

2013 NCR SARE Youth Educator  
COVER SHEET

Project Title Manos, Tierra, y Alimento (Hands, Soil, and Food)  
Proposal Number YED13-022  
Project Leader Liz Whitehurst  
Physical Address 1547 Rockton Road  
Mailing Address 1547 Rockton Road, Chicago, Illinois 61011  
County Boone  
Telephone, Best time to call (815) 389-8455, Daytime  
E-mail address grants@learngrowconnect.org  
SARE Request \$2,000  
Project Duration Jan 1, 2014 - Dec 31, 2014  
Telephone/E-mail address (815) 389-8455, grants@learngrowconnect.org  
Does your project involve livestock? yes

Please select the Systems Category that best represents this project. This is for SARE use only and will not affect your project review.

Animal Production (including aquaculture, apiary)  Community Development  Crop Production  
 Economic/Marketing  Education and Training  Energy  
Conservation & Renewable Energy  
 Integrated Crop & Livestock System  Natural Resources/Environment  Other  
 Pest Management  Quality of Life  Soil Management

Please select the Commodity Category that best represents the crop or animal production enterprise being addressed. This is for SARE use only and will not affect your project review.

Beef  Dairy  Grain Crops  
 Hay and Forage Crops  Nuts  Oil Crops  
 Ornamentals & Turf  Other  Poultry  
 Sheep & Goats  Silage Crops  Small Fruits  
 Swine  Tree Fruits  Trees (forest & Christmas)  
 Vegetable Crops

---

### Project Abstract

“Manos, Tierra, y Alimento” (Hands, Soil, and Food) will teach Latino youth in Beloit about sustainable agriculture through family workshops on a holistic working organic farm. During the 2014 year, Angelic Organics Learning Center (AOLC) will partner with San Jose Parish to host a series of 5 day-long programs for families (75 youth and 25 adults) in order to expose youth and their parents to sustainable agriculture practices and careers in the upper Midwest.

## **Project Abstract**

“Manos, Tierra, y Alimento” (Hands, Soil, and Food) will teach Latino youth in Beloit about sustainable agriculture through family workshops on a holistic working organic farm.

During the 2014 year, Angelic Organics Learning Center (AOLC) will partner with San Jose Parish to host a series of 5 day-long programs for families (75 youth and 25 adults) in order to expose youth and their parents to sustainable agriculture practices and careers in the upper Midwest.

## **Detailed Project Plan and Timeline**

Manos, Tierra, y Alimento is designed to expose young Latinos in Beloit and the Stateline area to sustainable food systems by provided them with access to an educational farm environment. Many Latinos in Beloit have an agricultural background in Latin America, yet many young people have limited connections with this region’s agricultural heritage, and limited knowledge about how to grow their own food in this climate.

Through this project, AOLC, San Jose Parish, and other project partners will offer children, teens, and families from Beloit’s Latino community the opportunity to gain organic farming skills and exposure to farming careers. Our organic farm includes a number of enterprises, including a 1,600 member Community Supported Agriculture program, livestock enterprises (beef cattle, egg production, dairy goats, hogs raised using integrated pasture-based, rotational grazing), and value-added microenterprises (goat milk soap). The farm employs over 10 Latino workers, including our primary livestock manager and soapmaker.

Although we have well-developed programs for exposing youth to sustainable agriculture careers, and teaching organic farming concepts and skills, few members of the Latino community attend our programs. The project will overcome three main barriers to participation: 1) classes will be offered free of charge, 2) in Spanish, and, 3) in the context of the whole family unit, rather than for youth alone. Parents are more likely to let their children attend programs if they have experienced the place themselves, and have relationships with the people who will be leading the programs.

We will offer five family programs in Spanish, serving 20 people per program. Through these programs, youth and their parents will:

- Learn farming and value-added skills through hands-on participation in seasonal farm work. Topics vary seasonally, and are integrated in our farm operation, so might include livestock husbandry, soil preparation, organic growing techniques, vegetable care, post-harvest handling, and value added products. For example, youth might help move electrical fencing to learn about our rotational grazing system, or add compost to garden beds.
- Participate in multi-generational conversations comparing farming in Latin America with farming in the Upper Midwest.
- Meet Latino farmers in the Upper Midwest, and learn about their roles on the farm and how they entered this career.
- Learn about additional programs and scholarship opportunities on our farm, including our Youth Leadership Camp (which is a stepping stone towards employment with on-farm programs for older teens) and our Farm Beginnings Course (which helps prospective farmers develop a strategic business plan).

Timeline:

February-April 2014:

- Coordinate outreach with San Jose Parish to the Latino community, letting organizations and individuals know about opportunities.
- Schedule family farm days offered in Spanish.
- Translate confirmation and program materials into Spanish.

May – October 2014:

- Offer 5 day-long hands-on farm experiences for 20 people (15 youth, 5 adults) each from Beloit community groups. Topics will vary seasonally, and include livestock husbandry, organic growing techniques, and value added production.
- Conduct video interviews at the end of each program to learn about impacts.
- Offer scholarships for day camps to participant youth.

November 2014-January 2014:

- Based on evaluation, plan 2015 programs with collaborating organizations.

