



## 2023 Franklin Parker Community Conservation Grants

8 Projects; Total Awards \$30,000

*(Applicants listed in alphabetical order)*

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Cumberland County** (Vineland)

**\$3,000**

#### Youth for Change Community Garden

The Community Garden connects youth to local resources in the community and engages them in gardening, including pollinator gardening, healthy eating, and nature activities.

*Grant funding will support teen stipends and supplies.*

### **Branch Brook Park Alliance** (Essex County)

**\$3,775**

#### Park Ambassador Program – Invasive Species Eradication

Through this youth workforce development program, Park Ambassadors will work with subject-matter experts to design a thoughtful plan to address the invasive species, Japanese Knotweed. Together, the young adults will remove this invasive species and plant native species to control re-infestation.

*Grant funding will support the purchase of equipment and supplies for the Park Ambassadors.*

### **CATA (Comité de Apoyo a los Trabajadores Agrícolas)** (Bridgeton) **\$5,000**

#### CATA's Bridgeton Organic Community Garden

CATA's Bridgeton Organic Community Garden was established by farmworkers and low-wage immigrant workers to provide access to organic produce and engage children and community members to learn about sustainable agriculture through traditional organic farming practices. High school interns will learn about the food system, agro-ecological farming practices, nutrition, and the intersection of this work with broader issues like labor rights, immigration, and the environment.

*Grant funds will be used for intern stipends.*

### **Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space** (Mercer County)

**\$5,000**

#### The Outdoor Equity Alliance Agrihood Internship

The Outdoor Equity Alliance Agrihood Internship project will provide 20 students from underserved communities with an opportunity to get hands-on experience and to critically think about environmental stewardship, agriculture, and social welfare, guided by Leah Penniman's book entitled *Farming While Black*.

*Grant funds will be used toward intern stipends.*



**Grow It Green Morristown** (Morristown) **\$2,500**

Conservation of Green Spaces for Pollinators and their Habitats in Urban Areas

This program provides middle and high school students from underserved communities with hands-on experience in an outdoor education and research program to discover the relationship of preservation of pollinators to conservation of land and habitats in urban environments.

*Grant funds will be used for student/intern stipends.*

**Hackensack Riverkeeper** (Hackensack) **\$2,000**

Hackensack Riverkeeper Education and Advocacy Programs

The Junior Stewardship Program is a 25-week after-school program specifically targeted to middle school students. In addition to a deeper study of water resource and environmental curriculum, the program offers fishing excursions, watershed fieldwork, guest speakers and an eco-tour of the estuary.

*Grant funding will support classroom equipment and project supplies.*

**Urban Promise** (Camden) **\$5,000**

Monarch Butterfly Garden and Outdoor Classroom

The Butterfly Garden is an outdoor classroom where students engage in hands-on application of science curriculum. After over 15 years of use, Urban Promise is revitalizing the butterfly garden to make it accessible to the local community and restore ecological balance within the space for the Monarch butterfly and other local species.

*Grant funds will be used for capital expenses for the revitalized butterfly garden and outdoor classroom, such as replacement fencing, patio, and shed.*

**Weequahic Park Association** (Newark) **\$3,725**

Young Urban Parks Professional Program

The Young Urban Parks Professional program connects young people from Newark, ages 14-25, to Weequahic Park, their environment, and community, while building comprehension and awareness of environmental justice issues. Once the program is completed, participants are encouraged to become “Ambassadors” for the program by speaking with peers, act as mentors, and to remain active in the community.

*Grant funding will be used toward lecturer/student stipends, field trip travel expenses, and supplies.*

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