hours:** Total youth and adult hours contributed will be documented, providing an in-kind value of volunteer labor and demonstrating the program's return on investment.

**Resident and Youth Feedback:** Surveys and testimonials will be collected from both seniors and youth participants to capture qualitative improvements in well-being, independence, civic pride, and workforce readiness.

These measures will be compiled into required written reports and shared with City Council at the end of the grant cycle, ensuring accountability and transparency in demonstrating the program's positive impact.

**Please describe how this project represents good value for the City; maximizing the public benefits generated from this investment of taxpayer funds**

CommunityConnect provides an exceptional return on investment by multiplying the City's funding through volunteer service, youth engagement, and leveraged resources. With modest staff support funded in part by the City, the program mobilizes thousands of hours of youth and volunteer labor each year, creating an in-kind value that far exceeds the grant amount. This means every taxpayer dollar invested results in multiple dollars of public benefit returned.

The program also saves the City costs in other areas. By responding to 100% of Code Enforcement referrals for eligible residents, CommunityConnect resolves potential violations before they escalate, reducing administrative and legal burdens. Maintaining properties and preventing unsightly overgrowth enhances Sandy's attractiveness, supports local tourism and business activity, and promotes neighborhood stability.

In addition, the program strengthens Sandy's future workforce. Dozens of local youth gain work readiness, leadership, and civic pride through service, equipping them to contribute positively to the community for years to come. At the same time, hundreds of seniors and individuals with disabilities are able to remain safely in their homes, preserving independence and reducing demand on costly public services.

Through this combination of direct service, community beautification, cost avoidance, and youth development, the City's investment generates broad and lasting public benefits at a fraction of the true market cost.

**Please describe how this project represents a sustainable long-term investment of taxpayer funds. How will this investment be leveraged to provide services in the future?**

CommunityConnect has been operating in Sandy for more than a decade and has proven to be both sustainable and adaptable. City support serves as a foundation that allows AntFarm to leverage significant outside resources, including private donations, foundation awards, and our Planet365 can-and-bottle recycling program. Each taxpayer dollar invested is multiplied through thousands of hours of youth and volunteer labor.

Because the program combines City funding with these diverse sources, it is not dependent on a single stream of support. Instead, the City's investment strengthens a model that has already demonstrated long-term viability, even during times of economic uncertainty. In addition to financial leverage, the program builds lasting human capital: youth gain work readiness and civic responsibility, seniors remain healthy and independent, and neighborhoods are strengthened for years to come.

By continuing to invest in CommunityConnect, the City ensures that modest public funds are consistently amplified into broad community benefits, providing a sustainable program that will serve Sandy's residents well into the future.

**Have you received grant funding in the past, either through SSCP or through another organization?**

Yes

**Please indicate the program/organization from which you received grant funding; the year; and the dollar amount**

CommunityConnect, 2022-23, \$5,600.00

**Did you successfully comply with all terms and requirements of the past grant funding you received?**

Yes

**Are you requesting an Alternative Payment Accommodation per Section 7 of the Program Guidelines?**

No

**Project Budget**

[city\\_of\\_sandy\\_sscp\\_communityconnect\\_project\\_budget.xlsx](#) [2]

**If you would like to provide supplementary project documents, promotional materials, or other files for the City's consideration, you may upload them here**

[letter\\_of\\_support\\_-\\_ant\\_farm\\_signed\\_1.pdf](#) [3]

**Certification of Eligibility**

I certify that the proposed project is eligible for funding under the Program Guidelines. Specifically: the project will directly benefit residents living within Sandy city limits; the applying organization is tax-exempt under the Internal Revenue Code in good standing with the IRS; the project will not promote or inhibit religious activities; the project will not promote or inhibit political activities; the project will not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, age, gender, or sexual orientation; the project will not involve "self-dealing" or similar conflicts of interest as defined in the Project Guidelines; the project has a clear public benefit and has the permission of the owner of the property on which it will take place (if applicable); the applicant has a positive record of successful grant completion and compliance with City policies and regulations; and the requested funding for organization staffing will be dedicated to the execution of the specific project being applied for (if applicable).

**Agreement / Certification of Accuracy**

I certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if the City finds the information in this application to be false, or if I fail to abide by all provisions and requirements of the SSCP Program Guidelines or all terms of the grant agreement executed between my organization and the City of Sandy, I will lose my eligibility to receive current and future grant funds, and may be required to return to the City any grant funds already received. I further understand that all materials submitted through this application and as part of this grant program may be subject to disclosure under public records laws.

