# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT PROJECT TRELLIS CANNABIS BUSINESS MICRO-GRANT

## **APPLICANT COVER SHEET**

APPLICANT NAME:

STREET ADDRESS:

APPLICANT PHONE: 7

APPLICANT EMAIL: WENDY@SUNNABIS.COM

APPLICANT INTEREST SITE: APN: 223-075-012

BUSINESS NAME: SUNNABIS: HUMBOLDT'S FULL SUN FARMS

ARE YOU APPLYING AS A HUMBOLDT COUNTY BASED BUSINESS, COOPERATIVE, ASSOCIATION, OR

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION: YES

ARE 75% OR MORE OF ITS OPERATIONS BASED IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY? YES

ARE YOU CURRENTLY LICENSED AND REGISTERED TO OPERATE IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY? YES

ARE THE ACTIVITIES OF YOUR BUSINESS, ASSOCIATION, OR ORGANIZATION, SPECIFIC TO THE CULTIVATION, PROCESSING, MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION OR RETAIL OF CANNABIS OR WHOSE ORGANIZATION PROVIDES SUPPORT AND OR SERVICES TO THE CANNABIS INDUSTRY? YES

#### **BUSINESS OR ASSOCIATION TYPE**

\$10,000 ELIGIBILITY: CULTIVATION

CULTIVATION LIGHTING (AS DEFINED IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY CODE 719-3): OUTDOOR

WHAT AMOUNT OF THE BUSINESS IS HUMBOLDT-OWNED? 100%

OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE AND OWNERS: C-CORP. CEO:

# OF FTE EMPLOYEES: 3

SUMMARIZE THE BUSINESS/ASSOCIATION AND ITS ACTIVITIES. (WORD LIMIT 250)

Humboldt County rivers run wild. Selecting their destinies, cutting across the landscape, they wind their way towards Northern California's Great Pacific. It's here you'll find us: Sunnabis, Humboldt's Full Sun Farms. We at Sunnabis Farms hail from the hills near the East Branch of the South Fork of the Eel River. We're second generation cannabis farmers, raised here in Humboldt. Our family cultivates heritage strains. Sunnabis has produced high grade, medical marijuana for California patients at this particular site for a decade, respectfully tending to our stunning, off-grid location through organic and biodynamic farming methods. We're all about the permaculture. Sustainable infrastructure improvements are always in the works. As we endeavor to protect this epic habitat that surrounds, sustains, and inspires us, we recognize the realities of climate change. Thus, Sunnabis

Farms fosters only full-sun plants, ensuring that Sunnabis cannabis comes with the lowest carbon footprint of any in the industry today.

#### PROPOSAL REQUEST

PROGRAM/PROJECT NAME: FENCING FOR FLOWERS

REQUESTED AMOUNT: \$10,000

TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$15,465.73

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES: SELF

TYPE OF PROJECT: IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT ADDRESS: APN: 223-075-012

PROJECT ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER (APN): 223-075-012

DOES THE PROJECT/BUSINESS CONSIST OF A QUALIFIED OUTDOOR CULTIVATING OPERATION THAT PRODUCES LESS THAN 10,000SQ FT OF CANNABIS? NO

WHICH LICENSES, PERMITS OR AGREEMENTS DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE, OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING, AS ARE APPLICABLE TO YOUR BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION.

- CDFA CANNABIS CULTIVATION ANNUAL PERMIT
- CDFW LAKE AND STREAMBED ALTERATION (LSA) AGREEMENT OR WRITTEN VERIFICATION IF NOT NEEDED
- HUMBOLDT COUNTY ANNUAL PERMIT
- JURISDICTION BUSINESS LICENSE
- CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TAX AND FEE ADMINISTRATION TAX PERMIT
- CDFA WEIGHMASTER LICENSE
- ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
- FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (FEIN)

#### **EXPLANATION OF NARRATIVE QUESTIONS**

PROJECT OVERVIEW: (WORD LIMIT: 500 WORDS)

The proposed project, Fencing for Flowers, is a project that we need to implement for new fencing around the cultivation sites. This project is of utmost importance for our business as every year we lose almost half of our plants due to deer, rabbits, and voles infiltrating the gardens. Our farm has been on a shoestring budget for the past three years due to a lack of legal water source and insufficient water storage, and therefore we have been operating at approximately 10-15% of possible yields. To alleviate this issue we have built our fully engineered and permitted pond so water is no longer a problem, but the pond required most of our available funds and we have almost nothing left for new fences. The existing fences have been tied together for over six to ten years now, and the rabbits and deer have ripped so many holes in it that there is no real way it can continue to be mended. When much of our time is spent chasing deer away and sleeping in the garden at night to try and mitigate rabbit damage, we have little energy left for tending to our crops properly. This means that the quality has not been that of what it could be, and has been, in the past, and in fact much of our product has gone straight to extract since the animal damage has been so bad.

Each of the three cultivation sites requires brand new fencing. Site 1, CCL19-0001243, should have a fence line that measures 100' by 120' so as to include the proposed and approved additional garden bed. Site 2, CCL19-001250, has a fence line that measures 100' by 100', and site 3, CCL19-0001234, measures 120' by 120'. The fencing material we have chosen is a galvanized 12.5 gauge 8' tall fixed-knot wire fence that is manufactured to resist rust, corrosion, and warping. We plan to include the addition of 1/2" mesh metal hardware cloth on the bottom of the 8' fixed-knot fence to create a barrier to the voles and other rodents. We have included in the budget proper gates for access, as well as corners and ends so as to support the fence for the 20-40 years estimated by the fencing company. The hardware cloth that will be implemented on the bottom of the tied-knot fencing will be sunk one foot into the ground and three feet above the soil level to mitigate the entrance and movement of the voles. In this manner, with new metal tied-knot fencing (which is proposed to be the strongest and most resilient to animals) the fence should keep out all the animals and protect the crop for many decades to come. The grant will help pay for the supplies and equipment needed to implement the project in full. We have around \$5,000 budgeted for the project, but we have not yet been able to secure the full amount needed.

