

FINAL REPORT
FOREST SERVICE GRANT NO. 03-DG-11244225-149
Period covered by this report: April 1, 2003 through June 30, 2005

NOTE: Please review the following information and revise complete as necessary.

Issued to:Eagle Eye Institute

Address:14 Chapel Street, Somerville, MA 02144

Congressional District Number: 8

Project Name:Learn About ForestsTM

Contact Person/Principal Investigator:

Name:Anthony Sanchez

Mailing Address:Same as above

Phone Number:(617) 666-5222

Fax Number:(617) 666-2151

E-Mail Address: eeaglei@aol.com

Your Organization's internet home page address: www.eagleeyeinstitute.org/

Date of Award: April 1, 2003

Grant Modifications: Mod. 1: Time extension from March 31,2005 to June 30, 2005

Date of Expiration: June 30, 2005

Funding: Federal Share: \$103,500 plus **Grantee Share:** \$128,500 = **Total Project:** \$232,000

FS Grant Manager: Phil Rodbell

Address: USDA Forest Service - NA, 11 Campus Blvd, Suite 200, Newtown Square, PA 19073

Phone Number: (610) 557-4133**Fax Number:** (610) 557-4136 **E-mail:** prodbell@fs.fed.us

Please provide an abstract on your project and its results. This abstract will be posted on the NUCFAC internet site. (approximately 200 words or less).

NUCFAC Final Report

Date: Sept 28, 2005

Award Number: 03-DG-11244225-149

Report Period: April 1, 2003 - June 30, 2005

Project Period: Apr 1, 2003- Jun 30, 2005

Recipient: Eagle Eye Institute

Recipient Contact Person: Anthony Sanchez

Principal Investigator/ Project Director: Melinda Stockmann and Patience Monroe

Provide a 200-word or less Abstract on project and its results.

Since April, 2003, Eagle Eye Institute built on interest generated by their successful national "Trees Are My Friends" campaign, which had tree organizations from sixteen cities across the country outreach to communities of color. Through Eagle Eye's Learn About Forests™ program the organization built community partnerships with eight new Champions (program coordinators) in New York, Georgia and Massachusetts, as well as supported three former Champions in various urban communities in Massachusetts. These Champions *improved public and private services to over two-hundred and fifty young people from minority and underserved populations, involved over twenty youth organizations and natural resource professionals and explored nine rural forests.* Champions and Eagle Eye with the USDA Forest Service provided a learning vehicle for six college students through summer internships to people of color. These interns supported the LAF programs and Champions. The dissemination of Eagle Eye's programmatic tools and know how brought the value of the forest and urban and community forestry, raised environmental awareness and offered new perspectives to young people residing in minority communities. Eagle Eye Institute, with funding support from the NUCFAC, learned and improved its ability to disseminate information and support Champions, while reaching a wider population of youth than it could have on its own.

1) Project Objectives:**i) Organizational Capacity**

- (a) Develop Eagle Eye's method of support and information dissemination to recruit and support Champions through human support, how-to-guides and evaluations.
- (b) To show and support individuals on how to be Champions, incorporate environmentalism into youth development organizations, and transform urban youth
- (c) Support 16 Champions to reach out to 900 young people and offer 30 LAF programs and involve youth organizations and natural resource professionals

ii) Collaborate with Others:

- (a) Youth Build USA and other national and private organizations to recruit Champions and offer programs (six in 2003 and ten in 2004).

- (b) Draw upon former contacts made through Eagle Eye's Trees are My Friends Public Service Announcement and keep them informed of progress and invite them to participate as Champions.

National Distribution:

- (a) Distribute information on Champions through local newspapers and stories on Champions and their programs and develop WebPages for Champions.

Evaluation:

- (a) Conduct evaluations from each LAF program, including the post-youth programs and evaluate EEI's program support and effectiveness. Measure the results of the Champion led LAF programs [see the LAF Charts]

2) Anticipated Products:

Champion organizations in 16 cities across the Country committed to offering two to four Learn About Forests programs each year to multi-cultural youths in their urban area

Photos and video highlighting the program success on Eagle Eye website and put together in a Power-Point demonstration that is available free to interested organizations.

