We’re building stronger communities by improving access to high-quality, public space.

Mott Haven in the South Bronx is one of the most densely populated neighborhoods in New York City with a population of about 50,000 people per square mile. East Harlem in Manhattan contains the highest geographical concentration of low income public housing projects in the United States. Bedford-Stuyvesant in Brooklyn suffers some of the highest rates of crime in the city.

In response to a discussion on inequality in New York City, former NYC Deputy Mayor of Economic Development and former CEO of Bloomberg LP, Dan Doctoroff said “The best equalizers are access to healthcare, access to green space, and access to nutritious food.”

At New York Restoration Project, we restore and revitalize open space in the city’s most densely populated and least green neighborhoods. After acquiring 52 community gardens in 1999, we’ve steadily restored more than half of them. In 2014 NYRP launched a capital campaign to raise funds for the complete design and renovation of the remaining 23 gardens.

Our gardens provide a safe space for children to play, for families to gather, for neighbors to connect. We’re building stronger communities by improving access to high-quality, public space. We help integrate the spaces into daily life by hosting free programs, events and workshops that bring neighbors together and help families spend time outdoors. In 2014, NYRP hosted 118 events for over 2,000 participants, from free health and wellness programs like outdoor yoga to educational workshops like gardening, composting and urban chicken keeping. We further expanded our partnership with Brooklyn Academy of Music and The Bronx Museum of the Arts, bringing dozens of high-quality art, music and dance programs into the city’s most underserved neighborhoods.

Our hands-on education program, Garden Growers—launched in 2013—was expanded to six NYRP gardens in 2014 in Bronx, Brooklyn.
and Manhattan. Within easy walking distance of elementary schools, teachers commit to bringing their classes out throughout the spring or fall growing seasons to complete a series of lessons and to tend to a garden bed. Over 500 young students from eleven schools, grades K-6, participated. By providing hands-on learning in our community gardens to students who reside in the surrounding neighborhood, we are teaching essential skills while instilling the values of long-term care and stewardship.

NYRP’s ability to work on our own land also provides the unique opportunity to pilot innovative new strategies for sustainability and green infrastructure. The collaborative restoration of Willis Avenue Community Garden in Mott Haven, Bronx, is a shining example. Alongside the Urban Air Foundation, TEN Arquitectos, and Buro Happold, we designed and implemented a one-of-a-kind, modular structure that, much like Lego blocks, can be assembled in different ways to suit different needs; at Willis Avenue, we built the structure to act as a casita, a type of structure favored by Hispanic and Latin-American gardeners. Elsewhere, they might make a gazebo, a shed, or a kiosk. The casita was designed to include a roof to provide shade and weather protection, collect water, and support photovoltaic solar panels—the potential for broad applications in New York City and beyond are considerable.

Meanwhile, we are giving non-NYRP-owned gardens ways to access NYRP’s resources and expertise through our Gardens for the City program. Recognizing that many community gardens do not have the centralized resources of NYRP, we created Gardens for the City to help dedicated gardeners in spaces other than our own. In 2014, seven garden groups received training, materials, and site improvements through the program. We built raised planting beds for community gardens in places like New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) public housing properties including Ingersoll Houses and Marcy Houses. We also donated materials like shrubs, planters, lumber and more to nine other community spaces including public schools and community centers.
Gil Hodges Community Garden

Willis Avenue Community Garden

RENOVATION SPOTLIGHT

Willis Avenue Community Garden

BEFORE

AFTER

COMMUNITY GARDENS  07

Location
378 Willis Avenue
MOTT HAVEN, BRONX

Size
9,063 sq. ft

Renovations
• a casita designed by TEN Arquitectos
• compost toilet
• raised beds for vegetable gardening
• mulched picnic area
After years of work in partnership with the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, we’ve completely transformed open space in the northernmost reaches of Manhattan.

Our story begins with trash—appalling mounds of dirty, dangerous trash. Since 1995, NYRP has cleaned up 2,400 tons of garbage from public spaces, and over the last few years, we’ve diverted nearly 100 tons of waste into compost.

In the 1990’s, neglect and illegal dumping rendered the public parks of upper Manhattan practically unusable. Yet today, after years of work in partnership with the NYC Department of Parks, we’ve completely transformed open spaces in the northernmost reaches of Manhattan. We helped rehabilitate Fort Washington Park and Fort Tryon Park in upper Manhattan. Today, NYRP serves as the manager for Highbridge Park and neighboring Sherman Creek Park.

