

# City of Lakewood

# SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

2020

*DEFENDER OF THE PLANET*  
YOUTH AWARD



## Styrofoam Stoppers

**Cris Sorency's 5th Grade Class at  
South Lakewood Elementary**



The “Styrofoam Stoppers” of Cris Sorency’s 5th Grade class at South Lakewood Elementary School petitioned the school to stop the use of Styrofoam trays. The class researched the negative impacts of Styrofoam on human health and the environment, and then launched an effective communication strategy to educate community leaders, Jeffco Public Schools, and the public. Armed with facts and a desire for change, the students successfully eliminated the use of Styrofoam lunch trays at their school and encouraged Jeffco Public Schools to make the switch from Styrofoam to reusable or compostable trays starting in the 2019-2020 school year.

Their education campaign reduced South Lakewood Elementary School’s lunchroom trash by approximately 60%, and Jeffco Public Schools is beginning to transition from Styrofoam trays for the 6 million meals served to students each year.

### Achievement Areas

- Zero Waste
- Community Cohesion & Public Health



[Lakewood.org/Green](http://Lakewood.org/Green)

