**LAND Food and OUR Common Ground Retreats**

Our LAND Food retreat is designed to explore what impacts come about from our food choices. Here we want to fill up our plates with the distant voices behind our meals. We will taste the bitter-sweet world between organic and genetically modified farming, and the identity crises that now begins to wash over farmers around the country. Amidst the disparity of pensive farmers and their wonder to what their fields may hold tomorrow, how can we harvest and balance a natural life in such modern times?

**OUR Common Ground weekend retreat** discovers the interconnectivity between the human and more-than-human world. This aims to recognize that from mammals to pollinators, their existence is essential to ours. Additionally, we are also going to approach a new Creation Story that will help understand why it is that sustainability is important not only for our resource maintenance, but for our growth in consciousness towards a blossoming world and our responsibility to enhance its beauty.

*The purpose is to find the heart in sustainability, thus when put to practice it serves as more than an alternative lifestyle option, but as a responsibility to maintain a holistic and universal identity.*

Required Signatures

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<th>Project Director Name</th>
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A. We are proposing to hold retreat #1 during the spring and retreat #2 during the fall semester. This grant is needed to financially support our off-campus retreat grounds. This is identified as important because to talk about the environment and to be able to reflect on it, it is essential to be at presence with nature during this time. The beautiful grounds of Grailville are our inspiration towards the Land Food Retreat; the second retreat is currently still an ongoing project. Grailville has a vast amount of space that is used for preservation and organic food production. They have education and information programs about sustainability, thus their ground facilitates the expression of our mission and they are willing to help develop and strengthen our retreat both physically and conceptually. The purpose is to go beyond textbooks and newswires and to be able to physically connect kinetically with the Earth itself.

B. Sustainability Retreat #1
Food Land Connection

**Saturday**
9 am    Gathering – Opening and information (in Fenwick conference room)
10 am   Pickup at Bellarmine Circle
10:30 am Stop at Farm, Tour, Q&A with farmer, Harvest Produce
12 pm   Continue to retreat center
12:30 pm Check in and Lunch
1:30 pm  Examen #1
2:30 pm  Cooking class – hands-on using produce from farm
         Break
6 pm     Dinner
7 pm     Gathering – Thoughts from day
8 pm     Evening activities (optional)
         Farm THEME: Worm/Soil Walk
         Drama: What Will Be in the Fields Tomorrow?” (Script and guidance for presenting readers’ theatre)
         Food THEME: Cooking Class #2 - Babette’s Feast video
         Retreat THEME: - Spiritual direction time? - Mass?
C. This project invests in a variety of ways into the Student Life and Service Learning goals of the Xavier Campus Action Plan. In addition to developing an awareness and sustainability lifestyle, they will be also encouraged to learn more about service opportunities.

D. Although it is important to maintain a present conscious during this retreat, its mission is to amplify and reinforce students on the importance of connectivity through our appreciation and actions. Likewise, Grailville community is also willing to re-create this retreat, if funded and successful, into their own communities. Meaning that not only will it impact the Xavier students, but also the staff who are collaborating with this and the entire Grailville community.

E. This measure of impact will be measured by evaluation sheets, feedback from Grailville, and any organizations where these students might feel motivated to get involved with. Through this, students will also be encouraged to join more sustainability events around campus and number turn-outs will evaluate a quantitative result.

**Budget description for Retreat #1, Spring 2013 – LAND food connection (assume 17 participants)**

Retreat Location: Grailville, 932 O’Bannonville Road, Loveland, OH 45410  
513.683.2340 (25 miles from Cincinnati)

The various houses on the property have different rental rates:
Arc $375 (sleeps 9 with kitchen); House of Joy $475 (sleeps 8 with kitchen)  
For both houses, the total cost will be $850 for lodging.

Meals are $6.50 for breakfast, $8.25 per lunch and $10.50 per dinner.
The current retreat schedule requires Saturday Lunch and Sunday Breakfast to be served by Grailville staff, so the cost of meals is $14.75 per person, or $250.75 for 17 guests.
Transport is estimated to cost $300 or less for both days of the retreat, including stops at local farm.
Chef cost is estimated to be $350 for Saturday afternoon and evening cooking classes, plus $200 food, for a total of $550 additional food and entertainment costs.

Total estimated cost for retreat #1 is $1,950.75.

**Budget description for retreat #2, Fall 2013 –**
**OUR Common Ground Retreat (est. 40 participants, 30 for full weekend) – On going project.** Protection and love for the commons, Solidarity with creatures and creation

Retreat Location: Grailville, 932 O’Bannonville Road, Loveland, OH 45410
513.683.2340 (25 miles from Cincinnati)

The various houses on the property have different rental rates:
Arc $375 (sleeps 9 with kitchen); House of Joy $475 (sleeps 8 with kitchen); Tidings $540 (Sleeps 13 and full kitchen, includes two triples. 1 single, 2 triples, 3 doubles. Three full baths.)
For three houses, the total cost will be $1,390 for lodging.

Meals are $6.50 for breakfast, $8.25 per lunch and $10.50 per dinner. The current retreat schedule requires Saturday Lunch and Sunday Breakfast and Lunch to be served by Grailville staff, so the cost of meals is $23 per person, or $920 for 40 guests.

Transport is estimated to cost $300 or less for both days of the retreat, for 30 guests (does not include 10 commuters).

Food costs are estimated to be $200 for Saturday afternoon’s cooking of the evening meal.

Total estimated cost for retreat #2 is $2,910.

TOTAL COST is $4,860.75.