

Kansas City's Creative 501c3 non-profit organization. **Mission Statement:** To transcend everyday challenges. By using the Arts to nurture creative & undeveloped ideas that shape society. Established in 2014.

# LEADING THE VISION

#### What a year 2020 was!

- We started a 100-year journey. "JOIN US!"
- Leased BOON AREA 1 out to Spire Received funds,
- Buffalo grass seeds, and gravel rock.
- Created a mapping tool outlining the west side of District 5.
- Worked with a number of clients helping them pursue their aspirational goals & dreams.
- Established relationships with partners.

It has been an amazing journey with some amazing people. 2021 has gotten off to a wonderful start! Some of our goals for 2021 are to build BOON AREA 1, obtain our 2nd property, and continue developing a vision all can be a part of.

### CARL STAFFORD, CCC

Founder and Visionary

The three vision designs created in FY2020 for MY REGION WINS!. The top is a vision for a Recreational Power Park, the middle reflects the working model of Boon Area I, and the bottom is a visionary drawing for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park. Drawings by **Jonathon Bryce Lyman**.

3-D model by **RDM Architecture** 



### **PROGRAMS & PROJECTS**

MY REGION WINS! obtained the first vacant lot from the KCMO Land Bank in 2016. BOON AREA 1 is an interactive, functional artwork that acts as a contemporary community garden. In line with MY REGION WINS! mission to 'transcend everyday challenges' by using arts to nurture creative and undeveloped ideas that shape society, BOON AREA 1 is the first of many vacant lots that is being transformed to neighborhood spaces. By working in partnership with neighborhood organizations, each BOON AREA will ultimately become a revenue generator for the neighborhoods they are in.

BOON AREA 1, located at 72nd Street and Indiana, was purchased from the Land Bank of Kansas City, MO in 2016. This space is located in a defunct business zone, where almost all properties are being used as residences or vacant lots. The concept and plan for BOON AREA 1 is to highlight how the land's natural systems can benefit and create value within the space. BOON AREA 1's programming and design is intended to demonstrate through display in order to better educate.

There have been events held at Boon Area 1 and volunteers engaging in the revitalization of the space. In 2020, MY REGION WINS! was contracted by Heartland Conservation Alliance to further the vacant land reclamation project through monthly community conversations. These conversations moved virtually in 2020 and continue virtually in 2021 under the 'From blight to BOON!' series. The organization also has an established relationship with the Noble Neighborhood Association and the KCMO Councilpersons representing the 5th District.

[Images] Top: Nonprofits use BOON AREA I on a warm summer day. Middle: Residents of KCMO gather during the monthly 'From blight To BOON!' community meeting. Bottom: After the leasing with Spire finished, the company re-grated the land, adding valuable topsoil, native grass seeds, and rock to the property to prepare it for the next phase of restoration.









## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

MY REGION WINS! made some huge strides in FY 2020, despite the constraints of a global pandemic. A successful short-term contract with Heartland Conservation Alliance and Spire leasing BOON AREA 1 allowed MRW! to continue the important neighborhood-focused work. The continuation of 'From blight to BOON!' monthly community meetings, now regularly hosted the first Saturday after the monthly 5th District meeting was one of these successes. MY REGION WINS! has also been busy visioning! We were able to commission three artistic vision designs of 'From blight to BOON!' logo, a Swope Park Recreational Power Park, and a revolutionary redesign of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park. These visioning documents are at the heart of what MY REGION WINS! does by coalescing people around re-designing vacant spaces to truly meet the needs of the neighborhood and community as a whole.

As we look ahead through 2021 and beyond, MY REGION WINS! is only beginning! The foundation fortified through 2020 will quickly give way to walls and a roof as we continue to build toward a more equitable, meaningful recreation story by using art and the environment to elevate. The visionary leadership of Mr. Stafford is bearing fruits as more and more people get a glimpse of the possible futures that exist when we think outside the box and focus on the power of the people, land, and resources within.

Onward and Upward!

Natasha Karsk, Administrative Officer

### Budget Summary FY2021

Income	Year T
Free For Service	\$,53
Individual Donations	\$1,5
Corporate Donations	
INCOME TOTAL	\$7,
EXPENSES	
Administrative Expenses	\$2,
Programmatic Expenses	\$3,
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$5,

Administrative Ex... 45.3%

> Programmatic Ex... 54.7%

FY 2021 Expense Distribution

Fee for Service 74.3%

