

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



May 18, 2022

Natalie Corwin, Board Chair
Turnip Green Creative Reuse
407 Houston St.
Nashville, TN 37203

Dear Ms. Corwin:

Please find attached the monitoring report of Turnip Green Creative Reuse relating to the contract it had with the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County for the contract period that ended December 30, 2020.

The Office of Financial Accountability is charged with the responsibility of monitoring grant funds, including Community Partnership Funds, from the Metropolitan Nashville Government to any nonprofit organization. Staff from the Office of Financial Accountability initiated the review process on September 29, 2021.

We appreciate the assistance provided by your agency during the course of the review. If you have any questions, please call me at 615-862-6712.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brown

Kevin Brown, CMFO, CFE
Director, Office of Financial Accountability

cc: Leah Sherry, Executive Director, Turnip Green Creative Reuse
Kelly Flannery, Director, Department of Finance
Renee Pratt, Metro Social Services
Andrew Sullivan, Metro Social Services

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Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

TURNIP GREEN CREATIVE REUSE

◆ **Monitoring Report** ◆

Conducted by



Office of Financial Accountability

May 18, 2022

MONITORING REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

The Office of Financial Accountability (hereinafter referred to as “OFA”) has completed a monitoring review of Turnip Green Creative Reuse. A monitoring review is substantially less in scope than an audit. The OFA did not audit the financial statements and, accordingly, does not express an opinion or any assurances regarding the financial statements of Turnip Green Creative Reuse or any of its component units. The OFA is responsible for the internal monitoring of Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County (hereinafter referred to as “Metro”) agencies that receive federal and state financial assistance, including cooperative agreements and non-profit organizations that receive Direct Appropriations and Community Partnership Funds from Metro government. In summary, any agreement(s) that imposes performance and/or financial requirements on Metro government is subject to review by the OFA.

The purpose of this review was to assess the agency’s compliance with contractual requirements set forth in the following contract with Metro Government:

Contract	Type	Amount	Contract Term	
L-4615	Community Partnership Funds	\$4,500	March 1, 2020	December 30, 2020

Agency Background

Based on the information obtained from the agency’s website, Turnip Green Creative Reuse (TGCR), is a 501 (C) (3) Non-Profit agency, fostering creativity and sustainability through reuse. TGCR diverts usable material from landfill for creative endeavors through innovative programming including workshops, a retail store, community education and a green art gallery featuring art made from reusable materials. Turnip Green partners with over 15 MNPS schools through clubs and aftercare program. In these programs, students learn about the importance and enjoyment of reuse through creating take-home art projects, science experiments, and school installations. The agency also participates in community programs and outreach alongside other nonprofits, organizations, and community groups.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

The objectives of our review were:

- 1) To determine whether the agency had the resources and capacity to administer the grant funds.
- 2) To determine if costs and services were allowable and eligible.
- 3) To verify that program objectives were met.
- 4) To test the reliability of the financial and programmatic reporting.
- 5) To verify contractual compliance.

The scope of our review was limited to the contract term March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020.

The monitoring review procedures included meeting with agency management and staff, reviewing board minutes and obtaining written representations from management. In addition, we examined certain financial records and supporting documentation necessary to ensure compliance with contractual requirements set forth in contract L-4615. Specific procedures included:

- Interviewing the employees responsible for grant management, financial reporting and accountability.
- Reviewing supporting documentation of expenditures for allowability, necessity and reasonableness.
- Reviewing the agency's general ledger and verifying the accuracy of all invoices submitted to Metro.
- Reviewing documentation to determine that funds were used for intended beneficiaries and expended in accordance with the spending plan of the contract.
- Reviewing documentation to support program activities for consistency with grant requirements.
- Assessing the financial stability of the agency and its ability to continue to administer the grant program funded by Metro.

RESULTS OF REVIEW

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Criteria	Yes	No
Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Funds?	✓	
Costs and Services Allowable and Eligible?	✓	
Program Objectives Met?	✓	
Reporting Requirements Met?	✓	
Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements?	✓	

RESULTS OF REVIEW

The overall results of the monitoring review are provided in this section. Results are based on test work performed and include conclusions regarding specific review objectives and, if applicable, recommendations for improvement and an action plan for implementation. Where applicable, the Findings and Recommendations section of this report provides more insight into any issues identified below.

1. Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Grant Funds

Our review of the agency's accounting system and the qualifications of the individuals assigned to manage the accounting records indicate that the agency possesses the necessary resources and professional expertise to effectively administer the grant funds.

2. Allowable and Eligible Costs and Services

Our review covered the core compliance areas identified by 2 CFR Part 200: *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*.

Additionally, the Metro Grants Manual requires separate accounting of the Metropolitan Nashville Government grant funds to prevent co-mingling of Metro Funds with other sources of funding. The agency was in compliance with this requirement. Different revenue classes as well as expenditure classes have been established to separately track the sources and amounts of funding. Also, the agency can easily and accurately report their expenses supported by the Metro grant.

Based on our test work, costs and services during the period were allowable and eligible therefore Turnip Green Creative Reuse was in compliance with the contract requirements.

3. Program and Performance Objectives

The contract stipulates that the agency shall use the funds to support guests at the creative reuse centers and students in the agency's education programs by providing required materials, such as PPE and cleaning supplies to keep them safe.

RESULTS OF REVIEW

Based on our review of program documentation and discussions with staff, program performance objectives were met, and the agency was in compliance with contractual program objectives for this grant.

4. Reliability of Financial and Programmatic Reporting

The contract requires submission of an annual audit report performed by a Certified Public Accountant. The contract also requires the agency to submit to Metro Social Services final expenditures report by January 15, 2021, and final program outcomes report within 30 days of the end of the grant contract.

We reviewed all applicable financial and programmatic reports required by the contract, including audited financial statements. Based on our review, the agency was in compliance with the financial reporting requirement.

5. Civil Rights Requirements

Our review did not reveal anything to indicate that the agency was noncompliant with civil rights requirements. The agency also has necessary written policies and procedures relating to civil rights. The agency has not received any complaints regarding any form of discrimination. Further, civil rights and ADA postings are publicly displayed.