Cynthia Vargas, educator at PS 5 and lifelong resident of Washington Heights, can attest to the changes in her neighborhood, “The work here wasn’t just about cleaning up a park. Every year that the park improved, made us, as a community, feel valued. And in return, I’ve watched as people have become more engaged, not only with the environment, but with each other too.”

Home of New York City’s most vibrant natural forests, Highbridge and Sherman Creek Parks serve as the destination for field trips through NYRP’s “Nature in My Neighborhood” program for public school students. Nature in My Neighborhood is the umbrella for five unique, 1.5 hour length environmental education programs centered on the urban forest and aquatic ecology. The curricula, activities and events for educators, students and youth groups are geared towards empowering urban youth and communities to identify, create and care for nature in their neighborhood. Last year alone, Nature in My Neighborhood provided outdoor education programming to over 2,100 students at Sherman Creek Park, primarily to children 11 years old and under.

The multi-faceted Sherman Creek Park is home to Swindler Cove, the Riley-Levin Children’s Garden, and NYRP’s Peter Jay Sharp

PARK SPOTLIGHT

Swindler Cove

Location
3703 Harlem River Drive
INWOOD/WASHINGTON HEIGHTS,
MANHATTAN

Size
2,700 sq. ft.

Renovations
• removed tons of garbage, rusted out cars, sunken boats and construction debris (previously an illegal dumping ground)
• wetland restoration
• Riley-Levin Children’s Garden
• Birdhouses and habitats
boathouse, where our partner Row New York offers free or low-cost professional-caliber competitive rowing for local kids, floats just offshore. The park offers a unique mix of habitats, making it a popular spot for students to see and touch the things they’re learning about in the classroom.

NYRP has invested some $15 million in the project of converting Sherman Creek Park from a de facto dumping ground into a unique and accessible slice of public parkland. That project continues with the construction of a new public space on the water to the north of the existing park, on a site that formerly hosted boathouses and, later, decades of accumulated detritus. The restored site will feature an environmental education pavilion and boat storage facility, returning waterfront access to the Washington Heights/Inwood community. It’s an exciting opportunity that reflects the dynamism of the park itself, and the flowering of the upper Manhattan neighborhood around Dyckman Street that for so long lacked the variety of high-quality outdoor spaces enjoyed elsewhere in the city.

Last year alone, Nature in My Neighborhood provided outdoor education programming to over 2,100 students at Sherman Creek Park.
Sherman Creek Park

Location
Harlem River Drive & Dyckman Street
NEW YORK, NY

Size
15 acres (217,800 sq ft.)

Renovations
- Swindler Cove
- Peter Jay Sharp Boathouse
- Sherman Creek Center, NYRP's construction of an all-purpose environmental education facility

BEFORE

AFTER
If you can’t picture a million trees, picture nine New Yorkers. By the end of 2015, MillionTreesNYC will have planted one tree for every nine city residents—everyone in Manhattan, everyone in the Bronx, everyone in Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island.

Finding places to put a million new trees in the country’s largest urban area requires a healthy measure of creativity. Through MillionTreesNYC, we have reforested public parks, planted trees at schools, hospitals, and public housing projects, and even given trees away, free of charge—16,000 free trees in the spring and fall of 2014 to be exact. In fact, our pioneering tree giveaways have been shown to produce better outcomes in terms of survival than trees planted along streets. We arm the tree recipient with knowledge, and their enthusiasm and sense of responsibility do the rest.

While at NYRP we are constantly exploring creative new ways to implement green infrastructure, we also know that an idea doesn’t have to be on the cutting edge to be transformative.

Consider, for example, the humble tree. It’s well known that trees sequester carbon, and that living near green space makes people happier. Less appreciated, however, is the role trees play as air filters, removing airborne particles that contribute to respiratory ailments. In some cases, we just have to remember the things our ancestors have known for generations, like the beneficial effect a properly-placed shade tree can have on a building’s energy use in summer by simply shading the structure—or in winter, when a botanical windbreak can keep a building warmer.

