California ReLeaf’s mission is to empower grassroots efforts and build strategic partnerships that preserve, protect and enhance California’s urban and community forests. We work statewide to promote alliances among community-based organizations, individuals, industry, and government agencies, encouraging each to contribute to the livability of our cities and the protection of our environment by planting and caring for trees.

Thank you to all of our partner organizations that participated in this project statewide. For a list of all 17 organizations and to learn more about their projects, visit californiareleaf.org/treesandjobs.
In 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) assigned the U.S. Forest Service a role in facilitating the preservation and creation of jobs to promote economic recovery throughout the nation by helping those impacted by the recession.

California ReLeaf was selected by the U.S. Forest Service to administer $6 million from the ARRA economic stimulus package to support 17 urban forestry projects statewide. The care and management of California’s urban and community forests through these projects resulted in nearly 90,000 trees planted and maintained, the creation and retention of more than 380 local jobs, along with the contribution of over 205,000 job hours to California’s workforce. We are leaving a legacy. These urban forestry projects provided critical training in the public works sector for young adults and at-risk youth. We also created a healthier, cleaner and livable environment for California residents and visitors for decades to come.

The ARRA projects demonstrate that urban and community forests create local jobs and have a positive impact on California’s economy. In 2009, more than 60,000 urban forestry jobs throughout California resulted in $3.3 billion in individual income. It also added $3.6 billion in value to the state’s economy.

Cities and towns across California can continue job creation and economic growth by investing in urban and community forests today.

Join California ReLeaf in leaving a legacy.