### ECONOMIC IMPACTS: (WORD LIMIT: 500 WORDS)

We are estimating that the project will require approximately five people to ensure that it is executed properly. Upon doing research and receiving several estimates, we are calculating that it should take five eight-hour days to fully implement. We hope to have the fencing completely installed before the end of 2021, and with funding from the Project Trellis grant we will be able to buy the materials and get the fences finished by then, if not before. This project, once completed, will support not only our business but also the county and its constituents. Once the crop is secure we estimate that we will have 350-450 pounds of top grade cannabis in June/July and an additional 450-550 in the fall. At this scale we will be unable to run the farm on the skeleton crew of the three owners and we will have the funds needed to expand our operations to take on seasonal and full time workers. We project that the fencing alone will allow us to become solvent enough after the first harvest that we will be able to hire two full time employees and three to five seasonal workers. This security will also require us to send the cannabis off for processing, which will add to the job security of the local processing facilities. We have an agreement with The Humboldt Campus and possibly SISU for processing, and we are seeking other local licensed processors to work with and support as well, if needs be, Our tax liability will increase dramatically with the additional product as well. The last several years we have not contributed greatly to the cannabis excise taxes, as we have not been able to cultivate at the scale that is possible within our permit sizing. With the addition of secure fences we project that the taxes our company pays will increase approximately 100 times what it has been.

We have researched all fencing options and settled on this one, as it is the best—protection from all the animals that feed on our crops. Years ago in the two small gardens that were retired we ran the hardware cloth vole fencing and found it 100% effective at excluding these rodents from the gardens. We are prepared to hire contract labor through Dark Staffing, with whom we have worked before, to get the fencing up in the allotted time and within the parameters of the budget we set forth.

Furthermore, we would love to be able to contribute back to the community through monetary donations and continue to build and strengthen our relationships with other local businesses, non-profits, and other organizations that will provide a platform for our county to prosper.

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: (WORD LIMIT: 500 WORDS)

If the quality dips too low Humboldt county begins to lose its brand identity and we lose our customer base and market share. This is a problem all over the industry, but we have positioned our farm to achieve the kind of quality that is to be expected from Humboldt county, now that we have access to the water we need for cultivation. With the addition of solid fences we will be able to focus our time and energy on the aspects of the

farm that have created the quality that Sunnabis: Humboldt's Full Sun Farms has come to be known for. These specific fences were planned to implement will not need to be replaced anytime soon as they can last up to 40 years, versus the current non environmentally friendly plastic fencing that we've had to replace approximately every couple of years. We utilize Korean Natural Farming on our farm, which means that we create all the inputs and nutrients that we use for cultivation. This system of farming creates a rich, healthy, fungal dominant living soil, which in turn creates a strong healthy plant that can fend off most pests and diseases. Knowing that our crop is secure and safe will give us the necessary time to make our inputs, as well as to teach our community how to implement this environmentally superior farming methodology. Because we use mostly natural plant-based materials to feed our crops we not only do not have any run-off that may impact our watershed, but we also don't use any dangerous chemical pesticides or salt-based fertilizers. Our farm uses a very limited amount of plastic and we produce almost no plastic farm waste. With solid fences that are expected to remain for decades, we will not be adding to the land-fills with funky plastic deer fencing. We shouldn't have to replace our garden fences for many many years, and most importantly we will have a sustainable business since the animal damage that has negatively impacted us in the past will be mitigated. We are proud stewards of our land and care deeply for the health of our soil, water, and air, as well as producing medical grade cannabis for the regulated California cannabis market.

## PROJECT PROCESS:(WORD LIMIT: 500 WORDS)

The three owners have developed a well thought plan to ensure that this project serves its purpose, provides economic opportunity, maintains an environmentally friendly and sustainable future, and that it allows the business the opportunity to flourish successfully. The owners will ensure that industry best practices are maintained and followed during the entire duration of this project. Wendy is well versed with project management and business development that will be needed to ensure that everything from personnel hired, material purchased, process of performance, execution of the project will be handled in the most efficient manner possible. We would expect that the timeline would be completed on time.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: (OPTIONAL) (WORD LIMIT: 250)

in Northern California. Her family-run farm, Humboldt's Full Sun Farms, produces high-grade, medical cannabis for herself, her family, and California patients, respectfully tending to their stunning, off-grid location through organic and natural farming methods. family cultivates hot new cultivars as well as heritage strains—their farming techniques and seed stock have been lovingly preserved and passed down since the 1970's. She and her family are passionate about providing cannabis with the core value of sustainability held to the highest degree possible by using environmentally friendly farming methods and respecting the natural rhythms of the plants, animals, and people around them. is launching a series of workshops that will be available both in person and online to help others learn how to grow high quality food and medicine by utilizing the same techniques and methods she has perfected over the course of her life. also runs an advisory business for large scale grows to help them become more sustainable and regenerative, while increasing profit margins, farm efficiency, and end product quality.