NYC GREEN RELIEF & RECOVERY FUND ANNOUNCES $150,000 IN GRANTS FOR 112 GRASSROOTS VOLUNTEER GROUPS CARING FOR PARKS AND GREEN SPACES ACROSS NYC

NEW MATCHING GRANT OPPORTUNITY OPENING IN OCTOBER FOR VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Funding supports local groups sustaining New York City’s parks and open spaces as the pandemic enters a new phase and the parks system reels from last year’s budget cuts and increased use.

September 20, 2021 -- New York, NY -- Today, City Parks Foundation announced the selection of 112 grant recipients through the NYC Green Relief & Recovery Fund’s grassroots grants program. These 112 NYC-based community groups will each receive a grant of up to $3,000 to support environmental stewardship and health & wellness programs in parks, gardens, and open spaces. Grantees are distributed across New York City’s five boroughs with a focus on Environmental Justice Areas identified through the Mayor’s Office of Climate and Sustainability, where communities are disproportionately vulnerable to environmental injustices because of systemic racism and inequitable resource distribution.

The 112 recipients were selected through an open call and application process. Funded projects range from launching new gardens led by Mujeres en Movimiento in Corona, Queens and Ujamaa Garden in the Bronx to maintaining the dog runs at Saint Nicholas Dog Run in Harlem and Maria Hernandez Dog Run in Bushwick, Brooklyn with new tools, equipment, and gravel. Additionally, grants are supporting open streets and street tree stewardship by community groups including West 103rd Street Open Street Community Coalition in Manhattan as well as NYCHA property beautification projects including expanding the garden areas maintained by Castle Hill Houses Tenant Associations in the Bronx. The NYC Green Fund is administered by City Parks Foundation with the grassroots grants portion managed by Partnerships for Parks (PfP)—a joint program of City Parks Foundation and NYC Parks.

Grassroots grant recipients include:

The Bronx
Wakefield 4 Change - Wakefield Street Tree Revitalization Project
Eastchester Road Community Garden - Eastchester Road Community Garden
Havemeyer Garden Association - Havemeyer Garden
Stewards of Ewen Park - Ewen Park
Castle Hill Houses Tenants Association - Roxanne Reid Memorial Garden
Bruckner Mott Haven Garden - Bruckner Mott Haven Garden
Friends of Tremont Park - Walter Gladwin Park
Bronx Sole - St. James Park
Concrete Friends - Concrete Plant Park
Friends of Garden Kitchen Lab - Hunts Point Recreation Center
Bringing The Peace Incorporated - RFT Community Peace Garden / 169th Street tree beds
Future Star Productions - Crotona Park, Playground #9
Woodycrest Community Garden - Woodycrest Community Garden
Friends of 4 Parks Alliance, Inc. - Andrew Freedman Home, Joyce Kilmer Park, Franz Sigel Park, Macombs Dam, John Mullaly Park
Mill Brook Garden - Mill Brook Houses
Kelly Street Block Association - Street Trees on Kelly Street
Stewards of Henry Hudson Park - Henry Hudson Park
Encouragement and Enrichment Motivational Services - Alexander Alley
Ujamaa Garden - Ujamaa Garden
Friends of Astin Jacobo / Mapes Baseball Field - Mapes Baseball Field
BronxRockets - Mullaly's Park
Padre Plaza Success Community Garden - Padre Plaza community garden
Woodlawn Collective - Muskrat Cove - Bronx Park - along the Bronx River

Queens
Discovery Community Garden 1 - Discovery Community Garden 1
Flushing Community Cleanup - James A. Bland Playground
Ridgewood Community Garden - Ridgewood Community Garden
Friends of Noonan Playground - Thomas P. Noonan Jr. Playground
Friends of Alley Pond Park - Alley Pond Park
Moore Jackson Community Garden - Moore Jackson Community Garden
Edgemere Coalition Community Garden - Edgemere Coalition Community Garden
Voluntad - Street Trees of Beach 43rd street and Beach Channel Drive
Kissena Synergy Velodrome Friends Group - Kissena Park Velodrome
Abuela Neighborhood Maintenance - Hollis Playground
Mujeres en Movimiento - Salud en Movimiento
Seagirt Ave. & Friends Block Association - Beach 30th Street Playground
Tree of Life Organic Garden - Tree of Life Organic Garden
The Community Serenity Garden - The Community Serenity Garden
Friends of Francis Lewis Park - Francis Lewis Park
SEQ Cleanup - Roy Wilkins Park & Recreation Center
Two Coves Community Garden - Two Coves Community Garden
Friends of MacDonald Park - Friends of MacDonald Park
Ayan Consulting Inc. DBA Kew Kids Forest School - Forest Park
Forest Hills Tree Stewards - Yellowstone Park, Ehrenreich Park, Willow Lake park, Annadale Park
The Compost Collective - Queens 4 Block 3150 Lot 78
Greater TriAngular Civic Association - Baisley Blvd. Foch Blvd Montauk Street
Friends Of Benninger Playground - Benninger Playground
Sunnyside Community Garden - Sunnyside Community Garden