**Source URL:** <https://www.ci.sandy.or.us/node/23491/submission/23976>

**Links**

[1] <https://www.ci.sandy.or.us/administration/webform/special-service-contract-program> [2]

[https://www.ci.sandy.or.us/system/files/webform/city\\_of\\_sandy\\_sscp\\_communityconnect\\_project\\_budget.xlsx](https://www.ci.sandy.or.us/system/files/webform/city_of_sandy_sscp_communityconnect_project_budget.xlsx) [3]

[https://www.ci.sandy.or.us/system/files/webform/letter\\_of\\_support\\_-\\_ant\\_farm\\_signed\\_1.pdf](https://www.ci.sandy.or.us/system/files/webform/letter_of_support_-_ant_farm_signed_1.pdf)

2025-2027 SPECIAL SERVICE CONTRACT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION BUDGET FORM



<b>Project Name:</b>		Supporting Youth and Seniors through CommunityConnect							
<b>Applicant Name:</b>		AntFarm							
BUDGET ITEM	Units Needed	Units of Measure	Cost Per Unit	Total Cost	SSCP Grant	Matching Funds		TOTALS	
					(A) SSCP Funding Requested	(B) Other Funding Sources *	(C) In-Kind Support		
<b>Personnel Costs:</b> List Personnel Working on Project, their pay rate, days or hours worked, and whether they will be paid by grant, other funding, or in-kind match (volunteer). If they are volunteering, assume a pay value of \$33.49 per hour.									
CommunityConnect Lead (\$24/hour)	416	Hours	\$24.00	\$9,984.00	\$4,034.45	\$5,949.55		\$9,984.00	
Program Manager (\$28/hour)	104	Hours	\$28.00	\$2,912.00	\$1,176.71	\$1,735.29		\$2,912.00	
								\$0.00	
								\$0.00	
								\$0.00	
<b>Subtotal Personnel Costs</b>				\$12,896.00	\$5,211.16	\$7,684.84		\$12,896.00	
<b>Materials / Supplies / Equipment</b>									
Tools (Hand tools, wheel barrows, ETC.)	24	Items	\$30.00	\$720.00	\$290.95	\$429.05		\$720.00	
PPE (Gloves, Eye/Ear Protections, ETC.)	60	Sets	\$12.00	\$720.00	\$290.95	\$429.05		\$720.00	
								\$0.00	
								\$0.00	
								\$0.00	
<b>Subtotal Materials/Supplies/Equipment:</b>				\$1,440.00	\$581.89	\$858.11		\$1,440.00	
<b>Event Fees / Publicity / Marketing</b>									
Outreach/Publicity	1	lot	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$161.64	\$238.36		\$400.00	
								\$0.00	
<b>Subtotal Fees/Publicity/Marketing</b>				\$400.00	\$161.64	\$238.36		\$400.00	
<b>Transportation Costs</b>									
Gas & Vehicle Maintenance	1	lot	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$969.82	\$1,430.18		\$2,400.00	
								\$0.00	
<b>Subtotal Transportation and Other Costs</b>				\$2,400.00	\$969.82	\$1,430.18		\$2,400.00	
<b>Project Administration (clerical, printing, postage, permits, etc.)</b>									
Insurance & Payroll Processing	1	28%	\$3,610.88	\$3,610.88	\$1,459.13	\$2,151.75		\$3,610.88	
								\$0.00	
<b>Subtotal Admin Costs</b>				\$3,610.88	\$1,459.13	\$2,151.75		\$3,610.88	
<b>Misc Other Costs</b>									
Waste Disposal / Landfill Fees	1	lot	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,616.37	\$2,383.63		\$4,000.00	
								\$0.00	
<b>Subtotal Misc. Other Costs</b>				\$4,000.00	\$1,616.37	\$2,383.63		\$4,000.00	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>					\$24,746.88	\$10,000.00	\$14,746.88	\$0.00	\$24,746.88

* Other Funding Sources - List Sources Here	Amt. Funded
Community Donations	\$5,000.00
AntFarm's Planet365	\$10,000.00
<b>Total: Other Funding Sources</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>



Christina McMahan  
Director

**JUVENILE DEPARTMENT**

**Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center**  
2121 Kaen Road | Oregon City, OR 97045

July 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to offer my full support for Ant Farm's Community Connect program. As a professional in the juvenile justice system, I have witnessed the significant impact that well-structured, community-based service programs can have on youth accountability, rehabilitation, and long-term success.

Community Connect provides supervised, purposeful service-learning opportunities for youth ages 14–24 throughout rural Clackamas County. Many of the youth referred to this program are working to fulfill school, court, or probation obligations—including those participating in restitution programs, where they are required to give back to victims and the community. Community Connect offers a meaningful way for these youth to make amends through direct service, instilling a sense of responsibility, empathy, and civic contribution.

For justice-involved youth, especially those without access to reliable transportation or employment, finding safe and structured ways to complete restitution and mandated service hours can be a major challenge. Community Connect removes many of these barriers by providing transportation, meals, and caring adult supervision. The program's dignity-centered approach creates a supportive environment where youth are not only held accountable but also empowered to grow.

Ant Farm's strong track record in youth development and community engagement makes them an essential partner in this work. Community Connect is more than a service program—it is a restorative bridge that allows youth to reconnect with their communities, repair harm, and begin building a more positive future. It also supports juvenile justice professionals by offering a reliable, values-aligned option for referrals and hour tracking.

I strongly support Community Connect and encourage continued investment in this vital program. Its role in helping youth make meaningful restitution and gain life skills is indispensable to our shared goals of rehabilitation and community safety.

Sincerely,

**Christina L. McMahan, Director**  
**Clackamas County Juvenile Department**