- c) Comprehensive report documenting the outcomes discovered in the program evaluations carried out by the Champions with Eagle Eye assistance, including those reported in local press and media about each local LAF program, its Champion, and its participants, especially urban youth.

Objectives met successfully to-date:

The Below Objectives Fulfill Goal: i. a-c Organizational Capacity:

Goal/Objective: Recruit and support new Champions to coordinate LAF programs in YEAR 1/2003

Planned: 3 new Champions in 2003

Actual: 4 new Champions were initially supported and 3 completed in 2003.

UMass Extension (3 individual Champions w/in organization)	various cities in MA
National Park Service	Boston, MA
Environmental Awareness Network for Diversity in Conservation***	Albany, NY
Youth Enrichment Services (YES) ***	Boston, MA
Columbus Consolidated Govt. / Keep Columbus Beautiful***	Columbus, GA

Totals for 2003 LAF Programming

Total number of active Champions	7**
Total number of new Champions***	3
Total number of LAF programs run	12
Total number youth participants	150

** This number exceeds our goal stated in NUCFAC proposal. While NUCFAC funding was delayed, we started our project ahead of schedule with committed funds from other sources.

Goal/Objective: Support new and experienced Champions in completing successful Learn About Forests (LAF)™ programs in Year 2 / 2004.

Goal/Objective: Recruit 3 new Champions in 2004 from Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA), which is a national society with over 1,000 members who are in partnership with Eagle Eye Institute in order to distribute the LAFTM programs nationally.

Planned: Support new and experienced Champions in completing successful LAFTM programs in Year 2 and recruit 6 new Champions. Due to the delay in hiring an Assistant, which was due to the delay in receiving grant funds, we modified our goal from supporting 6 new Champions to 3 in 2004.

Actual: Supported 7 Champions: 1 new and 4 former Champions ran LAFTM programs, 2 Champions* did not run LAFTM programs and 1 Champion** is inactive.

UMass Extension (3 individual Champions w/in organization)	Various cities in MA
Columbus Consolidated Govt. / Keep Columbus Beautiful	Columbus, GA
City of Ithaca/Society of Municipal Arborists***	Ithaca, NY
Environmental Awareness Network for Diversity in Conservation*	Albany, NY
Youth Enrichment Services*	Boston, MA
National Park Service**	Boston, MA

Totals for 2004 LAF Programming

Total number of active Champions	7
Total number of new Champions***	1
Total number of LAF programs run	9
Total number youth participants	88
Total number of youth workers involved	14
Total number of natural resource professionals	19
Total number of natural sites utilized	5

In 2004, strong recruitment efforts for an additional Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) board member from Denver, CO and D'Mon Bills at Camp Hale, United South End Settlements, and Boston,

MA were made. Lack of organizational readiness on prospective Champion's end postponed the partnerships. We established a well supported partnership with the SMA that funded Andy Hillman in the Champion training and is offering Champion training funding for two SMA members in 2005.

Goal/Objective: Support new and experienced Champions in completing successful Learn About Forests (LAF) TM programs in Year 3 / 2005.

Planned: To support three new Champions, one Champion in 2nd year and seven other experienced Champions.

Actual: Since March 2005 to present, supported three Champions for the 2005 season. The Columbus, Georgia Champions implemented their Learn About ForestsTM program in early June. The UMass and City of Ithaca Champions each ran two programs in July. Eagle Eye Institute ran one LAF in July.

Three Champions with The Trustees of Reservations are running six programs in September and October at two of their natural sites for YouthBuild students from four urban centers across Massachusetts.

Totals for 2005 LAF Programming

Total number of active Champions	7
Total number of new Champions	3
Total number of LAF programs run	12
Total number youth participants	150
Total number of youth workers involved	24
Total number of natural resource professionals	20
Total number of natural sites utilized	6

Objective: Build organizational capacity/internal operational structures (through Wings Initiative Assistant Coordinator and Director of Marketing) in order to recruit and support more Champions for Year 3.

Actual: Eagle Eye developed more in house methods and tools of supporting the Champion program and understands its organizational capacity and operational structure more than when the grant began.

- Assistant and Researcher are still needed.
- No longer seeking a Director of Marketing because we are focusing on strong partnerships to help with outreach and recruitment efforts. We are growing by demand.

