

**Ben & Jerry's Foundation
2008 National Grassroots Small Grant Recipients**

American Veterans for Equal Rights, Fort Lauderdale, FL **\$1,000**

AVER is a veteran's service organization which helps all veterans throughout the state of Florida, but primarily Broward County, placing an emphasis on the underserved GLBT community. A small grant was provided in order to help increase the circulation of their newsletter.

Athens Land Trust, Athens, GA **\$1,000**

ALT works to protect open space in the region, provide permanently affordable, energy-efficient housing and revitalize neighborhoods in Athens-Clarke County. The Friends of the Five Acre Wood, a protected open space in the low-income Over the River neighborhood, aim to reach out to residents and provide activities and opportunities that encourage better utilization of the area and increase neighborhood childrens' environmental awareness and appreciation of this important open space. Funds will be used to hire a part-time neighborhood organizer who will work with residents to bring the neighborhood together and develop educational activities which will foster a sense of pride and stewardship for Five Acre Wood.

Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga, Waverly, NY **\$750**

Funding was provided in support of Youth Engagement Services which works with students in the Newark Valley Central School District, and specifically for their work involving low-income and foster care youth conducting research on food security issues in their area.

Center for Environmental Equity (CEE), Portland, OR **\$1,000**

CEE is the only organization in Oregon to prioritize mineral mining and mining degradation. CEE and its community partners put pressure on land management and pollution-control agencies to limit or remove pollution generated by new and abandoned and inactive mines. A small grant was provided to continue support for their community organizing and public education efforts towardst these ends.

Center for Policy Analysis (CPA) - EQUAL Health Care Project, San Francisco, CA **\$1,000**

Support was granted for The EQUAL Health Care Project, an emerging grassroots network of health activists - women, low-income communities and public health advocates - mobilizing to win national universal access to comprehensive affordable health care.

Clinch Coalition, Dungannon, VA **\$1,000**

The Clinch Coalition is an organization devoted to preserving and protecting the forest, wildlife, and watersheds of the Clinch Ranger District of the Jefferson National Forest and surrounding areas. Funding was provided in support of their efforts to bring the community together to turn High Knob into a public green space. The project will work to raise awareness, increase tourism and recreational opportunities and directly delay or prevent logging on High Knob's National Forest.

Committee for Green Foothills, Palo Alto, CA **\$1,000**

CGF protects open space, farmlands, and natural resources of the San Francisco Peninsula through advocacy, education, and grassroots action. Funding was provided in support of the Santa Clara

County Farming Forum/Farm Tour, which will feature listening sessions and dialogues with representatives of the Santa Clara County Farm Bureau, Cattlemen's Association, Community Alliance for Family Farmers, and activists from CGF and other local environmental organizations. Representatives from the migrant worker community and the general public will also be in attendance. The goal of the tour is encourage collective action and dialogue between environmental and farming communities.

Desiree Alliance, Henderson, NV

\$1,000

The Desiree Alliance is a diverse, volunteer-based, sex worker-led network of organizations, communities and individuals across the US working in harm reduction and advocacy for sex workers. The Alliance received a small grant to support networking activities at the US Harm Reduction Conference to be held in Florida. HRC is a national advocacy and capacity-building organization that promotes the health and dignity of individuals and communities by using harm reduction strategies.

District Council 13, Inc., St. Paul, MN

\$1,000

D13 is committed to fostering an environment conducive to empowering local citizens to participate in local decision-making. Among the most effective tools they have for accomplishing this goal are neighborhood block clubs. Funding was provided in support of new block club leader training workshops and ongoing support and networking for block clubs.

Florida Fair Elections Center, Inc., Deland, FL

\$1000

FFEC is a leader in the election integrity movement in Florida and nationwide which is working for verifiable, auditable, accurate, accessible, and transparent elections in Florida. Funding was provided in support of production of a "Citizen's Guide to Election Observation" for educating citizens about election observation and to conduct "training of trainers" workshops throughout Florida for citizens, pollwatchers, and members of non-profit and community groups.

