

**EPA New England Environmental Justice Small Grant Summaries
Fiscal Year 2005**

Lawrence Environmental Action Group

\$25,000

4 Bicknell Terrace
Lawrence, MA 01841

Organization:

Lawrence Environmental Action Group (LEAG) was founded in 1994 and is a non-profit civic organization dedicated to combating pollution and the degradation of the natural environment, preserving and enhancing green space and improving ecological and public health. LEAG educates and influences residents and public officials by meeting with neighborhood/civic groups and health-related organizations, disseminating educational information bilingually and addressing environmental and public health concerns of residents related to environmental exposures. **Partners** include the JSI Center for Environmental Health Studies, Casa de Salud and different Lawrence city officials and agencies.

Project:

LEAG will conduct research to increase the scientific understanding of the implications that the spiritual and cultural use of mercury have on the health and well being of the community of Lawrence, Mass.

New Haven Ecology Project, Inc.

\$25,000

358 Springfield Ave.
New Haven, CT 06515

(CERCLA or Multi-Media)

Organization:

New Haven Ecology Project, Inc., (NHEP) is a private, non-profit organization that was founded by local educators in 1990. NHEP's goal is to provide environmental education to the greater New Haven community, a primarily urban audience. NHEP is physically located in the West Rock neighborhood, one of the six New Haven neighborhoods considered severely distressed and in need of revitalization. **Partners** include the New Haven City Plan Department, Environmental Northeast, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice, Environmental Council for the City of New Haven, Yale School of Nursing, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven Health Department, Quinnipiac River Watershed Partnership, New Haven Sierra Club, and the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association.

Project:

The three goals of NHEP's project are: 1) to engage and educate urban high school students about the science and social science of local environmental justice issues related to air and water quality through the investigation of local issues and presentations to community groups, officials

and area schools; 2) generate data and disseminate findings on air quality, water quality and environmental health engagement levels of the New Haven community, thereby informing residents and expanding the body of data previously collected on local air and water quality; and 3) create a replicable model of community-based participatory research on local environmental justice concerns to be disseminated to area schools.

Strafford Historical Society

\$25,000
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P.O. Box 100
Strafford, VT 05072

Organization:

Strafford Historical Society is a non-profit organization that was started in 1955 with a mission to preserve the sites, records, relics and related materials pertaining to the history of Strafford, Vt., and applying the lessons of history for the betterment of the current affairs of the town. It is an all-volunteer organization with a small, dedicated core of individuals who focus on special initiatives. SHS has been an active member of the Elizabeth Mine Superfund Site Community Advisory Group, which represents the citizens of the town in communicating with the EPA about the contaminated former copper mining site. **Partners** include local and state government agencies and Dartmouth College. The three key collaborative partners are the Strafford Select Board, the State of Vermont's Division for Historic Preservation and the Center for Environmental Health Sciences at Dartmouth College.

Project:

SHS will create a one-hour documentary and two 20-minute documentaries addressing the environmental concerns associated with three copper mines in Orange County, Vt., by telling the history of the mines and the combined work of citizens and the EPA to clean up the mines.

Southside Community Land Trust

\$25,000

109 Somerset Street
Providence, RI 02907

Organization:

Southside Community Land Trust (SCLT) is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1981 and is dedicated to assisting communities in becoming more self-sufficient and improving their quality of life through: 1) promoting and implementing community gardening; 2) providing access to locally grown food; 3) facilitating environmental education; and 4) catalyzing solutions for related community needs. **Partners** include the Olneyville Community Schools Initiative, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, City of Providence, Rhode Island Department of Health, Springfield Middle School, The Hartford Park Tenant's Association and a registered landscape architect.

Project:

The goal of SCLT's project is to provide a practical, safe and affordable solution to the environmental and public health constraints placed on a school garden built on the site of a former municipal solid waste dump. The project partners will plan and construct a safe, affordable off-ground garden structures, and share its designs and curriculum with local educators and community members wanting safe alternatives to deal with environmental and public health issues at the site.

TOTAL

100,000