- Goal/Objective:** Hire Wings Initiative Assistant Coordinator to increase organizational capacity to support new and continuing Champions.
- Planned:** Hire someone for February 1, 2004 start date (reflects modified timeline (see previous progress report) due to delay in NUCFAC funding).
- Actual:** Hired Patience Monroe, who started on February 8, 2004 (see previous progress reports for information).
- Assistant transitioned into the Champion Network Coordinator position in autumn 2004.
- Goal/Objective:** Develop Champion Network Coordinator's Guidance Handbook to help support the organizational capacity goals and coordinator in their role of supporting Champions, the network, and leading LAF's in the future to be complete in mid-summer 2005.
- Actual:** Champion Network Coordinator's Guidance Handbook is complete. See the attached Table of Contents.
- Goal/Objective:** Develop a Champion database to easily and accurately document, record and report on prospective Champions, Champion support, network support, youth groups, topics discussed, certification criteria, manage schedules and programs, time, and keep track of Champion network finances, generate invoices, etc.
- Actual:** Champion database up and fully functional as of June 30th, 2005.
- Goal/Objective:** Develop online forum site for Champions to continue collaborating, exchanging information and ideas, as well as for EEI to post and communicate information for Champions.
- Actual:** Online site forum will be launched for a trial run on July 15, 2005.
[http:// groups.yahoo.com/ group/ eeichampions](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/eeichampions)
- Goal/ Objective:** To develop a powerful network of Champions by supporting them in LAF program planning and implementation and also by creating a supportive community and professional development through annual gatherings, topical conference calls, collaboration between Champions and other added resources, such as connections to conference scholarships during year 2/2004
- Planned:**
- Administer five Champion Network conference calls
 - Host a Champion gathering
 - Host an awards ceremony
 - Launch Champion pages online for added resources.

Actual:

- Organized and administered Champion gathering in Peru, MA in spring 2004
- Organized and administered four Champion conference calls (May-August 2004)
- Organized and administered one Champion conference call in February 2005
- Fall 2004 awards ceremony is postponed till further notice.
- Launched Champion Network web pages in early January, 2005 as a marketing resource and source of information about Champions and their LAF programs.
- Developed an online forum for Champions to communicate and exchange ideas and information, as well as for EEI to disseminate information and documents.

The Below Objectives Fulfill Goal: ii. a-b Collaborate with Others:

Goal/Objective: Establish a committed partnership with The Trustees of Reservations and focus on strengthening partnership with Society of Municipal Arborists.

Actual: Trustees of Reservations and Eagle Eye Institute began partnership in June 2005 and are running six LAF programs for YouthBuild students in four urban centers in Massachusetts this fall. [see EEI spring 2005 newsletter attached]

Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) [see Letter of Support and description of presentation made at their 41st annual conference in Sept '05]

YouthBuild USA is partnering with Eagle Eye to have four of their programs in Massachusetts participate in LAF programs; they are providing both technical assistance and money to help support the partnership. [See letter of support]

Goal/Objective: Plan and organize two LAF Programs for July/August 2005. These programs are to provide firsthand experience to the Champion Network Coordinator, keep LAF alive with local youth and community, and to promote the program to prospective donors, partners and Champions.

Actual: One Learn About Forests Program held July 22, 2005 at Eagle Eye Land Trust involved two instructors (national resource professionals) and one youth group. Eagle Eye's newly hired Program Director, Kent Jackson was the Champion for the program and the three new Trustees of Reservations Champions participated. This was a great way for new Eagle Eye staff to learn the program as well as introduce new Champions to the program.

The Below Objectives Fulfill Goal: iii. a National Distribution:

Goal/Objective: National Distribution

Planned: "Information about the Wings Initiative, especially about program outcomes, will be circulated through the national environmental/urban trees organizations... Information will consist of local newspaper and other stories about Champions and their programs... Eagle Eye's website will be expanded to include a section specifically for use by participating Champions and youth development organizations.... Photos and video highlighting the program success on Eagle Eye website and put together in a PowerPoint demonstration that is available free to interested organizations."

