Mission:
To improve the quality of life in our community by educating, engaging and inspiring St. Louisans to make our region cleaner, greener and more environmentally sustainable.

2022 Board of Directors
Mary Stewart, Chair
Katherine Golden, Vice-Chair
Geoffrey Burton
Richard Eaton
Elizabeth Liberatore
Kevin Neill
Gary Nelson

Financial Statement
For year ending 12/31/22

Public Support & Revenue
  Contributions & non-federal grants $121,733 26%
  Federal Grants 315,620 67%
  Special Activities, Sales to Public, & Other Revenue 35,176 7%
  Total Support & Revenue $472,529

Expenses
  Program Services $399,299 91%
  Administrative 32,486 7%
  Fundraising 5,561 2%
  Total Expenses $437,346

Interest & Depreciation expenses $ 69,184

Net Assets, End of Year $968,053

Federal grant for Brightside initiatives provided by block grant funding through HUD and the City of St. Louis Community Development Administration.
2022 marked Brightside St. Louis’ (aka Operation Brightside) 40th anniversary of cleaning and greening St. Louis.

2022 Accomplishments

Graffiti Eradication

Brightside preserves property values. By removing graffiti, Brightside preserves property values and strengthens neighborhoods. At no cost to the property owner, in 2022 Brightside eradicated 189,XXX square feet of graffiti from 1,931 vandalized homes, businesses, schools, churches and public spaces.

Demonstration Garden and Learning Center

Brightside demonstrates sustainability and energy-saving practices on the corner of Kingshighway & Vandeventer. Garden is open for visitors to learn about native plants and the importance of pollinator habitat, storm-water best management practices, and innovative forestry techniques. Great way for visitors to learn about what they can replicate at home, in their neighborhood and future community projects. Hybrid educational workshops gave people the opportunity to participate in person or virtually. Thousands of volunteer hours are invested each year in caring for the Demonstration Garden.

Community Cleaning and Greening Efforts

Brightside – making St. Louis a better place. Each year thousands of volunteer hours are invested in community cleaning and greening efforts from alley clean-ups to major planting projects. In 2022, more than 6,500 volunteers participated in 316 neighborhood clean-up and planting projects, planting 40,000 dianthus, 40,000 marigolds and 40,000 celosia to beautify green spaces across the city.

Brightside greens St. Louis. To beautify neighborhood entrances, parks, schools, medians, vacant lots and other public green spaces, including City Hall, Brightside volunteers and supporters also planted 40,000 daffodils along with 1,700 native perennials, grasses, shrubs and trees along with another 30,000 daffodils and tulips.

Some of the flowers were purchased by individuals, businesses and community organizations through our annual sale, Blooming Soon! to help support Brightside’s cleaning and greening initiatives.

Recycling Outreach & Education

Brightside promotes litter awareness and recycling as ways to protect the environment and make St. Louis more sustainable. In 2022, the Saint Louis City Recycles team distributed more than 500 in-home recycling bins. In addition, St. Louis metro area residents are encouraged to Recycle Responsibly and “Stick with the Six” items that can be recycled throughout our region.