



**SF Environment**  
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A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

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## **ZERO WASTE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GRANT AWARDS (2019-2021)**

San Francisco Department of the Environment's Zero Waste program issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on March 27, 2019. The RFP articulated the goals of the funding and outlined specific evaluation and scoring criteria to be used in the selection process.

It was sent to more than 1500 organizations on the Department's RFP contact lists. Department staff forwarded the RFP to their individual contact lists. It was also posted on websites of the Department of the Environment, CCSF and other city departments. It was forwarded to the contact lists of municipal and other grantmaking organizations, as well as posted by local, regional and statewide trade and industry associations.

Nineteen proposals were received on May 3, 2019 requesting a total of \$1,721,175. A three-member evaluation panel, with zero waste and non-profit experience, reviewed and scored the proposals. Based on the scores of the written proposals and follow-up oral interviews, staff recommends that the Commission on the Environment approve the following awards to fourteen organizations, for a combined total grant amount of \$720,000 to be disbursed over a two-year period covering FY 2019-2021. Seven of the grantees are new to Zero Waste Grant Program funding.

### **Asian Pacific American Community Center (APACC)**

APACC mission is to help strengthen Asian Pacific American families living in Visitation Valley by providing linguistically and culturally appropriate programs and services for low and moderate income immigrant families with limited or no English proficiency with the goal of ensuring their clients adapt and become self-sufficient. The Zero Waste Grant will provide zero waste outreach and education to residents living in Sunnyside Housing Development and the surrounding communities.

### **Garden for the Environment (GFE, fiscal agent-San Francisco Parks Alliance)**

Since 1990, GFE has operated as a local demonstration site for small-scale urban ecological food production, organic gardening, composting and low water-use landscaping. GFE helps San Francisco residents continue to divert organic material from landfill through backyard composting and use of the curbside composting system, by providing free backyard composting and vermicomposting workshops and conducting the Gardening Composting Educator Training, an depth course to train educators how to promote healthy communities and ecosystems, to grow sustainable, climate change resilient landscapes, and by teaching environmental stewardship in their neighborhoods.

### **Groceries for Seniors**

Groceries for Seniors provides weekly free home delivery to over 1,000 low income seniors in San Francisco. Their key partners are San Francisco Food Bank and local grocery stores. They have recovered millions of pounds of food that would have otherwise been landfilled or composted and turned it into healthy and nutritious meals to low income and disadvantaged senior populations. By utilizing funds from Zero Waste grant program, Groceries for Seniors plans to eliminate the weekly plastic bag delivered to each senior with a zero waste alternative to transport the groceries.

### **Hunter's Point Family (HPF)**

HPF was founded in 1997 to provide support service to African American youth and families living in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point community. Their programs assist and teach youth, leadership, environmental stewardship, and workforce development in San Francisco Bayview, Hunters Point, Tenderloin, Mission and SOMA neighborhoods. Through this grant, HPF will be offering youth stipends to conduct community gardening, backyard composting and zero waste surveys in their community.

### **Replate**

Replate provides a simplified format for caterers, offices with meal services, brands with product overrun, restaurants and other food surplus generators to donate their excess food to nonprofits serving people with food insecurity. To date, Replate has served 1.67 million meals, created 48 meaningful jobs and recovered 2 million pounds of food that may have been destined to landfill or compost. With the Zero Waste Grant funding, Replate will scale up their food rescue services in San Francisco by increasing marketing and educational opportunities, utilizing paid digital and print advertising, providing educational lunch session and hosting events to increase food donations and reach more non-profits with their services. This grant plans to divert 137.5 tons of edible food from landfill and compost.

### **San Francisco Conservation Corps (SFCC)**

Founded in 1983, the SFCC offers young people opportunities to develop themselves, their academic abilities and marketable job skills while addressing community needs through service work. SFCC will recover material from landfill over two years by providing greening services for San Francisco events. They will increase recycling and composting practices among attendees, producers and corps members, help events get closer to zero waste and comply with the Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance. Services will include consulting with producers to establish a successful recycling and composting plan, conduct the recycling and composting on the day of the event and track diversion rates for the events. This program diverts a significant amount of event waste from SF's waste stream, while employing and training young adults.