Actual:

In 2005

- Champion Network Coordinator presented a workshop on using nature to empower youth with the LAF example to youth workers at Youth Work Intensive Building Exemplary Systems for Training Initiative and UMass College of Public and Community Service on March 18, 2005.
- Champion Web-pages launched in January, 2005
www.eagleeyeinstitute/champions_web/champions_index.html
- Article, which includes LAFTM and Champions, published in *Northern Woodlands* magazine in spring 2005.
- Co-Founders, Anthony Sanchez and MaJa Kietzke presented the Learn About Forests program at the 41st annual Society of Municipal Arborists conference in Windsor Canada this past September. Five SMA members expressed interest in being program Champions for 2006.

In 2004

- Wings Director wrote a published article on EEI/SMA/Champion/USDA Forest Service relationship published in *CityTrees* magazine in August (included as supporting document).
- Co-founder created CD Rom on LAF program and Eagle Eye Institute, which is a tool for recruitment of new Champions, partners and volunteers.
- Web-pages on Champions: information compiled and pages designed.
www.eagleeyeinstitute/champions_web/champions_index.html

In 2003

- Wings Initiative Coordinator compiled and delivered PowerPoint presentations at the following:

CYFAR (Children, Youth & Families at Risk) Conference	May
NUCFAC-funded NUCFEOC Conference	June
Urban Ecology Collaborative Outreach Working Session	August
Society of Municipal Arborists Annual Board Mtg.	October
Social Innovation Forum	November
-

The Below Objectives Fulfill Goal: iv. a Evaluation:

- Objective:** Conduct evaluations from each LAF program, including the post-youth programs and evaluate EEI's program support and effectiveness. Measure the results of the Champion led LAF programs
- Actual:** Data from Champion led LAF evaluations compiled and graphs created. Please see the LAF Charts included as attachments.
- Read in the upcoming section "**The Major Research or Policy findings of the Project**"
-

Actual Products Produced:

- Champion organizations in 7 cities across the eastern US committed to offering two to four Learn About Forests programs each year to multi-cultural youths in their urban area
 - Photos and video highlighting the program success on Eagle Eye website
 - Power-Point available free to interested organizations; planned to be available at the end of 2005. This project was delayed because of a family emergency for the volunteer creating this PowerPoint. A new volunteer is being recruited to complete this project.
 - Local press and media coverage on LAF programs and its Champion and participants, especially the urban youth.
 - In-house development of administrative methods to support Champions, developed a Coordinator 'how to guide' and Champion database.
-

Objectives in original proposal not yet met:

- Objective:** Recruit 6 new Champions for Year 3 / 2005, one or two from Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) and four to five from other organizations
- Current State:** Beginning in late 2004, Eagle Eye focused on large organizations that are committed to partnerships, such as Society of Municipal Arborists and Trustees of Reservations in order to reach more communities, as well as provide EEI with ongoing support and resources to expand program. The Trustees of Reservations (the largest land conservation organization in Massachusetts) has three new Champions in 2005; running six LAF programs for approx 90 YouthBuild students in four urban centers of Massachusetts. Eagle Eye is currently working out a 3 year MOA with TTOR that includes shared technical assistance and

resources for the partnership. TTOR plans to be the state Eagle Eye Champion. Listed below are the prospective Champions and prospective partnerships from 2005.

- Trustees of Reservations, Massachusetts
- Steve Vasquez, City Council President, Mid-City Council, Los Angeles, CA
- George Gonzalez, City Forester, City of Los Angeles, Dept of Public Works and SMA, CA.
- Steve Shurtz, City of Baton Rouge, Southern University, LA and SMA (postponed till 2006 due to reorganization of leadership at City of Baton Rouge)

In September 2004, our Wings Director/Coordinator resigned and in October Executive Director, Armando Nieto resigned. In November 2004, co-founder and original Executive Director returned to Eagle Eye and the Wings Assistant Coordinator transitioned into the Champion Network Coordinator. The change in staffing caused some delays but overall the learning gained from recruiting, training and supporting Champions over the past three years has been extremely helpful. Because of this learning, Eagle Eye decided in 2004 to focus on our strong partners. We are extremely excited to be working with The Trustees of Reservations, a large well established organization that is committed to working with a more diverse audience.

Objective: Create comprehensive reports on evaluations of the LAFTM programs and disseminate findings to the public.

