



Partners in Progress with



The Urban Corps of San Diego County (UCSDC) is one of 17 organizations statewide selected to receive funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act administered by California ReLeaf. UCSDC’s mission is to provide job training and educational opportunities to young adults, in the fields of conservation, recycling, and community service which will assist these youths in becoming more employable, while protecting San Diego’s natural resources and instilling the importance of community involvement.



The \$167,000 grant for UCSDC’s Woods to the Hoods project allowed the Urban Corps to plant almost 700 trees in three low-income, high-crime, and severely underserved Redevelopment Areas within San Diego. Combined, the three areas -- Barrio Logan, City Heights and San Ysidro – represent mixed-use neighborhoods of light industrial businesses and homes, near ship repair facilities and shipyards; and one of the busiest border crossings in the world, with more than 17 million vehicles crossing daily between the U.S. and Mexico.

Corps members not only be gained valuable on-the-job training as part of this project, but also worked closely with the people and businesses in the targeted neighborhoods with the goal of improving air quality, adding shade and enhancing the livability of these areas.



Fast Facts for the UCSDC ARRA Grant

Jobs created/retained: 3

Trees Planted: 682

Trees Maintained: 1851

Job Hours Contributed to California Work Force: 11,717

Lasting legacy: this project provided critical training in the green jobs sector for young adults while also creating a healthier, cleaner, and more livable environment for both San Diego residents and visitors.

“In addition to the benefits of trees in mitigating pollution and beautifying an area, tree planting and the care and maintenance of trees is a wonderful way for neighbors to come together in support of their communities.” – Sam Lopez, Director of Operations, Urban Corps of San Diego County.

