

RESOURCES

Northern California Grantmakers

2007 Annual Meeting Resource Guide

Transforming and Sustaining our World: Global Forces, Community Action

The organizations, resources, documents, and programs listed below showcase a few of the outstanding efforts of California organizations to address issues of sustainability and transformation. This Resource Guide is meant to spark creativity and innovation. Most information comes directly from the individual organization's websites. The resources listed in this Guide just scratch the surface of work being conducted worldwide by NCG members, nonprofit organizations, and others to address issues related to sustainability.

If your organization is working to transform and sustain our world locally, nationally or globally, and you would like to share your work, please send an email with a short description of your efforts to sustaining@ncg.org. This information can then be used to further inspire others and inform the way the philanthropic community works collaboratively to support and advance sustainability.

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LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS:

The following is an initial list of organizations working to address issues related to sustainability and transformation. This is by no means an exhaustive list but is a good place to begin. *(All organization information comes directly from the individual organization's websites.)*

Asian Neighborhood Design: www.andnet.org/

Asian Neighborhood Design's mission is to advance community development programs and policies that empower, transform and improve the lives of low-income and disenfranchised individuals and communities.

Bay Area Alliance for Sustainable Communities: <http://www.bayareaalliance.org>

The Bay Area Alliance for Sustainable Communities is a coalition of business, environmental, social equity and government leaders who forge collaborative solutions to improve the quality of life in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area

Bay Area Council: <http://www.bayareacouncil.org/>

The Bay Area Council is a business-sponsored, public-policy advocacy organization for the nine-county Bay Area. The Council proactively advocates for a strong economy, a vital business environment, and a better quality of life for everyone who lives here.

Bluewater Network: <http://www.bluewaternet.org/#>

Bluewater Network works to stop environmental damage from vehicles and vessels, and to protect human health and the planet by reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

California Center for Regional Leadership: <http://calregions.org>

The California Center for Regional Leadership is a statewide nonprofit organization, established to support, facilitate, and promote innovative regional solutions for the state's major economic, environmental, and society challenges, to help achieve a more sustainable California

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights: <http://ellabakercenter.org>

The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights is a strategy and action center working for justice, opportunity and peace in urban America

Greenbelt Alliance: www.greenbelt.org

The mission of the Greenbelt Alliance is to make the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area a better place to live by protecting the region's greenbelt and improving the livability of its cities and towns.

Greenlining Institute: <http://www.greenlining.org>

The ultimate goal of the Greenlining Institute is to increase low-income and minority participation in policy-making, resulting in equitable policies that will improve the quality of life for all communities in California and nationwide.

Joint Venture Silicon Valley: www.jointventure.org

In 1992 a group of visionary people decided the best way to address the challenges facing Silicon Valley was to create a neutral forum, bringing together leaders from business, labor, government, the universities, and the non-profit sector to think outside the box and build creative solutions.

LISC: www.bayarealisc.org

LISC has broad-based expertise in affordable housing, community economic development, and organizational development. Bay Area LISC supports the goals of the community development industry by providing critical capacity-building assistance to nonprofit organizations.

Nonprofit Housing Association: <http://www.nonprofithousing.org/>

Since 1979, NPH has been the collective voice of those who support, build and finance affordable housing. NPH promotes the proven methods of the non-profit sector and focuses government policy on housing solutions for low-income people who suffer disproportionately from the housing crisis.

PolicyLink: www.policylink.org

PolicyLink is a national research and action institute that works collaboratively to develop and implement local, state, and federal policies to achieve economic and social equity.

Redefining Progress: <http://www.rprogress.org>

Redefining Progress is the nation's leading policy institute dedicated to smart economics, Redefining Progress develops solutions that help people, protect the environment, and grow the economy.

San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR): www.spur.org

SPUR is San Francisco's preeminent public-policy think tank. Through research, analysis, public education, and advocacy, SPUR promotes good planning and good government.

Save the Bay: <http://www.savesfbay.org>

Save The Bay is the oldest and largest membership organization working exclusively to protect, restore and celebrate San Francisco Bay.

Silicon Valley Leadership Group: <http://www.svmg.org/>

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG) is organized to involve principal officers and senior managers of member companies in a cooperative effort with local, regional, state, and federal government officials to address major public policy issues affecting the economic health and quality of life in Silicon Valley.

The Stewardship Council: <http://www.stewardshipcouncil.org/>

The Stewardship Council protects and enhances watershed lands and uses, and invests in efforts to improve the lives of young Californians through connections with the outdoors.

Strategic Energy Innovations: <http://www.seiinc.org>

Strategic Energy Innovations is a non-profit organization that empowers under-served markets such as schools, small businesses, local governments, multi-family and affordable housing, and other sectors, to accomplish their energy efficiency goals

Sustainable Silicon Valley: <http://www.sustainablesiliconvalley.org/>

Sustainable Silicon Valley (SSV) is a collaboration of businesses, governments, and non-governmental organizations that work with the Silicon Valley community to create a more sustainable future using an Environmental Management System.