By the end of 2014, alongside our partners at the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, we planted over 930,000 trees, with plans outlined for thousands more in 2015.
When we started in 2007, MillionTreesNYC was expected to take ten years to finish. But by incorporating lessons learned from experience, such as the extraordinary success of our pioneering tree giveaways, we are on course to finish two years early in 2015, all while saving millions of dollars off the original budget. But the end of MillionTreesNYC won’t be the end of NYRP’s tree planting efforts. We look forward to applying the lessons of MillionTreesNYC and the relationships we’ve built across New York City to maintain and improve the urban canopy.
NYCHA Woodside Houses

Location
Woodside
NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) WOODSIDE HOUSES
WOODSIDE, QUEENS

Size
22.3 acres

Renovations
• 250 volunteers planted 100 trees
With the right care and a little luck, our gardens, parks, and trees will outlive all of us. So too will the positive impacts of our work, as quality-of-life improvements compound for future generations. While these improvements are real and significant, they are hard to quantify.

With this in mind, NYRP has launched an ambitious multi-year project: The Haven Project. This project calls for unprecedented investments in the South Bronx. NYRP will commit to transforming a network of green spaces in Mott Haven and Port Morris while activating these spaces with community-centered programming. While we do this, we’ll be working with leading experts in public health and social welfare to measure changes in a broad range of quality-of-life indicators.

Located just north of Randall’s Island on the Bronx’s southernmost peninsula, Mott Haven and Port Morris bear the brunt of housing some of the city’s largest industries and highway infrastructure, resulting in poor environmental health outcomes such as asthma and obesity. As part of the poorest congressional district in the country, Mott Haven and Port Morris contain under-resourced parks and open spaces and a high concentration of public housing facilities, leaving a lot of room for improvement and growth—which is where we plan to step in.

Working alongside a cross section of public and private partners, The Haven Project has the potential to transform our very thinking around how cities are, and should be, built.
# Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses

**Year Ended September 30, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Program Services</th>
<th>Supporting Services</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gardens</td>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>Trees</td>
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<td>Materials and supplies</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<td>Depreciation and amortization</td>
<td>$134,259</td>
<td>$325,864</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$2,442,310</td>
<td>$2,339,747</td>
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**Net Assets, End of Year**

$18,393,169
Michael Kors & Lance Le Pere
Doris Duke Charitable
Con Edison
Bette Midler and Martin von
JetBlue Airways
The Coca-Cola Foundation
American Express
Linda Allard
$100,000 – $249,999
Toyota
TD Bank Group
North Star Fund Inc.
James S. & James L. Knight
City Parks Foundation
Bloomberg
$250,000+

NYRP 2013 ANNUAL REPORT
NYRP 2014 ANNUAL REPORT
Greenpearl Events
GreenOak
Sherif
Yuval Greenblatt & Eleni L.
Jerrold Goldman
Joel Goldfarb & Elizabeth
Robert Goldberg
Sandra & Laurence Gluck
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Gilmartin
Richard Gess
GE Capital Corporation
Wilma & Arthur Gelfand
Gabelli Funds
Amish Mehta, Partner &
Peter Friedes
Amy Freitag & Cynthia Smith
Ash Mehta & Priscilla P. Friedes
Amy Freitag & Cynthia Smith
Maxine & Jim Frank
The Jordan Company, L.P.
Jerry M. Feeney Residential
The Office of New York City
Ann Fisher
Andrew Fickman
Peter Friedes
Amish Mehta, Partner &
Ash Mehta & Priscilla P. Friedes
Amy Freitag & Cynthia Smith
Maxine & Jim Frank
The Jordan Company, L.P.
Jerry M. Feeney Residential
The Office of New York City
Ann Fisher
Andrew Fickman
Peter Friedes
Amish Mehta, Partner &
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation
New York City Department of Youth & Community Development
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
The Office of the Honorable Donovan Richards (City Council District 8)
The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
United States Department of Agriculture - Forest Service