Brooklyn
Friends of Asser Levy Park - Asser Levy Park
1100 Block Bergen Street Community Garden - 1100 Block Bergen Street Community Garden
Gates Garden - Gates Garden
57 Old Timers Inc - Jesse Owens Playground
Cooper Street Block Association Garden - Cooper Street Block Association Garden
Friends of Cooper Park - Cooper Park
The New York State Marine Education Association - Kaiser Park
Evergreen Lots (EL) Community Garden - Evergreen Lots (EL) Garden
Triple R. Garden - Triple R Garden
Imani Community Garden (Imani II) - Imani Community Garden
Union Street Garden - Union Street Garden
The Essence Of Jayce, Inc. - Weeksville Playground
Friends of Saratoga Park - Saratoga Park
Prospect Heights Community Farm. - Prospect Heights Community Farm
Maria Hernandez Park Dog Run Pack - Maria Hernandez Park
Canarsie Neighborhood Community Garden - Canarsie Park
Owl's Head Park Volunteers - Owl's Head Park
The Good Life Garden - The Good Life Garden
HQ Tennis Foundation - Jackie Robinson Park Playground
Woodbine Street Block Association & Garden - Woodbine Street Block Association Garden
Slow Food NYC - Ujima Garden
Sunset Park Tree Care - Sunset Park Street Trees
O'dwyer Gardens Resident Association - O'Dwyer Gardens
Phoenix Community Garden - Phoenix Community Garden
Bullettrun - Wingate Park
Pacific Street Brooklyn Bears Community Garden - Pacific Street Bears Community Garden
Concerned Residents of Barbey Street Garden - Barbey Street & Glenmore Ave
Ingersoll Garden of Eden - Ingersoll Garden of Eden
Stewards for Shore Pkwy - Shore Parkway
My Friends Place NY, Inc. - Seth Low Playground
Friends of John Hancock Children Playground - John Hancock Children Playground

Staten Island
Conference House Park Conservancy Inc - Conference House Park
Staten Island Therapeutic Gardens - Mahoney Park
Port Richmond Strong Civic Association - Veterans Park
New York Community League - Freshkills Park

Manhattan
Friends of Corlears Hook Park - Corlears Hook Park
Saint Nicholas Dog Run - St. Nicholas Park
Morris-Jumel Community Garden - Morris-Jumel Community Garden
PROJECT HARMONY, INC - The Joseph Daniel Wilson Memorial Garden
William B. Washington Memorial Garden - William B. Washington Memorial Garden
Friends of J Hood Wright Park - Haven Avenue, Fort Washington Park, J Hood Wright Park
W. 132nd St. Community Garden - West 132nd Street Community Garden
Art in the Park - Alice Kornegay Triangle Park
Green and Blue Eco Care - East Harlem street trees and Thomas Jefferson Park
Malcolm X Boulevard Beautification Group - Fred Samuel Playground, Malcolm X Boulevard
Medians
Neighbors United of West 132nd Street Block Association - Street trees stewardship in Harlem
Friends of St. Nicholas Park - St. Nicholas Park
Friends of Montgomery Triangle Park - Montgomery Triangle Park
NYRP: The Herb Garden - NYRP The Herb Garden
Washington Heights & Inwood (WHIN) Food Council - Riley Levin Children's Garden in Swindler's Cove
Marcus Garvey Dog Run - Marcus Garvey Park Dog Run
Friends of Pier 35 - Pier 35
FLEX-N-POETTREE - El Barrio Community Garden
Friends of Gulick Park - Luther Gulick Park and Playground
Mobilization for Change Garden - Mobilization for Change Community Garden
NYCHA-Dewitt Clinton Houses - Basketball Court NYCHA Dewitt Clinton Houses
Friends of Colonel Young Park/Malcolm X Community Improvement Association - Colonel Charles Young Playground
Friends of Art Park Alliance Inc. - Harlem Art Park
St. Nicholas Miracle Garden - St. Nicholas Miracle Garden
Jacob H. Schiff Playground Neighborhood Association - Jacob H. Schiff Playground
West 103rd Street Open Street Community Coalition - West 103rd Street Open Street
Green Oasis Community Garden - Green Oasis/Gilberts Community Garden
Harlem River Community Rowing - Harlem River  
Carver Community Garden - Carver Community Garden  
New York City Mountain Bike Association - Highbridge Bike Park  

The grants program also includes the launch of a new collaboration with ioby (in our backyards) for NYC Green Fund grantees to crowdfund for additional support. The NYC Green Fund Crowdfunding Challenge will launch in early October. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and will stay open as long as funds remain available. The NYC Green Fund will match funds raised up to $2,500 per grantee. For more information on the funding opportunity, please sign up for updates on City Parks Foundation’s website at cityparksfoundation.org/nyc-green-fund.

**About the NYC Green Relief & Recovery Fund**

In May 2020, a coalition of national, family, and community foundations launched the NYC Green Relief & Recovery Fund to support stewardship organizations that care for New York City’s parks and open spaces. The Fund is intended to respond to the most urgent needs facing the City’s parks and open spaces, while spurring policy-makers to address ongoing systemic challenges, and provide adequate funding to maintain and improve them. The Fund was launched in response to the efforts of the Parks and Open Space Partners – NYC coalition to raise awareness of the financial impacts of the pandemic on open spaces. The Fund is intended to grow, and we encourage those interested in supporting the NYC Green Relief & Recovery Fund to [donate now](#) or contact [NYCGreenFund@cityparksfoundation.org](mailto:NYCGreenFund@cityparksfoundation.org) for more information.

Generous private support for the NYC Green Relief & Recovery Fund is provided by:
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The Thompson Family Foundation
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For more information on the NYC Green Relief & Recovery Fund, visit cityparksfoundation.org/nyc-green-fund.

About City Parks Foundation
At City Parks Foundation, we are dedicated to invigorating and transforming parks into dynamic, vibrant centers of urban life through sports, arts, community building and education programs for all New Yorkers. Our programs -- located in more than 400 parks, recreation centers and public schools across New York City -- reach 300,000 people each year. Our ethos is simple: thriving parks mean thriving communities.

About Partnerships for Parks
Partnerships for Parks is a unique public-private partnership between City Parks Foundation and NYC Parks that supports and champions neighborhood volunteers by giving them the tools they need to advocate and care for their neighborhood parks and green spaces. More information about Partnership for Parks is available at www.partnershipsforparks.org.

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