Transportation and Land Use Coalition: <http://www.transcoalition.org/>

TALC is a partnership of over 90 groups working for a sustainable and socially just Bay Area. They envision a region with healthy, vibrant, walkable communities that provide all residents with transportation choices and affordable housing.

Urban Ecology: www.urbanecology.org

Urban Ecology uses urban planning, ecology, and public participation to help design and build healthier cities.

Urban Habitat: <http://urbanhabitat.org/>

Urban Habitat builds power in low-income communities and communities of color by combining education, advocacy, research and coalition building to advance environmental, economic and social justice in the Bay Area.

Urban Solutions: www.urbansolutionsf.org

Urban Solutions helps entrepreneurs secure financing, start or grow their businesses and create jobs. We also help communities design and implement economic development programs that result in visible improvements to businesses and properties and more vibrant neighborhood commercial corridors.

Urban Strategies Council: www.urbanstrategies.org

Urban Strategies Council works with stakeholders in low-income communities, community-based organizations, and public systems to expand services for children and families, improve health, educational and other outcomes, and increase employment and economic opportunities.

RESOURCES, DOCUMENTS, AND SAMPLE PROGRAMS:

Compact for a Sustainable Bay Area:

<http://www.bayareaalliance.org/compact.pdf>

This document was produced by the Bay Area Alliance for Sustainable Communities, with input from numerous stakeholders including government, regional leaders and the public. The Compact was created to inform decision making region-wide, in hopes of building a more Sustainable Bay Area. The report examines challenges practitioners will face while trying to achieve a more sustainable region, and lays out recommendations for action to reach the goals of all three Es of sustainability; a prosperous economy, environmental quality and social equity.

The Ella Baker Center: Reclaim the Future

Reclaim the Future creates opportunities in the green economy for low-income people and people of color. Part social enterprise, part think-tank, and part grassroots advocate, Reclaim the Future's mission is to help build a green economy strong enough to lift people out of poverty.

Reclaim the Future weds two powerful, emerging ideas:

- **"Restorative justice":** *a cost-effective criminal justice approach that is based on reconciliation, restoration, healing and rehabilitation.*
- **"Restorative economics":** *an ecologically responsible approach to economic development, promoting practices that heal the natural environment rather than despoiling it.*

Taken together, these ideas create a powerful new framework for advancing a fundamentally new, solution-oriented, vision-driven politics of urban coalition building.

Focusing Our Vision:

<http://www.bayareavision.org/>

Focusing Our Vision is a group of individuals who have come together to address the challenges associated with population growth in the Bay Area. The group has created a document "The Vision" which addresses changes in population, housing, the economy, transportation, the environment and equity. The vision lays out principles and policies that should guide thinking, programming and funding sustainable growth and development in the Bay Area.

The Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund: The Goldman Environmental Prize

The Goldman Environmental Prize is the world's largest prize honoring grassroots environmental heroes from the six inhabited continental regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Islands and Island Nations, North America, and South and Central America. The Prize recognizes individuals for sustained and significant efforts to protect and enhance the natural environment, often at great personal risk. The Goldman Prize views "grassroots" leaders as those involved in local efforts, where positive change is created through community or citizen participation in the issues that affect them. Through recognizing these individual leaders, the Prize seeks to inspire other ordinary people to take extraordinary actions to protect the natural world.

Greenbelt Alliance, Nonprofit Housing Association, Transportation and Land Use Coalition and Urban Habitat: Great Communities Initiative

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These four Bay Area nonprofits that work on transportation, housing, social equity, and open space launched the Great Communities Initiative to address the challenges associated with predicted population growth in the Bay Area. By redirecting growth away from natural areas and working farms, and instead reinvesting in our existing communities, Great will broaden access to opportunities for all families, protect the environment, and promote active living and better health. This initiative brings together the necessary technical expertise, organizing depth, and community contacts to ensure that communities have the tools to relieve the housing crisis, improve our neighborhoods, and create a Bay Area that is a model for other fast-growing regions.

PolicyLink Equitable Development Programs:

<http://policylink.org/EquitableDevelopment/default.html>

PolicyLink is a research institute dedicated to the achievement of social and economic equity. The organization works in many areas relevant to sustainability and transformation and has a wealth of information and resources in all of these areas. The Equitable Development Program is only a subset of the work done by PolicyLink, but this page has connections to current projects, research and publications, and tools and strategies that may be useful to better understand the field and our place in it.

The Stewardship Council: Connecting California's Youth with the Outdoors

The Stewardship Council understands the importance of instilling today's youth with a love and respect for the environment. Through their Grantmaking Plan for 2007, the Council will provide funding to programs that engage youth ages 13-18 in the environment. The Council has placed an emphasis on programs that demonstrate well-rounded approaches to youth development, provide ongoing opportunities for connecting youth to the outdoors, integrate outdoor education into the lives of young people, transfer the lessons learned from outdoor experiences to school, home, and community, and share and reflect the core values of the Stewardship Council including, collaboration, stewardship, discovery, sustainability, and leadership.

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