Current State:

Compilation of collected data on Champions' LAF programs from 2000-2004 completed.

Data on Network was compiled, which helped us understand our current network development and needs for research, evaluation, and development of the LAF and Champion Network.

A researcher is necessary to carry out the formal and unbiased research on the subjects, thus no more than the LAF charts are presented and available.

Additional Objectives to Proposal Not Successfully Met To-Date:

Goal/Objective: Develop a training video/DVD to supplement the Champion training program

Actual: Outline and plan for training video/DVD needs to be developed along with the need to find a volunteer to complete the project

Goal/Objective: Continue with conversation with the USDA Forest Service about the Learn About Forests/Champion USDA Forest Service and Southern University internship program. This project is not in the original proposal and is an added

value to the Champion Network and promoting urban forestry among people of color.

Actual: Project was not supported for 2005

Goal/Objective: Make copies of Champion 'Organizer's Manual', 'Program Description' and 'Instructor Manual'.

Actual: We are editing and updating the guides

The Major Research or Policy findings of the Project

During the timeframe of this grant Eagle Eye learned that the Learn About Forests (LAF) does indeed raise a young persons' environmental awareness, and increases their awareness of self and others. What we do not know is how much a Champion learns during the program and/or how it impacts them, as well as more precisely the information a young person learns and retains from the program. Presently, at the end of every LAF program a Champion requests the young people to complete self-administered evaluations on their experience with the LAF. In 2005, the evaluations were compiled. Some of the results are listed below on graphs to show in numbers of the most important findings.

The graphs show how many of the youth, who participated in the program, had visited a forest prior to the LAF experience. Figure 1 shows that more than 50% of the youth in 2003 and 2004 reported visiting a forest prior to the one-day LAF. What we do not know is what the young people's definition of a forest is., Some youth consider the woodlands in Franklin Park near Boston a forest, which does not suit Eagle Eye's definition of an LAF forest. Next, figure 2 shows that the majority of the young people reported learning something new about the forests during the LAF program. Naturally, we do not know how a young person formerly experienced the forest they visited or what they learned about the forest prior to the LAF. Nonetheless, our data ensures us that the LAF is exposing the young people to experiences and information that they formally had not received.

Figure 3 shows the participant's responses to the question 'did they learn anything new about themselves or someone else' during the Learn About Forests programs. Once again over 50% of the young people reported learning about themselves or someone else during the LAF. The program is

designed to open ones awareness to him or herself, the natural world and to other people. Thus the effectiveness of the experience is suggested from this data.