Friends of North Clackamas Parks, Milwaukie, OR

\$650

The Friends have discovered that park planning has focused on developing active sports features which has led to detrimental environmental impacts on greenways, natural areas, wetlands, and watersheds. In an effort to get more public involvement in the park planning process funding was provided in support of educational and publicity materials and meeting facilitation for the Stewardship Committee.

Great Wall Center, Inc., Malden, MA

\$950

The Great Wall Center is a grassroots organization in Malden whose mission is to promote Asian American cultural heritage, human rights and harmony by advocating for community inclusion and service systems change. Funding was provided for the MADAC Parent Association, an association of low income, Asian families challenged by developmental disabilities and special health needs living in communities where there is a lack of accessibility, cultural awareness and competency in its local health and human service institutions.

Hackensack Middle School / GoodFellas, Hackensack, NJ

\$1,000

Funding was provided in support of GoodFellas, which identifies, fosters, and enhances the practical life and leadership skills of it's young members who are then empowered to make a positive and creative impact in their schools, families and community.

Hattie Carthan Community Garden, Brooklyn, NY

\$1,000

Funding was provided in support of a series of food security workshops in the garden entitled "Get Health and Wise". The workshops will help community members understand health disparities and examine what communities can do to help to eliminate them. The participants will embark on a community disparities action plan which utilizes and recognizes the strengths of the Bed-Stuy neighborhood and its people through intergenerational councils.

Hopi Tutskwa Permaculture, Flagstaff, AZ

\$2,000

Hopi Tutskwa Permaculture is a community group based within the Village of Kykotsmovi, in Northern Arizona on the Hopi Reservation. Their mission is to create opportunities for local Indigenous youth and community members to participate in the continuation of Hopi life ways through the continued intergenerational practices of traditional Hopi farming and gardening as well as applying applicable Permaculture principles and techniques. Funding was provided in support of the Youth in Sustainability Leadership Project, a four-month intensive summer program that focuses on youth leadership development, community service learning projects, Permaculture, Traditional Agriculture, Traditional arts & culture, and sustainability. The project is designed so that participating youth will become mentors for the community as well as the future youth participants.

Juxtaposition Arts, Inc., Minneapolis, MN

\$800

Juxtaposition Arts is a youth-focused, visual arts organization whose mission is to empower youth and community to use the arts to actualize their full potential. Funding was provided for The Great Idea! Exchange -- an event that will bring together a group of youth or arts oriented organizations to develop a collaborative project that will benefit the entire North Minneapolis community.

League of Women Voters Information Services, St. Louis, MO

\$1,000

LWVIS works toward encouraging citizens to register and vote, and to participate in government and politics by providing factual information about voting procedures, candidates, and ballot issues. Funding was provided in support of the Yellow Umbrella Event, which commemorates the "Walkless, Talkless Parade of 1916" in St. Louis, MO. The original parade was the turning point in the women's suffragist movement. The present day event culminated in a rally and bi-partisan panel discussion on the importance of women in politics and the need for civic participation, featuring women politicians from the local, state and federal level.

Mt. Adams Resource Stewards, Glenwood, WA

\$1,000

Mt. Adams Resource Stewards is a small, grassroots non-profit organization working to promote "sustainable connections between the land, local economies and rural communities of the Mt. Adams Region" in Washington State. A collaborative effort, the group empowers historically disenfranchised communities in shaping the future of the environment and they advocate for conservation and rural-friendly federal policies, including those that will protect private forests. Funds were provided for a tour of successful community forest projects in New England.

New Hampshire Wildlife Federation, Concord, NH

\$1,000

NHWF is a 75 year old state-wide and regional conservation organization. Funding was provided in support of their Climate Change Initiative, a multi-year program to provide education and outreach, critical habitat protection, and support to serve on the Governor's Task Force on Climate Change.

Plymouth County White Ribbon Campaign, Brockton, MA **\$1,000**

PCWRC is a grassroots effort that has grown out of an international initiative to foster a society free from any violence and in particular, men's violence against women. Funding was provided in support of a countywide conference entitled "Coaching Boys into Men". The conference is for athletic coaches and is focused on a nationally recognized curriculum designed by the Family Violence Prevention Fund that teaches coaches of male sports to educate their athletes to respect women and girls and that violence against women is never a solution or a sign of strength.

