
2007 Grant Awards

Access Adventure/Solano Land Trust

\$7,000 towards expanding the reach of open space and wilderness access programs, along with facilitating collaborative connections mainstreaming disabled and disadvantaged youth with mainstream and able-bodied youth to provide historical and environmental education, cultural connections and recreational opportunities in nature.

Aim High for High School

\$35,000 to support the Headlands Environmental Home Program (HEHP), a partnership between Aim High and the GGNRA, which provides urban middle school-age youth with hands-on experiences that foster environmental awareness, personal growth, interpersonal understanding, and ultimately a stewardship ethic to carry into all areas of life.

BEETS Rangers

\$10,000 towards the Brigade of Environmentally Educated Teen Rangers (BEET Rangers), a new environmental leadership program targeting underserved youth in the Western Addition, offering a stipended opportunity for 15 ethnically diverse 13 to 15 year olds to become stewards of local parks and community leaders who educate and inspire hundreds of other youth and adults. Fostering appreciation and ownership of the urban outdoors through training in gardening and park maintenance, the BEET Rangers project increases the involvement of neighborhood youth in the limited green space available in their inner-city locale.

California State Parks Foundation

\$125,000 towards the Outdoor Youth Connection which trains local youth to be peer leaders on camping trips for their communities that are participating in the FamCamp programs of CA State Parks.

City of Firebaugh

\$200,000 to build a top of the line soccer facility and expand an existing park. The City hopes to build a viable athletic space in hopes to start soccer leagues for the highly populated Hispanic community. Soccer is a cultural mainstay for many local Hispanics in Firebaugh, which represent over 80% of the population.

City of Fresno

\$200,000 to fund a 6.58-acre park located in west-central Fresno park facility that will be accessible to all citizens, disabled or able-bodied. The park will address the current lack of local recreation facilities and green space, lack of universally accessible park space and improve children's health.

Community Alliance with Family Farmers:

\$75,000 to engage youth with their environment by connecting them with local farms and farmers modeling good land stewardship and sustainable practices. Building on a successful program for younger students, CAFF will partner with a variety of youth-serving organizations to offer hands-on food and farming education that emphasizes farming conservation practices, healthy farm-fresh foods and agricultural job opportunities.

Community Educational Services

\$25,000 towards The Chinatown Outdoor Leadership Project, which gives youth the tools and opportunities to become leaders by engaging them in challenging outdoor activities.

Contra Costa County Opportunity West

\$10,000 towards The Gompers Greenway Brigade, which is designed to involve high school students with the new Greenway being developed through a partnership between the City of Richmond and The Friends of the Richmond Greenway (FORG), an all-volunteer effort to increase use of, care for and creativity in developing gardens, murals and other projects which enhance the basic trail and entice youth to exercise and enjoy physical activity on it.

Contra Costa County Opportunity West

\$95,000 towards the Yellow Brick Road project, which is a concept that calls for youth developing pathways to the Nevin Community Park that are safe and aims to engage the community in re-use patterns for the Nevin Street Park and Community Center.

County of the Tulare

\$50,000 in partnership with the Cutler-Orosi Community for Youth Foundation, to build a skateboard park adjacent to the Sheriff's Department in a rural community in Tulare County. The Youth Foundation hopes to use outdoor programming to connect the lowest socioeconomic youth to a more positive life by providing a safe zone for youth.

Daughters of Tradition: DOT

\$5,000 towards the Dot program, which brings traditional and cultural teachings of Native elders through developed curriculum to the poor and underserved youth in Kern County. The curriculum utilizes mind-mapping and the talking circle.

Downtown High School Get Out and Learn

\$35,000 toward the Get Out & Learn project, which is an alternative, experiential high school program that uses hands-on learning and the outdoors to re-engage SF youth in the education process.

East Oakland Boxing Association

\$35,000 towards The Smartmoves Stewards project, which aims to engage urban youth in the natural world that surrounds them, even in their urban neighborhood.

Fresh Lifelines for Youth, Inc.

\$40,000 towards empowering youth in the juvenile justice system to become socially responsible citizens who are stewards of the environment. This Program utilizes a rounded approach to youth development by providing underserved youth with yearlong mentors who utilize ongoing outdoor experiences and environmental service learning to promote healthy decision making and positive youth leadership

InnVision

\$10,000 towards The Family Services Youth Development Program, which is designed to positively impact the lives of youth. Homeless parents and youth who are in crisis come to the Family Services program with nothing and now are trying to put together their lives. The support of caring staff can show youth the path to experiencing the outdoors, not only to gain appreciation of nature, but most importantly it is the natural outdoor's that nurishes their well-being and creates self-esteem.

Literacy for Environmental Justice

\$40,000 towards sustaining support for the youth programs at Heron's Head Park, comprising two major initiatives: (1) free K-12 environmental education, helping students from the community bridge the gap between the urban and natural environments, and (2) the Community Geographers program, training local youth to serve as interpreters/naturalists at LEJ's environmental education center, the Living Classroom.

Literacy for Environmental Justice

\$200,000 to build the capacity of Huron's Head Park, located in southeastern San Francisco near Bayview Hunters Point, by constructing a Green living roof. With the new roof, which will provide wildlife habitat, reduce storm water and enhance insulation and energy efficiency, the LEJ hopes to create a community resource site and significantly increase youth education and participation in environmental health and justice.

Mendocino County Youth Project

\$10,000 towards conquering a trail through an ancient redwood forest, llama trekking to a waterfall picnic, exploring rivers and watching salmon spawn, seeing the ocean for the first time, exploring tide pools and walking the beaches, watching elk graze along the shore of Lake Pillsbury, geo caching in the state park, frisbee golfing in the rain at Lake Mendocino then eating more pizza than you thought possible.