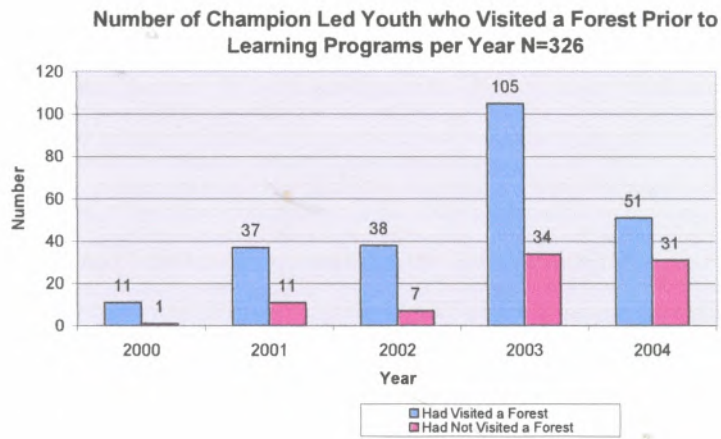


Figure 1



Figure 2

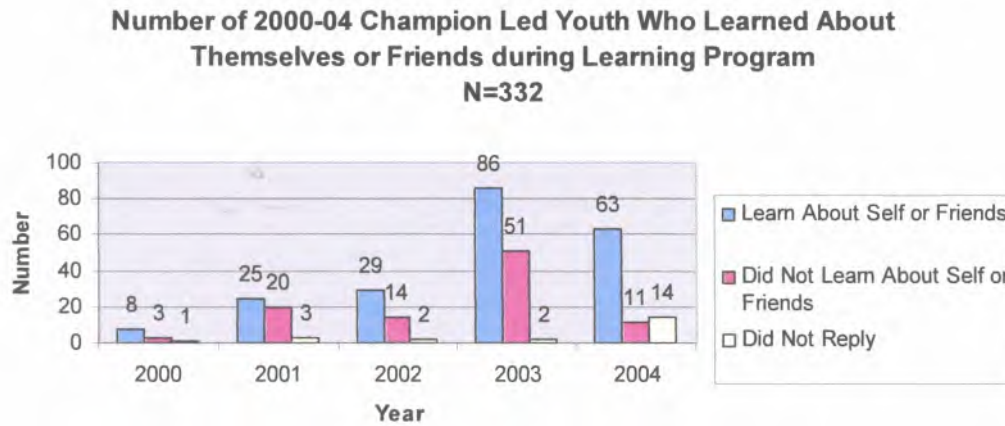


Figure 3

Despite that program organizers, from other organizations who we call Champions, are organizing and leading the Learn About Forests rather than Eagle Eye Institute, the results from the evaluations imply that the goals of the LAF are being met through the Champion program. The results also imply that our method of showing Champions how to lead the LAF and work with underserved urban youth is effective. This gives us further confidence to move forward in collaborating with even more Champions and organizations and teach others how to run the programs and raise underserved urban youths awareness: environmentally and personally.

How did the project increase the knowledge on urban forestry and benefit the public?

The project increased public knowledge about urban forestry using the Champions as its vehicle. These Champions conveyed to young urban people and adults (youth workers) the existence and value of urban forestry. This occurred through relationship building and exposure to natural resource professionals and to rural forests. Natural resource professionals instructed during the LAF programs and shared their work and love of the forest, both rural and urban, with young people. The benefit is that young people in this program are aware that they too can protect, promote and work to protect trees in the forests and in their neighborhood. We learned that it is vital to get to know the people you reach out to and to involve people from communities you may not normally include. This pushes you to step outside of your comfort zone and engage others. For the Champions and foresters in the LAF programs the hands-on experiences in the forest or with local trees were within their comfort zone, yet sharing this with underserved urban populations was not.

Eagle Eye's Learn about Forests (LAF) TM program is a critical first step in building community partnerships based on Champion-led teams to improve public and private services to minority and underserved populations. The dissemination of Eagle Eye's programmatic tools and know-how will bring the messages and learning about urban and community forestry to minority communities. By engaging multi-cultural urban youth today, we create healthier individuals, communities and environments.

Recommendations to other community foresters

Learn to organize and lead LAFs in your community. The program will help you realize your outreach goals and make good use of the natural land, as well as provide new opportunities and learning to underserved populations.

Engage diverse populations with your work, it will improve your community relationships and change your perspectives.

Work directly with youth serving organizations, rather than schools or recruiting individual youth on your own. It'll save you time in learning how to be a 'youth worker.'

Visit the youth serving organizations or other community groups on their turf and under their terms. This shows others, that all though we are different, we really care about them. Showing this inspires us to value others and the environment we desire to protect.

Attach Copies of reports, publications, or videos. If your work has been published provide where they have been published or reported and how copies can be obtained.

Summer 2005, Eagle Eye Institute, Newsletter *

Summer 2005, Smith, Joseph '*New Eyes on the Forest,*' Northern Woodlands*

Champion Web-pages launched in January, 2005

www.eagleeyeinstitute/champions_web/champions_index.html

August 10, 2004, Pope, LaMond '*Taking learning to the forest: Program connects urban youth to the outdoors*' The Ithaca Journal, Outdoors and Recreation Section *

August 6, 2003, Drake, Denise, '*Camp helps students explore nature*' Columbus Ledger-Enquirer 8

August, 2004, Stockmann, Melinda, EEI Wings Director '*Eagle Eye Institute*' City Trees *

Eagle Eye Institute, Social Innovation Forum, 2003

* Article included

How were the results disseminated to the public?

Through the support of partner organizations like TreeLink, the National Alliance for Community Trees, National Tree Trust, the Society of Municipal Arborists and UMass Cooperative Extension Service, which help us through dissemination of program updates, articles and recruitment announcements and presentation opportunities at national conferences.