### **Resources Used**

Angelic Organics Learning Center's on-farm programs take place on our 186-acre working farm campus in Caledonia, IL, just 10 miles from Beloit, WI. The farm facilities include access to a working, organic and Biodynamic Community Supported Agriculture farm that serves 1,600 families annually, as well as beef cattle, dairy goats, hens, hogs, and assorted demonstration projects including sustainable buildings, honeybees, a demonstration garden, restoration projects, and a small orchard. We have a well-developed curriculum, and currently offer over 120 programs per year for over 2500 youth and adults. All of our programs include hands-on exposure to farms and healthy foods through real-life experiences on the farm and with farmers. Over 10 of the farm employees are Latino, including our livestock manager and soapmaker.

Angelic Organics Learning Center will work with our primary project partner, San Jose Parish in Beloit to conduct the program. San Jose Parish will work with additional organizations serving Latinos in the Beloit area to conduct outreach and organize trips, including: Even Start, Pueblos Unidos, and the Latino Service Provider's Coalition. These groups will assist the project by communicating with their members and participants to advertise the program. San Jose is connected with the local Spanish language newspaper and radio station.

### **Outreach**

Angelic Organics Learning Center will share information through our website, electronic newsletter, and social media outlets. We will conduct video interviews at the end of each day to record and show what youth learned as part of their experience, which we will use to promote the project. We will also invite reporters from La Voz de Beloit, the Beloit Daily News, and the Stateline Shopper to attend farm days and write about their experience. Additionally, our project partner, San Jose Parish, will also conduct outreach in the Latino community through the Spanish newspaper "La Voz de Beloit." San Jose parish and other partnering organizations will share results with the community. Finally, we will represent the results of this project with peer organizations as we regularly participate in presentations and conferences, like the national Farm-Based Education Association conference and the Biodynamic Farmers and Gardeners Association conference.

### **Student and Community Impact**

Through the project, Latino youth and families will gain an experience of a working farm and learn about livestock husbandry, organic gardening techniques, and opportunities for careers in sustainable agriculture in this region. We will measure our impact through evaluations administered at the end of each program, as well as through interviews with participants.

Outcomes:

- 75 Latino youth gain exposure to sustainable agriculture practices in the region as they attend day-programs with 25 parents and adult community leaders.
- 75 Latino youth learn from about farming careers by meeting and talking to Latino farmers about their farming careers.
- Up to 12 Latino youth utilize scholarship funds to attend farm day camps, including Leadership Day Camp.

**Budget**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Personnel	Kellie Laurson, Program Assistant Salary	\$0
	Liz Whitehurst, On-Farm Program Director Salary	\$589
	Adrian Landeros, Livestock Assistant Salary	\$583
	Rev. Neddy Astudillo Salary	\$0
	Photocopies	\$10
Materials and Supplies	Family Day Supplies	\$200
	Spanish Language translations of materials	\$100
Travel	Mileage for Neddy Astudillo	\$141
	Van Rental for family participants	\$257
Other Direct Costs	Camp fees	\$0
	Scholarships	\$0
	Flyers	\$20
	Recognition Gifts	\$100
<b>Total Request</b>		<b>\$2,000</b>

## **Budget narrative and justification**

### **Personnel**

-Liz Whitehurst, On-Farm Program Director, for administration: 30 hours, salary and benefits at \$19.64/hr = \$589. Liz will work with Neddy Astudillo to schedule, plan, and evaluate all programs, prepare outreach materials, and coordinate grant tracking and reporting.

-Kellie Laurson, Program Assistant, for administration and logistics: 30 hours at \$14.20 per hour for a total of \$426 = \$0 requested. AOLC will provide matching funds for the project. Kellie will handle all clean-up and set-up tasks for programs, including supply purchases and copying, help process registration for camp participants and family program participants, and handle requests for information.

-Adrian Landeros, Livestock Manager and Soapmaker, 40 hours with salary and benefits at \$14.56 per hour = \$583. Adrian will provide instruction in livestock husbandry during programs.

-Rev. Neddy Astudillo, AOLC Co-Founder, for outreach, translation, program coordination, implementation, and evaluation: \$0. Rev. Astudillo's primary roles are spreading awareness about AOLC's program offerings through outreach in the Latino community, delivering programs on-site, assisting with program registration, and helping coordinate program evaluation. Rev. Astudillo is generously donating her time for this endeavor.

### **Materials and Supplies**

-Family day supplies: \$2.00 per person x 100 people = \$200. Includes program supplies for cooking and value added projects, and other miscellaneous items.

-Spanish language versions of materials: \$100. Funds will be used to create Spanish-language and/or Spanish-English bilingual versions of games and projects.

### **Travel**

-Mileage reimbursement for Neddy: (40 miles for roundtrip from AOLC to Beloit x 5 trips x .565/mile) + (50 miles for transportation to partner meetings x .565/mile) = \$141.

-Van rental for family day participants: \$128.5 per day x 2 days = \$257.

### **Other Direct Costs**

-Camp fees: \$0.

-Scholarships to campers from low-income Latino families will be provided by generous donors through our scholarship fund.

-Color-printed flyers: \$.10/flyer x 200 = \$20.

-Photocopying recipes and handouts for Family Day = \$10.

-Recognition gifts for farm employees who come to speak with groups (10 people x \$10 per person for farm goods gifts such as soap or eggs, or meat) = \$100.