The Mosaic Project

\$10,000 towards The Mosaic Project's unique outdoor school, which offers high-school students extensive training and a leadership role in this extraordinary process through the Youth Leadership Project. After completing a competitive application process and attending training retreats, youth leaders serve as mentors and cabin leaders for the diverse 4th and 5th graders at the outdoor school

Native American Health Center, Inc.

\$35,000 towards The Chae-Mal Wilderness Program, which will provide education and activities like kayaking, mountain biking, hiking and camping for urban Native American and other youth in the community that will nurture an appreciation of the outdoors and respect for its enjoyment and protection.

Oakland Food Connection

\$10,000 towards the continuation and expansion of operating a successful garden and cooking program in a predominantly low-income and racially diverse public high school. Funds will be used to hire several Unity High School students to participate more fully in food cultivation and preparation as well as distribution at a local farmers market. OFC helps students to draw connections between environmental stewardship, personal health, outdoor education, leadership development and environmental and social justice.

Pie Ranch

\$10,000 towards strengthening "Pure Pie", an integrated sustainable food system program, by partnering with another San Francisco Mission District school, Metro Arts and Technology High School.

Project Avary, Inc.

\$10,000 towards helping children of incarcerated parents develop the knowledge, skills, and self-confidence to enjoy and experience nature. The experience will have a positive influence on their experience in school, community and family and, ultimately, will prevent their involvement in the criminal justice system.

Project OLE

\$5,000 towards the engagement of the teenage students at San Francisco Community School in outdoor, environmental activities that are tied into the school's project-based curriculum utilizing the existing Outdoor Learning Environment as an outdoor classroom and laboratory.

Regents of University of California, Berkeley c/o Sponsored Projects Office

\$40,000 towards The ARC collaboration between UC Field Stations, the NRS, University Departments, School Districts, Forest Service & Park Service, and local non-profit organizations serving and impacting California students. Other website: <http://sagehen.ucnrs.org/arc/index.htm>

Roundhouse Council: *Regional Traditional Ecological Knowledge Youth Camp*

\$16,000 towards expanding the traditional ecological knowledge summer camp, which serves Native youth from the North Valley and the Northern Sierra Nevada.

Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services

\$100,000 towards YouthWORKS, a project that will take 200 youth to urban parks and wilderness areas and move them from participation in outdoor recreation to part-time jobs in recreation and eventually toward admission to Sacramento State's recreation degree program.

San Francisco Parks Trust

\$70,000 towards Street Parks, a land stewardship program devoted to connecting youth and community groups with the outdoors, galvanizing citizens to renovate neglected city streets into parks, open spaces, and community gardens.

Seven Teepees Youth Program

\$35,000 towards the 7 Corps Stewardship Project, which will provide 80+ low income youth one or more extended overnight experiences in nature (6 trips provided) and 8 weeks of daily summer community service to beautify our local parks. Youth will engage in weekly environmental courses year round, earning recognition for each level of knowledge, skill, and service they achieve. Curriculum integrates environmental science and justice, our Native American philosophy, and projects youth can do in their schools and homes.

The Spanish Speaking Unity Council of Alameda County

\$200,000 to transform existing schoolyards at Garfield elementary and Urban Promise Academy to promote more physical activity among students, enable school sports programming and increase the community open space. The project is a collaborative effort with the Unity Council, East Bay Asian Youth Center and the Oakland Unified School District.

Stanislaus County Department of Parks and Recreation

\$200,000 to improve Empire Park by constructing a swimming pool and spray pad. Without a safe place for supervised swimming, youth often swim in the rivers and canals, which are not safe. The funds will be used to provide safe, supervised swimming facility and safety education, which is currently unavailable in the region.

Sunrise Special Services Foundation: *Sunrise*

\$5,000 towards "Pathways", which will introduce the beauty and traditional resources of Lake County to youths who have lived here almost all their lives. A new awareness of the everyday mountains, watersheds, plants, lake species will promote the "fun" of the outdoors.

Sustaining Ourselves Locally: Growing Community

\$10,000 towards capacity building for a highly successful, 4-year old, volunteer-based urban agriculture education project in East Oakland to expand the meaningful experiences and internship opportunities that we provide for the youth of our low-income neighborhood.

Sutter County Superintendent of Schools Office

\$60,000 towards the Expanding Horizons for Disadvantaged Youth program, which will provide leadership opportunities, career experience, and ongoing outdoor opportunities for disenfranchised youth in Yuba and Sutter Counties. The program will utilize the outdoors and environmental/stewardship education as a means for providing these youth with life experience, knowledge, and career and education opportunities designed to expand their existing options and motivate them toward positive life choices

US Forest Service

\$35,000 towards The Generation Green Youth Stewardship Program, which will select 12 diverse youth from urban and rural areas to complete summer stewardship internships (320 hours) and training such as resume writing, ethics and conduct, access to higher education, and time management. The goal is to create 12 young stewards who will educate their communities on caring for the land, providing mentors for students and a valuable work experience.

Wilderness Arts & Literacy Collaborative

\$10,000 towards core operating support to enable WALC to provide quality place-based environmental education programs to underserved youth of color. Outdoor field experiences are an inseparable part of students' educational experience.

Yosemite National Park

\$40,000 towards providing underserved youth a transformative experience through a series of fully scholarshiped wilderness and community-based programs, giving them the knowledge, inspiration and empowerment needed to make them long-term environmental stewards. **Official Yosemite National Park Website**