By our strategic partner organizations supporting Champions (with support from EEI e.g. press release templates) in their local media.

- Summer, 2005, Smith, Joseph '*New Eyes on the Forest*,' Northern Woodlands
- August 10, 2004, Pope, LaMond '*Taking learning to the forest: Program connects urban youth to the outdoors*' The Ithaca Journal, Outdoors and Recreation Section
- August, 2004, Stockmann, Melinda, EEI Wings Director '*Eagle Eye Institute*' City Trees
- August 6, 2003, Drake, Denise, '*Camp helps students explore nature*' Columbus Ledger-Enquirer

Other Methods

Champion Network Coordinator presented a workshop on using nature to empower youth with the LAF example to youth workers at Youth Work Intensive Building Exemplary Systems for Training Initiative and UMass College of Public and Community Service on March 18, 2005.

Champion Web-pages launched in January, 2005

www.eagleeyeinstitute/champions_web/champions_index.html

Co-founder created CD Rom on LAF program and Eagle Eye Institute, which is a tool for recruitment of new Champions, partners and volunteers.

Wings Initiative Coordinator compiled and delivered PowerPoint presentations at the following in 2003:

CYFAR (Children, Youth & Families at Risk) Conference	May
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Urban Ecology Collaborative Outreach Working Session	August
Society of Municipal Arborists Annual Board Mtg.	October
Social Innovation Forum	

What are the logical next steps or future direction of your project?

Through the 'Green Industry Pathways' model Eagle Eye is collaborating with The Trustees of Reservation and Youth Build USA to offer underserved urban youth between the ages of 16 to 24 years opportunities to experience the Learn About Forests™ program and other arboriculture training programs and educational opportunities over the course of their nine month YouthBuild program. The Learn About Forests program will be organized and led by Eagle Eye trained Champions from the Trustees of Reservations on sites owned and managed by The Trustees of Reservations. The programs will involve city arborists from local communities to share and teach the youth about the green industry. The focus of the program is to expose the young people to the natural world and educate them on the opportunities the green industry offers and how to be involved. Initially, the programs involve four YouthBuild groups and the following years the programs will gradually involve YouthBuild programs, utilize more Trustees of Reservations sites and involve more natural resource professionals. The work accomplished during the past three years has laid down the foundation for Eagle Eye to move forward and work with large scale national organizations such as The Society of Municipal Arborists and offer the program to more communities and youth. We see both The Trustees of Reservations and the Society of Municipal Arborists as examples of other organizations across the country who might want to engage diverse urban populations in urban and community forestry.

List the active partners (key individuals or organizations) involved in the project to-date:*Strategic partners supporting individual "Champions: "*

The Trustees of Reservations	various cities, MA
YouthBui Id USA	various cities, MA
UMass Cooperative Extension Service	Boston, Worcester, Lowell, Holyoke, Athol, Springfield, MA
National Park Service	Boston, MA
Environmental Awareness Network for Diversity in Conservation	Albany, NY
Youth Enrichment Services	Boston, MA
Columbus Consolidated Govt. / Keep Columbus Beautiful	Columbus, GA
City of Ithaca/Society of Municipal Arborists	Ithaca, NY

Agencies providing volunteer instructors:

The Trustees of Reservations, MA
 UMass Cooperative Extension Service, MY
 Cornell Cooperative Extension Service, NY
 City of Ithaca, NY
 USDA Forest Service, NY
 USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (MRCS), MA
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 New York State Department of Environmental Management (NYSDEC)
 Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (MDCR)
 Boston Parks Department, MA
 Hitchcock Center for the Environment, MA
 Gwen Lewis, Alabama Cooperative Extension Service
 George Stanton, Columbus State University, GA
 Mead Westvaco Paper Company, GA

Agencies providing natural program sites:

The Trustees of Reservations, MA
 USDA Forest Service (Finger Lakes, NY)
 University of Massachusetts
 Massachusetts Department of Recreation and Conservation
 US Fish & Wildlife Service
 Harvard University's Harvard Forest
 Syracuse University School of Environmental Science & Forestry
 Girls Scouts of America, GA
 Eagle Eye Land Trust

Participating youth development agencies:

Grace Renaissance After School Summer Program	Boston, MA
Coalition of Asian Pacific American Youth	Boston, MA
Cacique Youth Program	Boston, MA
YesKids	Boston, MA
Dorchester Federated Houses Little House Youth Program	Boston, MA

Boston Urban Stewards
 Franklin Park Coalition
 EcoTariurn
 Neighborhood Network Center
 Harvard House
 Housing Development youth groups
 Spindle City Corps
 Athol YMCA
 Boys & Girls Clubs of Albany
 Project Rebound
 Marshall Middle School in cooperation with
 the Knight Foundation and Columbus Parks & Recreation
 Cornell Cooperative Extension's Urban 4-H Program
 YouthBuild Programs

Boston, MA
 Boston, MA
 Worcester, MA
 Worcester, MA
 Worcester, MA
 Worcester, Holyoke, MA
 Lowell, MA
 Athol, MA
 New York
 Columbus, GA

 Columbus, GA
 Ithaca, NY
 Brockton, Lowell, New
 and Springfield, Ma

Bedford

Support with national publicity toward Champion recruitment:

UMass Cooperative Extension Service
 Society of Municipal Arborists
 TreeLink
 National Tree Trust
 Alliance for Community Trees

Photo or Illustration: If possible, please provide a photo or illustration for our use that summarizes or represents the project. Indicate how this illustration should be credited



Urban youth become aware of trees and the environment in Eagle Eye Institute's Learn About Forests™ program.

If a no-cost time extension has been requested for this project, why was it needed?

Since the award of the grant in April 2003, Eagle Eye stayed on track with the original project timeline despite the fact that the project and the award were initially scheduled to begin in September 2002. We fulfilled many of our initial goals and additional ones. We were granted an extension until June 30, 2005 in order to allow time to complete recruitment and organizational capacity, compile data on Champion LAF evaluations, plan LAF programs, support Champions in planning for summer 2005, as well as have steady communication with the USDA Forest Service about the internship underway.

How would you evaluate the grant process? What changes, if any, would you recommend?

Suzy del Villar provided good support and was quick to respond to inquiries and provide information on the grant reporting process.

The reporting timeline, every three months, assisted us with keeping our project goal oriented and focused.

Comments considered of importance but not covered above:

As was mentioned in our last report, it is apparent that we need additional funding to increase our capacity to deliver on building the Champion network. Due to our focus on partnerships, as mentioned below, we will not hire an in-house Director of Marketing. This past May we did hire a full time Program Director who is working on developing the Green Industry Career Pathway in partnership with YouthBuild and The Trustees of Reservations. We are currently interviewing candidates for a Program Assistant/Volunteer Manager who will work directly with the Program Director and help train and support new Champions as they come onboard with Eagle Eye.

Over the term of the project, EEI discovered that it is more important to support our current Champions and fully develop the tools and resources needed to support the expansion of the Champion Network, than to push forward on recruiting more Champions into the program. We fully realized the value in establishing and focusing on partnerships with major organizations, such as the Trustees of Reservations and the Society of Municipal Arborists, to share the magic of the Learn About Forests™ with urban communities around the country.

In 2004, we piloted an internship program with special project funding from USDA Forest Service NE/NA Civil Rights committee special project funding. Two interns from Southern University assisted one Champion with the LAF programs and one Intern worked in-house with Eagle Eye and documented the pilot program and made recommendations on how best to expand the internship program in the future. The Champions that did have interns working with them in 2004 expressed interest in continuing this program. Unfortunately, no new agreement to support the internship program occurred for 2005 with the USDA Forest Service.

Aside from the USDA intern program, Champions recruit and employ interns to help them with the Learn About Forests programs each summer. Although, the internships are not supported directly by EEI, EEI does provide support to the interns as they assist the Champions. The importance of the intern involvement is that five out of six of the interns were people of color from underserved communities. These intern's major responsibilities were to organize and plan the Learn About Forests. Thus, the program gives opportunity and involves an unexpected group of young people of color in the field of urban forestry and allows them to reach out to youth from similar cultures and backgrounds.

This report was prepared by:

Name: Patience Monroe and MaJa Kietzke
Title: Champion Network Coordinator and Fiscal Manager
Phone #: (617) 666-5222
Date: Sept. 28, 2005