### **San Francisco State University (SFSU)**

This grant will help students from Apparel Design and Merchandizing program establish a better understanding of environmental impacts of the textile industry through the exploration of diverting 15,000 polyvinyl-chloride street banners from landfill by refurbishing them into bags and other products for resale. Through partnering with AAA Flag & Banner SFSU students will work to design marketable products from banners previously landfilled.

### **San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD)**

Student Nutrition Services at SFUSD provides 33,500 meals per day at 115 schools and employs over 250 food service workers in San Francisco. The Zero Waste grant would pay for the reusable dishware and dishwashing equipment and installation at McAteer High School, making the school one of the most zero waste schools in San Francisco and creating a model for other SFUSD schools.

### **SCRAP**

SCRAP is the nation's oldest creative reuse depots at 35 years in continuous operation. It provides much-needed arts and educational supplies for teachers and youth development organizations at a reasonable cost, as well as supporting local artists. It provides workshops for the community and holds regular materials giveaways for San Francisco teachers. Through this grant, SCRAP will divert wood, metal, glass, fabric, paper, beads, buttons and other material from landfill. Funding will allow SCRAP to increase collection, operations and encourage reuse through various education and outreach activities.

### **The Story of Stuff Project**

The Story of Stuff Project operates Catalog Choice an online service with a user base of 2 million that helps individuals and communities put a stop to unwanted catalogs and other junk mail. With this grant, Story of Stuff will create a custom web platform to help San Franciscans to divert 500 tons of unwanted physical junk

mail. This will be achieved through the design and dissemination of digital and physical collateral for program promotion and focus on senior citizens who are most impacted by unwanted junk mail but are less likely to utilize a web platform.

### **Tech Exchange**

Tech Exchange provides digital equity to underserved San Francisco students and households by providing refurbished computers destined for discard. Through employing youth the computers are refurbished and are made available to San Franciscans who lack technology access. Over the last three years, Tech Exchange has grown their services by 400% around the Bay Area. With the Zero Waste grant 5,000 computers, equal to 8 tons, destined to landfill or recycling will be refurbished and made available to households in Bayview Hunters Point, Chinatown, Mission, Tenderloin and Mid-Market areas.

### **University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)-Recycling & Waste Reduction Program**

Housed in the University's Campus Life Services/Facility Services Department, the UCSF Recycling and Waste Reduction Program provides zero waste programs at all UCSF campus locations. The UCSF Educate and Sort with Tech Project will implement tracking software into the sorting of the discards coming from 15 buildings across UCSF Mission Bay and Parnassus campuses. With the information coming from the tracking software, recycling outreach campaigns can be better customized to more effectively reach residents and staff. This tracking will allow for the effectiveness of campaigns to be measured. With the implantation of this tool, 75 tons will be recovered from landfilled and an institutionalize and comprehensive feedback system of measurement/sorting/education will be developed for UCSF.

### **Upstream**

Upstream is focused on creating innovative solutions to plastic pollution by developing alternatives to disposable products. With the Zero Waste Grant, Upstream hopes to jump start the reusable cup infrastructure in San Francisco that will eventually normalize drinking to-go coffee in San Francisco in a reusable cup. San Francisco Reusable Cup Pilot will develop a scalable, replicable reusable cup program for take-out beverages and provide a source solution for coffee cups. Eventually this program will link to a broader Bay Area regional cup and container sharing program, similar to bike sharing.

### **Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI)**

USI is a national leader in human services and development, planning and strategy implementation as part of neighborhood revitalization plans. This grant will fund the Zero Waste Program at Alice Griffith Community which started in August 2018 with the help of Tzu Chi. This program includes weekly hands-on recycling exercises and educational workshops. The goal is to train more than 100 households by Dec 2019 and increase the recovery rate to 75%.