

## 2010 SHARE Grants

This year SHARE gave out a record \$14,650 in Grant awards to the following worthy organizations:

**Plenty Belize:** A registered non-governmental organization based in Punta Gorda Town in the Toledo District, with a goal to assist indigenous Mayan, Garifuna and other local community-based groups in their efforts to create and maintain economically viable and environmentally sustainable activities from organic farming to crafts production to ecotourism. They also implement a small number of their own projects in health, nutrition and other efforts, in close liaison with local agencies.

This year SHARE is helping to fund a project to install a solar powered water pumping system to bring water to San Lucas, a remote Maya village of 125 people who typically drink unfiltered water from the nearby river.

**Hawk Mountain Sanctuary:** A wildlife preserve located in east-central Pennsylvania. They are a non-profit organization which relies heavily on volunteer service to keep their facilities and trails in good condition. SHARE is contributing to a Youth Initiative Program that targets local high schools to recruit volunteers for a series of special projects at the Sanctuary, with an aim to protect the fragile mountain soil from erosion, and to eradicate invasive species of plants. They also hope to provide environmental education to their participants, along with a solid foundation in conservation practices that they will be able to utilize for the rest of their lives.

**Green Urban Initiative** is a non-profit organization in the Harrisburg area created to increase awareness within urban communities of issues adversely affecting our environment and to try to encourage residents, businesses, and neighborhoods to reduce their impact. To accomplish its goal, GUI plans to utilize educational materials and workshops to develop eco-conscious programs. Their programs are designed to not only reduce stresses on our environment but to also exhibit other benefits that relate to participants more directly, to show that being conscious of our environment is not about sacrifice, but about creating a better, more sustainable lifestyle. SHARE will be contributing to the Community Vegetable Gardening Program.

<http://www.greenurban.org/home.htm>

**The Yaak Valley Forest Council** is an organization formed by residents of the Yaak Valley in Northwest Montana to implement and advocate for conservation and restoration programs focused specifically upon the valley's critical wildlife habitat for the myriad sensitive, threatened, and endangered species inhabiting the valley's landscape. SHARE will be contributing to their Conservation Education Program, formed in partnership with the Troy School District. The project focuses on nature, the environment, and community as central themes introduced to the school through a variety of projects designed by the conservation education coordinator with the teachers and administrators. <http://www.yaakvalley.org/>

**Plenty International Gulf Recovery Program:** This hurricane recovery effort continues to work in communities in areas that were devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in August '05. Their efforts are focused on repairing homes for the elderly, as well as documenting local conditions and grassroots recovery efforts. They are a partner in local efforts to rebuild these devastated communities. They use green building by integrating geo-thermal heating and cooling, solar power and other energy efficient technologies into their rebuilding. They are working with partners in setting up a bio-diesel production operation that will supply fuel for all of the vehicles used in the project. Plenty is also working with the "Green Project," a local nonprofit that recycles building materials. <http://www.plenty.org/katrina/Katrina1.html>

**Little Buffalo Festival:** Their mission is to provide a free, high-quality, outdoors arts and cultural event in the beautiful, natural outdoor setting of the Little Buffalo State Park near Newport, PA. This year's festival will be Sat, October 2, 2010 from noon to dusk.

The environment has long been an integrated theme of the festival, evidenced by recycled crafts for the kids, nature walks, and tree planting within the State Park. This year's festival will feature exhibits and workshops on renewable energy, "green" construction methods, and sustainable agriculture.

**Sierra Student Coalition:** SHARE is helping SSC to send a delegation of youth leaders to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 16<sup>th</sup> annual Conference of the Party (COP16) in Cancun, Mexico to serve as a voice for young people here in the United States that are calling for a global climate treaty. Delegates will serve as representatives for their communities at the conference and will educate their communities before and after COP16 about the international politics of climate change. As a delegation, their goals are to influence the U.S. negotiators to agree to a scientifically based, legally binding treaty that recognizes the rights of indigenous people and the necessity of survival of all life on the planet. They also hope to develop new leaders that will strengthen an international and U.S. youth climate movement.

**SustainUS:** SHARE will help support their program for the continued growth and development of the U.S. youth delegations going to international climate negotiations

(UNFCCC COP-16) in 2010. A portion of the funds will be directed towards need-based travel scholarships for youth delegates. Other funding will be directed towards a rapid response network for communication between the conference center and the United States to generate quick and effective response actions, and grassroots engagement of the American public. They are also planning a summer training summit in the US before the COP-16 negotiations, which will pull together dozens of youth-led organizations across the country focused on sustainability and environmental justice.

**Danzante** is a multicultural community resource center located in Harrisburg, which focuses on artistic education for Latinos, Hispanics and others. SHARE will be helping to fund their Eco Arts program, a one year initiative aimed at educating and training local youth in Eco-Arts so they can become leaders in creative environmental projects in South Allison Hill. The students will work with guest educators to help them develop their understanding of environmental issues, and apprentice under professional artists to develop an eco-themed public mural, made from recycled and sustainable materials.

The program's objectives are to train 6 youth artists to become Eco-Artist Team leaders, who will lead at least 250 youth in Eco-Arts projects.

**Sandpoint Waldorf School:** SHARE will be funding their Twin Eagles Wilderness School program, a field trip for the students to experience living closely with the earth. They will sleep in traditional Lakota tepees, develop their natural fire making and fire tending skills, learn to cook over a fire, learn animal tracking, and deepen their awareness of the natural world.

**Capital Area Green Belt Association:** Volunteers dedicated to supporting, maintaining, and improving the Capital Area Green Belt, a millennium trail in South-Central Pa. This trail rings Harrisburg, through mostly urban areas, providing opportunities to hike, bicycle, skate, jog, walk your dog, practice up on flora and fauna identification, and just generally appreciate nature. It's one of the most beautiful and enjoyable natural surroundings that the area has to offer.