

**Ben & Jerry's Foundation
2007 National Grassroots Small Grant Recipients**

American Adoption Congress, Washington, DC

\$950

AAC will assist Massachusetts' youth in participating with the legislative bill process during Youth Advocacy Day. Legislation under consideration would allow adult adoptees and those raised in foster care access to their birth certificates and expand health care to emancipated foster youth ages 18 and 19.

Beyond Borders, Anchorage, AK

\$1,000

The leadership training pilot program will equip and empower rural Alaskan (primarily Native) youth to best serve in their own community; the program will facilitate discussion and interaction with topics revolving around leadership and relationships.

Center for Environmental Equity (CEE), Portland, OR

\$1,000

CEE is the only organization in Oregon to prioritize mineral mining and mining degradation with respect to abandoned mines. Funding was provided in support of the Almeda Abandoned Mine Project.

Center for Immigrant Healthcare Justice, St. Louis, MO

\$1,000

CIHJ advocates for universal access to healthcare by a) building a national network of institutions dedicated to healthcare delivery, human services and human rights; b) networking among physicians who will inevitably be involved in decisions regarding the future of healthcare delivery, and c) using grassroots organizing to bring societal forces into convergence to facilitate political solutions to the inequities in healthcare for the immigrant population. Funds were provided in support of the national solidarity campaign which is working to collect signatures from religious communities, healthcare systems, universities and social service agencies in support of universal access to health care for immigrants.

Dayton Pledge of Resistance, Dayton, OH

\$1,000

The Voices of Resistance Project will broadly distribute hard copy and online versions of a book--From Warriors to Resisters: U.S. Veterans on Terrorism--in order to support the grassroots movements to close the School of the Americas and to curtail military recruitment by challenging recruitment rhetoric.

ECOS: Environmental Clearinghouse, Inc., Niskayuna, NY

\$1,000

ECOS is a member organization working to bring together communities in the region to cooperate on addressing issues that affect their local environment. Funding was provided in support of Sustainable Development II: Balancing Growth, Preservation and Environment, a conference to develop recommendations from the local citizenry on ways to address anticipated growth in the Capital Region of New York.

Education Not Incarceration (ENI), Oakland, CA

\$1,000

General support to build their national campaign to stop pushouts ("dropouts"). A new organization that is growing rapidly through a partnership with the National Education Association,

ENI empowers youth to advocate reprioritizing resources away from prison systems into comprehensive and equitable education for all.

Friends of the Dunes, Arcata, CA

\$930

Friends of the Dunes is dedicated to conserving the natural diversity of coastal environments through community-supported education and stewardship programs. Funds were provided to support the Dune Ecosystem Restoration Team (DERT), composed of community volunteers working to restore fragile dune habitat.

Friends of the Young Suffragists, Washington, DC

\$1,000

The Young Suffragists are children, ages 4-12, exploring democracy and voting rights through educational and civic action in D.C. and California, with a particular emphasis on the lack of voting rights for D.C. residents.

Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools (GSAFE), Madison, WI

\$800

Funding was provided in support of the Leadership Training Institute, the goal of which is to develop and sustain strong student leaders in Wisconsin's schools, and to provide them with the skills needed to combat harassment and discrimination in their schools.

Hattie Carthan Community Garden, Brooklyn, NY

\$1,000

Funding was provided for "Growing Your Community from the Ground Up": a food security and nutrition awareness workshop series conducted in the garden during the growing season. It focuses on social and economic factors which influence food choices/diet and access to local food.

Illick's Mill Partnership for Environmental Education, Bethlehem, PA

\$1,000

The Illick's Mill Partnership is an innovative consortium transforming the Mill into a community environmental center and in so doing establishing a home for environmental action to preserve and protect the Monocacy Creek watershed and its abundant wildlife, provide a local model of environmental sustainability and technology, and a national model of youth-led community change. Funding was provided in support of the Illick's Mill Project, a class offered to high school students who work together in the classroom and at the Mill toward the restoration goals.

Indykids, New York, NY

\$1,000

Indykids is a community media initiative which provides a social justice newspaper for 4th - 8th graders. Indykids works within and outside of schools to help give voice to kids and support and resources to teachers trying to empower their students with a critique of their social and political landscape.

K.W. Lee Center For Leadership, Los Angeles, CA

\$1,000

The K.W. Lee Center trains future Korean American leaders in the art of community activism. Funding was provided in support of the Korean American Youth Leaders in Training (KAYLT) program, an 8-week program which offers leadership training and hands-on community action projects to low-income, immigrant high school and college students through workshops with community leaders, elected officials, educators, and media personalities.

National Women's Prison Project, Baltimore, MD

\$1,000

NWPP works to support and empower women who are returning to Baltimore after incarceration. Funding was provided to help establish the National Women's Council, a national collaborative of previously incarcerated women who serve as executives of and leaders within organizations and initiatives that serve, empower, and advance the status of previously incarcerated women. The purpose of the Council is to network these women and provide professional and emotional support they need to effective leaders.

Northside Elementary School, Plantation, FL

\$250

Funding was provided to support a high school student's volunteer after school environmental program for Haitian immigrant children at the elementary school. The program emphasizes respect for the environmental and action steps these young children can take in their homes to help conserve energy, water, support local agriculture, etc.

