

Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) is one of 17 organizations statewide selected to receive funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act administered by California ReLeaf. FUF’s mission is to promote a larger, healthier urban forest as part of the urban ecosystem, through community planting, maintenance, education and advocacy.



The \$750,000 grant for FUF’s Urban Tree Planting and Youth Tree Care Program allowed this San Francisco-based non-profit to support its three core programs: community tree planting, tree care and educational outreach.

The tree care component provided for site visits to each tree during the critical first three years of growth and included an overall assessment of the tree’s health as well as structural pruning, re-staking and pest and disease inspection.

This grant also provided for the Friends of the Urban Forest Youth Tree Care Program, which gives training, experience and employment to more than 80 low-income and at-risk youth ages 14 to 18. These kids come primarily from underserved and environmentally neglected areas of the city, and are provided the opportunity to learn about valuable tree care and maintenance techniques.



Fast Facts for the Friends of the Urban Forest ARRA Grant

Jobs created: 51

Jobs Retained: 9

Trees Planted: 2,455

Trees Maintained: 5,756

Job Hours Contributed to California Work Force: 27,084

Lasting legacy: this project provided critical training in the green jobs sector for Bay Area at-risk youth while also creating a healthier, cleaner, and more livable environment for both San Francisco residents and visitors.

“By the end of the grant period, we expect our youth to be responsible for roughly one-third of the tree care and maintenance performed by FUF – close to 2,000 trees.” -- Doug Wildman, Program Director, Friends of the Urban Forest.

