

2021 IMPACT REPORT



Serving the Bayview Hunters Point Community since 1998



P.O. Box 170039 | San Francisco, CA 94117-0039 | 415-282-6840

1 Our Mission

Our Mission

LEJ promotes ecological health, environmental stewardship, and community development in Southeast San Francisco by creating urban greening, eco-literacy, community stewardship and workforce development opportunities that directly engage and support local residents in securing a healthier future.

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Dr. Hollis Pierce-Jenkins

Welcome Hollis!

Dr. Hollis Pierce-Jenkins is LEJ's new Executive Director. Hollis is an accomplished educational consultant, leadership coach, and nonprofit leader with deep roots in San Francisco. Please join us in welcoming Hollis!

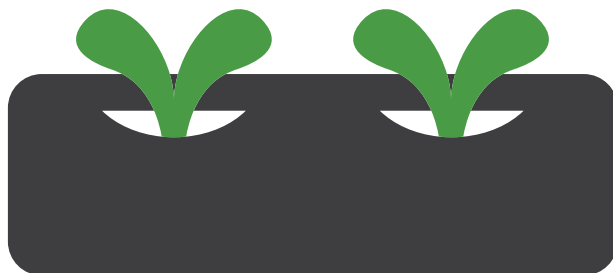


LEJ History

LEJ was founded in 1998 to help the diverse, low-income and heavily polluted Bayview - Hunters Point neighborhood of San Francisco achieve environmental and economic justice. Today, LEJ is focused on promoting the environmental restoration of, and community access to, the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. Transforming the industrial brownfields of the bayshore into a vibrant recreational and environmental green space will benefit the health and prosperity of Southeast San Francisco and beyond.

Pandemic Greens

Because we work outside, our Eco-Apprentice program continued to work during the COVID-19 Pandemic, growing native plants and rehabilitating native ecosystems. After a hiatus, our Eco-Adventures program is offering kayaking for community members and we have resumed environmental education for K-12 youth. We will fully relaunch the eco-steward volunteer program in 2022.





Native Plant Nursery & Community Garden Expansion

LEJ broke ground and completed the construction groundwork for the new Native Plant Nursery and Community Garden at Candlestick Point State Recreation Area.

This expansion will quadruple LEJ's native plant production capacity and will create more "green-collar" jobs in Southeast San Francisco.

The newly installed rainwater harvesting system, bioswale, and rain garden will eliminate 75,000 gallons from San Francisco's sewer system annually.

LEJ increased best management practices at both of its nurseries, Candlestick and Treasure Island, including rigorous pathogen testing on native plant stock to ensure higher quality plants and minimize the risk of potential pathogen release into natural areas.

Join us in 2022 to help finalize the newly expanded Native Plant Nursery and Community Garden.





Eco-Adventures

Eco-Adventures brings school children and other community members to camp, kayak, practice environmental stewardship, and learn about community health and environmental justice in San Francisco.

50

Number of Eco-Adventure youth served in 2021



I enjoyed getting out on the water.

The food was great!

I liked picking up trash at the Slough.

I liked getting out to the park.





Eco-Apprentices

Eco-Apprentice is a paid internship opportunity for young adults to develop professional skills and access career pathways in the environmental sector.

Eco-Apprentices worked diligently to raise plants and steward open space that, pre-Covid, was supported by over **1,000** annual volunteers.

Alex Velasco Community Programs Coordinator

Alex Velasco, Community Programs Coordinator at LEJ, became staff this year after moving through the organization from a high school intern, to a young adult Eco-Apprentice, to staff. Alex grew up in the Bayview and values educating youth about the health of their local environment.



LEJ has helped me develop much needed leadership skills as well as organizational skills.



Alex Velasco

58,000

LEJ grew over 58,000 native plants in 2021.





Eco-Apprentices

7 Eco-Apprentices interned for the year-long program.

At the end of their internship, 3 Eco-Apprentices were promoted to staff positions at LEJ.



I needed a lot of help with computer work. I'm glad I got to gain computer skills I did not have previous to working at LEJ.



Eco-Apprentices interned for a total of **9,232** hours.



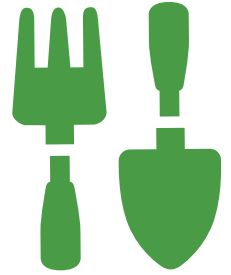
I think my time at LEJ gave me the opportunity to see the importance of doing work that you are invested in and believe in. I was able to learn that it's important to align your own personal values and principles with the work you intend to do and accomplish so that it can bring meaning to the actions.

2,000+

Eco-Apprentices planted over 2,000 plants at Sunrise Point, including enhancement of the waterfront campsites.

Eco-Stewardship

Eco-Stewardship recruits, trains, and deploys community volunteers to support eco-systems restoration and park stewardship.



Volunteers contributed 350+ hours of stewardship.



We're rebuilding the shoreline with plants to create a living shoreline for flood defense, instead of using concrete. The sea level is rising and the actual shoreline is eroding away due to lack of native vegetation, invasive species, storm surge, and many other reasons. Restoration is very teachable through doing. It's very much something you have to experience.

Nina Omomo
Restoration Coordinator

Eco-Stewardship

95%

In partnership with the Port of San Francisco, California Invasive Plant Council, and San Francisco State University, Eco-Apprentices removed 95% of Algerian sea lavender in a 5-acre area.



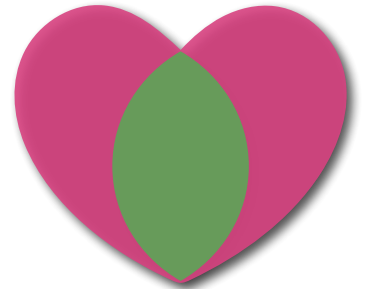
60

60 endangered Suaeda californica, California seablite, plants introduced at Heron's Head Park tidal wetlands.





**LEJ is fully relaunching
Eco-Steward volunteer days in 2022.
Join us!**



**Click heart above to make
a secure online donation.**

Or mail check payable to the following:

Literacy for Environmental Justice
P.O. Box 170039
San Francisco, CA 94117

**All donations are tax deductible.
EIN #01-0777856**

Thank you to our community and partners!

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