



Tufts University GREEN FUND

Tufts University Green Fund Initial Idea Submission

Applicant Information:

Name:

Erin Mooz

Role at Tufts (e.g. Undergraduate Student, Graduate Student, Faculty, Staff):

Graduate Student (MD)

Email and Phone # of Lead Submitter:

Erin.Mooz@tufts.edu; 303-590-8417

Campus:

Boston

Project Title:

Greening Boston

One Sentence Description (*This is how your project will be described on the Green Fund website*):

TerraCycle Mask Recycling – Making sustainability both visible and practical on the Boston campus ensuring 100% community participation and a sustainable trajectory

General Application Questions:

1. What project would you like to fund with a grant from the Green Fund?

I'm interested in adding Terracycle mask recycling boxes on the Boston Med campus.

- 2. Who would you work with on this project? Who would need to be involved? (For example: are there departments you would need to reach out to for help implementing or facilitating your project? If you are hosting an event, you might need someone to help you set up and help clean up afterwards. Do you need permission from anyone to complete your project? **Include their role (collaborator, advisor, vendor, resource) and whether they have been confirmed their involvement in the specified role. Undergraduate students must have a faculty/staff advisor submit a letter of support for their project which indicates their willingness to mentor the proposed project.****

| Name and Title | Role | Status |
|---|-------------------------|---------------|
| Chris Bishal | Collaborator, advisor | Confirmed |
| Divya, Mike, Devon | Learning Community Reps | Confirmed |
| MS4SF (med students for a sustainable future) | Collaborators | Confirmed |

- 3. What costs would be involved in your proposal? Please provide a rough budget.**

We are proposing acquiring two large mask recycling boxes which are **\$219** each, thus totaling **\$438**. From the successful roll out at the Veterinary campus, they allocated ~\$60 additional for labor costs involved in creating a survey for box usage, creating an informal flyer, setting up the boxes, informing the community, orchestrating box return and compiling survey results. This brings the total to **\$500**.

4. What steps would you take to accomplish this project?

Steps necessary for accomplishing this project include the following:

| Phase | Task | Start Day | Team | Cost |
|---------------|---|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| 1 – Prep | Order Boxes | 0 | MS4SF | \$438 |
| 1 – Prep | Prepare informational flyer for boxes | 0 | MS4SF, LC Reps | \$10 |
| 1 – Prep | Create survey for usage | 0 | MS4SF, LC Reps | \$10 |
| 2 – Use | Set up boxes | 7 | MS4SF | \$10 |
| 2 – Use | Email community | 7 | LC Reps | \$10 |
| 2 – Use | Monitor use and contamination of boxes | 7 | MS4SF, LC Reps | |
| 3 – Take down | Collect boxes and return to Terracycle | 100+ | MS4SF | \$10 |
| 3 – Take down | Compile survey results and share relevant findings with community | 100+ | MS4SF, LC Reps | \$10 |
| | | | Total: | \$500 |

5. How would your project help or benefit the Tufts community?

This project will benefit the Tufts community by unanimously engaging the community members on the Boston campus in sustainable efforts, as masks are ubiquitous not only in our current day to day lives but in our future careers as well. Hopefully this effort will inspire students to carry forward this mindset to wherever they end up in their careers and mask recycling will spread. Additionally, our lovely administrator Chris mentioned they had begun plastic-film recycling prior to the spread of COVID. I hope these mask recycling boxes will serve as a seed for small hubs on campus where hard-to-recycle materials can be recycled, such as bringing back plastic film recycling as well. This project has the potential for short term impact in terms of masks being recycled and making sustainability visible and accessible on a day-to-day basis, intermediate term potential in terms of inspiring further effort towards recycling hard-to-recycle materials, and long-term potential to stay with our students as they embark on their healthcare careers. Thank you for your consideration!

What can I expect next?

The Green Fund committee will meet in early October and decide which projects will advance to the next round. These projects will be asked clarifying questions about details specified in this application. The committee will meet again and review the responses to its questions and vote to advance proposals based on those answers. Projects that advance past the clarifying questions stage will then be asked to fill out a more complete application (which can be found at go.tufts.edu/GreenFund) including a budget and a Gantt chart with accompanying letters of support from necessary collaborating entities at Tufts.

When finished with this initial idea submission, please save as a PDF and email to GreenFund@tufts.edu. Thank you!