GreenPearl Events
Jamee & Peter Gregory
Deborah Griffin
Debbie & Allen Grubman
Geoffrey Gund
Linda Hackett
Howard E. Hallengren
Tracie Hamersley
Rita Wilson & Tom Hanks
Deborah Harry
Anneliese Harstick
Mary Hays
Hearst Corporation
William Randolph Hearst
Foundation
Abbe A. Heller
Susan & Robert Hermanos
Katherine A. Holleman
HBO
Jim Hormel & Timothy Wu
Linda & Paul Huston
Jan Sweeney & James B.
Jacobs
JCPenney
Jerry M. Feeney Residential
Real Estate Law
Johnston & Johnston
J. Brown Johnston
The Jordan Company, L.P.
Estate of Edith Jurka
Sonny Kalsi, GreenOak
The Kandell Fund
Suri Krasirer, Krasirer
Consulting
Melissa Elstein
Florence & Robert Kaufman
KBK Wealth Management
Kelco Landscaping
Julie & Walter Keller
Peter L. Kennard
Trish Kennedy
Susan Keyes & James Sulat
Stephen Knoll
Suzie & Bruce Kovner
Dr. Barbara Kravitz
Thomas Krizmanic
Louise E. Kubler
Fordham Landing Associates
- Diane & Andrew J.
LaSala Jr.
The Lauder Foundation
William Lauder
Laura & Valer Morin Fund
Carol Leibenson
The Leibowitz & Greenway
Charitable Family Foundation
Elizabeth Lemon
Dana & Larry Linden
Scott & Melanie Little
The Litwin Foundation
Louis Vuitton North America
Pamela & Jeffrey Lovinger
Carri Lyon
Penny MacIntyre
Sam Feldman, David
Steinberg, Larry Brezner
Madeline Corporation
Anelle & Ian Madover
Mickey & Larry Magid
Lizbeth Marano
Annette Marom
Marshall Family Foundation
Agnes Marton
Kimberly McCloskey
Professor Henry McKean
Jamie L. McKnight
Rachel L. Mellon
Concetta B. Miller
Carol & Michael Miller
Sally Minard
Isaac Mizrahi
Leo Model Foundation, Inc.
Monmouth Health Care
Foundation
Mark M. Mullin
Robyn Reiss
Norinchukin Foundation
NYSE Euronext Inc.
One Kings Lane
Janice Parker & Jamie Drake
David Buskin & Jan Petrow
Nora Ephron & Nicolas Pileggi
Foundation
Rod Pleasants
Posner-Wallace Foundation
Daniel Rafinejad
Robert Ragozine
Rachael Ray
Rhino Records
Gary Richardson
Kenri & Joshua Rider
RKT&B Architecture
Robert A.M. Stern Architects, LLP
Timothy A. Robert
The Isabel Rose Foundation
Clifford Ross
Janet C. Ross
May & Samuel Rudin Family
Foundation, Inc.
Bonnie Johnson Sacerdote
Foundation
Valerie Salembier & Paul
Block
Fernando Santangelo
SawyerBerson
Sanford J. Schlesinger and
Lianne Lazetera
Barbara Schultis
Phyllis & Howard Schwartz
Philanthropic Fund
Laura Scott
Patricia A. Scott
Scotts Miracle-Gro
Secunda Family Foundation, Inc.
Daniel Segal
Paul Shaffer
Steve Shane
David P. Sheehan
Robert C. Sheehan
David M. Sherman
Laura Baudo Sillerman
Larry A. & Klara Silverstein
Joshua Sirefman
Liz Smith & Iris Love
Melanie & Harold Snedcof
Donna & Richard Soloway
Debra Spector
Deborah Staab
Brynn Thayer & David
Steinberg
Marti Stevens
R. Justin & Carrie Stewart
Cari Stibolt & Elia Vielma
James R. Stiles
Linda & Jerry Stone
John Sulpy Jr., Eldridge
Design
The Sulzberger Foundation,
Marian S. Heiskell Giving
Fund
Jay H. Tanenbaum
Brian & Linda Taucher
The Stop Global Warming
(VMOW), a project of The
Tides Center
Todd S. Shapiro Associates
Inc.
Brian Tolman & Lisa Shannon
Robin B. Tost
Tracx
Kathleen A. Tripp
Tsunis Gasparis Lustig Ring &
Kenny LLP, John C. Tsunis
& Maria Gasparis
Michael Tuch Foundation
Tumbl.org, Inc.
Robert L. Turner
Tyler’s Trees
United Way of New York City
Unity Construction Group
Urban Air Foundation Limited
Brian Urkowitz
Lisa M. Utasi and Stacy
Meadows
Diane G. Van Wyck
Jay Vogel
Sophie von Haselberg
Joanne Walsh
Barbara Walters
Warner Music Group, Inc.
Susan W. Weatherley
Robert Webber & Triple
Edwards
Weeks Lerman Group
Cathy & Stephen Weinroth
Emanuel & Anna Weinstein
Foundation
WME

Government Support
New York City Department of Environmental Protection
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation
New York City Department of Youth & Community Development
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
The Office of New York City Council Speaker Melissa Mark Viverito (City Council District 8)
The Office of the Honorable Donovan Richards (City Council District 31)
The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
United States Department of Agriculture - Forest Service