Northwest Institute For Social Change, Portland, OR

\$1,000

The Northwest Institute hosts a summer academic program for 20 media study undergraduates to teach them about the role that the media can play in social movements. Funding was provided in support of a collaborative project to work with teenagers in North Portland to produce radio and film documentaries about racial profiling, gentrification and other issues facing that neighborhood.

Polson School District 23, Polson, MT

\$991

Polson Middle School is located on the Flathead Indian Reservation. Funding was provided in support Pirate Network News, a series of student produced TV news programs designed to help diminish racial tensions between native and non-native students on the reservation. The grant purchase video recording equipment to enable the students to go on location and produce features of the cultural and social issues existing on an Indian reservation.

Prison Performing Arts, St. Louis, MO

\$999

Supplies for the Vandalia Women's Prison Theatre performance of The Trojan Women by Euripides.

Project SeaWolf Coastal Protection, Marysville, WA

\$900

Project SeaWolf is an all-volunteer marine ecosystem advocacy group, focusing on public education campaigns and promotion of conservation efforts to protect orca whale and marine wildlife habitat on the West Coast. Funding was provided in support of a community-wide tree planting day to enhance streamside buffer on a recovering salmon-bearing watershed.

Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project, Seattle, WA

\$1000

Real Change is a street newspaper and homeless empowerment project in Seattle. They are building upon the strength of the vendor-reader relationship to create a pioneering community development organizing project that builds the political will to end homelessness in Seattle. The Neighborhood Organizing Project will develop homeless leadership while building relationships neighborhood by neighborhood to build a mobilized constituency to take on issues affecting poor and homeless people.

River to Coast Children's Services, Guerneville, CA

\$600

Parent Voices combines leadership development, advocacy and community organizing to increase funding, improve quality and provide better access to child care in the state of California.

Rowley Grange #204 rowley ma 1,000

The Essex County Dairy Farm Alliance will provide a support group to assist dairy farmers dealing with current economic issues as well as create an educational arm that will link local schools to farms. Funding was provided for educational materials.

Rural Community Action Ministry; RCAM, Leeds, ME \$995

A community gardening and service learning project which will bring seniors and kids together in the garden, writing and art projects.

S.A.V.E. Foundation (Student Advocates for Valuing the Environment), Helena, MT\$1,000

SAVE is a grassroots youth organization advocating conservation and sustainable living through recycling, alternative fuels and efficiency. A group of students, they travel statewide with their "Savemobile", a 1950 farm truck running on 100% homemade biodiesel, putting on events and concerts.

Save Barnegat Bay, Lavallette, NJ \$1,000

SBB an environmental group working to conserve undeveloped natural land, clean water, and valuable plant and animal ecosystems throughout the watershed. Funds were provided to help purchase a portable watershed/non-point source EnviroScape model--a 3D landscape model that will enable them to educate the community in a very hands-on, visual way.

Solidarity Kids Theatre, Minneapolis, MN \$994

SKT is a children's theater that creates and performs original plays for union and youth audiences. The group uses theater to examine issues such as child labor, immigration, privatization, and organized resistance to oppression. Funding was provided in support of a weeklong summer workshop.

South Brevard Area Inter-faith Sponsoring Committee, Melbourne, FL \$1,000

Working with police and public officials, community leaders are working to reduce crime, clean up blighted neighborhoods, and improve neighborhood parks and recreation facilities.

Tamarisk Coalition, Grand Junction, CO \$1,000

The Tamarisk Coalition is dedicated to providing technical assistance, education, and coordinating efforts to restore western riparian (stream-side) habitat impacted by invasive species. Funding was provided in support of the McInnis Canyons Volunteer Program, a community-based project that is promoting citizen involvement and volunteerism to help preserve a critical ecosystem. The goal of the program is strategic removal of tamarisk from the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area and Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness Area.

Tennessee Valley Clean Water Partnership, Decatur, AL \$1,000

Funding was provided to develop public education inserts to be placed in local newspapers throughout the Tennessee and Black Warrior River Basins as a cost effective way to educate the general public about watersheds and water quality and as a tool in recruiting new stakeholders to the water quality arena. The 12-page inserts will provide information on local watersheds,

nonpoint source pollution, economic impacts of clean water, and homeowner tips for reducing personal pollution.

Wakefield Middle School, Raleigh, NC

\$750

A small grant was provided to enable the school to purchase anti-bullying materials such as videos and activity books and to help peer mediators better publicize their program.

Washington Peace Center, Washington, DC

\$1,000

The WPC is a resource center for peace and justice organizations throughout the Washington, D.C. area. Funds were provided in support of a People's Peace Delegation to Iran to help prevent escalation between the U.S. and Iran

Wild Horse Children's Theatre, Carson City, NV

\$1,000

The Wild Horse Children's Theater is the resident theater company in the Children's Museum of Northern Nevada that creates theater experiences by children--for children. "Project Peace" is a powerful musical aimed towards elementary and middle school students. The all youth cast will tour 25 schools in northern Nevada to help young people understand the current world climate and empower them to become peacemakers in their school communities and world.

Woodstock Our Town, Woodstock, NY

\$1,000

Woodstock, Our Town was created by a group of residents to explore ways in which their community can communicate and organize around serious issues which face the town, including affordable housing, youth engagement, affordability, education, etc. Since January 2006, the group has organized a series of community events and forums, based on the World Cafe model, to encourage meaningful conversation resulting in the development of action plans.