Private Health Insurance Must Go! Coalition, New York, NY **\$1,000**

PHIMGC is a direct-action coalition of two dozen New York organizations working to secure health care as a human right; to end the health care crisis in the U.S.; and to establish a federal law that guarantees the highest quality, comprehensive health care to all U.S. residents through a national single-payer health insurance plan. Funding was provided in support of a New York City teach-in focusing on the state of the health care crisis in the U.S.

Roots & Wisdom, Schenectady, NY **\$1,000**

Roots & Wisdom is a youth development and sustainable agriculture program using urban vegetable gardens to encourage youth to promote genuine change in the community. Funding was provided in support of adding a beekeeping component to complement the vegetable growing activities and further their educational work.

Somali Bantu Community Association of Vermont, Burlington, VT **\$1,000**

SBCAVT is a new organization formed to promote English literacy and to encourage socio-cultural and economical self-sufficiency of the Somali Bantu and Refugee community. Funding was provided in support of a series of workshops and training sessions on community integration and civic engagement.

South Dakota Conservation Fund, Rapid City, SD **\$1,000**

The South Dakota Conservation Fund offers mini-grants to grassroots-based conservation groups working on trainings, technical assistance, member-ship building, and other projects that will build stronger organizations. Natural resources in South Dakota are under increasing pressure from hog factories, mining, and energy development, and citizen-based conservation groups struggle to stay in the ring against powerful interests, funding can make a difference and can help make the organizations stronger.

Tamarack Productions, Burlington, VT **\$1,000**

Tamarack Productions is a non-profit media production firm dedicated to developing innovative ways to raise awareness about environmental issues. Funding was provided in support of Vermont Climate Witness, an interactive, multimedia website where ordinary Vermonters can share their stories about climate change.

U.S. Society for Ecological Economics, Syracuse, NY

\$1,000

Ecological Economics is the science of sustainability, that bridges the disciplinary gaps between ecology and economics. Funding was provided in support of USSEE's 2009 regional conference "Science and Policy for a Sustainable Future".

Violence Free Crisis Line, Kalispell, MT

\$1,000

Peace Project is a component of the Violence Free Crisis Line, the organization addresses the needs of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Peers Educating and Advocating for Changing Expectations (Peace Project) is a youth driven dating violence prevention program. Funding was requested to assist with recruitment, training and prevention activities such as promotional material, training guides and manuals and the PEACEful Prom Outreach Project.

WESPAC Foundation, Pleasantville, NY

\$3,000

A small grant will assist community groups, college students and non-profits to implement a regional "social forum" in 2009. The Foundation plans to strengthen local organizing and local relationships so that we are all better prepared to deal with institutional racism, ICE raids, home foreclosures, rising unemployment and cost of living expenses, food & fuel issues and global warming. The forum will address the political and social "climate" as well as the Earth's changing climate.

Wild South/Southern Appalachian Biodiversity Project, Asheville, NC

\$1,000

Wild South works to inspire and empower people to protect and restore the native ecosystems of the Southeast. Funding was provided in support of a public outreach campaign to permanently protect 25,500 acres of the Pisgah National Forest through the creation of a Grandfather National Scenic Area.

Woodstock Our Town, Woodstock, NY

\$1,000

Woodstock Our Town is a community organization dedicated to creating opportunities for civil dialogue about issues of concern to the town of Woodstock. Funding was provided to continue the work of implementing community discussions around use of open space, development of a comprehensive plan, and efforts to further institute affordable housing solutions.

Workers' Project, Inc., Fort Wayne, IN

\$1,000

The Workers' Project strives to empower workers in their workplaces, communities, and society at large. Plans for the Burmese Workers' Program include producing a booklet printed in the Burmese language, regarding workplace rights as well as a booklet on conversations in the workplace. The information and guidance provided in the workshops and booklets will empower the Burmese workers to act collectively to improve their treatment in the labor market and society, understanding their rights will assist them in reporting problem employers and workplace wrongdoing to relevant government agencies for appropriate action.