



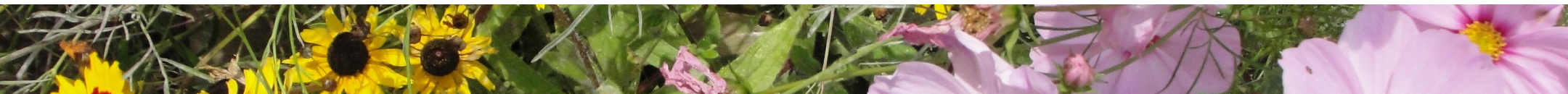
2016

GTECH ANNUAL REPORT

WE SEE OPPORTUNITIES  
WHERE OTHERS SEE OBSTACLES



6587 Hamilton Ave. 1W | Pittsburgh, PA 15206  
[www.gtechstrategies.org](http://www.gtechstrategies.org)  
412-361-2099



***“Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.”***

***– George Bernard Shaw***

As we look back at our ninth year in business, GTECH blossomed in 2016 with insightful breakthroughs, new partnerships, and the strongest organizational position to date.

We saw opportunities where others saw obstacles, and in doing so we transformed 24 vacant lots into new community greenspaces, engaged nearly 500 youth in environmental education programs, and welcomed 22 new ReClaim Ambassadors into the growing GTECH family.

Reflecting on the year, two words come to mind. Gratitude and inspiration.

We are grateful for the opportunity to do what we do, and inspired daily by the people we work with to make it happen. Grateful for what we’ve accomplished together, and inspired by the work yet to be done.

As an organization, we are stronger than ever and we remain grounded in our beliefs. Moving forward, we will continue to invest in people and places, advocate for policy change, and provide the tools, insight, and resources needed to inspire Allegheny County’s many vibrant communities.

In 2017, we will celebrate 10 years of this spectacular journey and we find ourselves asking ‘what’s next?’ We are nearing a milestone, after all, no longer a young startup but an established community organization.

We will celebrate 10 years of working on the ground in communities across Allegheny County with interesting and passionate people, 10 years of learning much more than we could ever hope to teach, and 10 years of building a network and being part of the community.

Along with a new decade, 2017 will usher in a change of leadership as Andrew Butcher, GTECH’s founding CEO transitions from the organization and Pittsburgh and Evaine K. Sing, COO since 2015, becomes GTECH’s first Executive Director. Andrew will remain affiliated as an Emeritus Board Member and forever friend.

Onward and upward. When we light those 10 candles, we pledge to continue innovating and iterating, to stay hungry and energized, and to always stand firm in our commitment to advance social equity through collaboration and experience.

In Service,

Evaine K. Sing, incoming Executive Director  
Andrew Butcher, Co-Founder & Board Emeritus





# BY THE NUMBERS



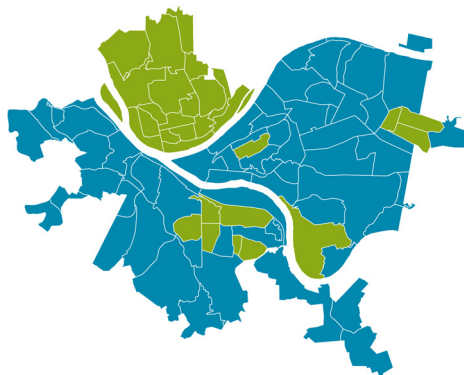
**Vacant  
Lots  
Transformed**

2016: **24**  
2015: **19**  
2014: **15**



**27** **Communities  
Engaged**

We build relationships with organizations, businesses, community development corporations and individuals doing amazing work. We connect citizens to funding, education and technical resources. We learn from every new partner in each community we visit.



Allegheny Center, Allegheny West, Allentown, Beltzhoover, Brighton Heights, California-Kirkbride, Central Northside, Chateau, Clairton, East Allegheny, Fineview, Hazelwood, Homewood, Knoxville, Manchester, Marshall-Shadeland, Mount Oliver-City, North Shore, Northview Heights, Observatory Hill, Perry Hilltop, Spring Garden, Spring Hill, South Side Slopes, Summer Hill, St. Clair, Wilkinsburg



**375**  
Surveys  
Distributed



**34**  
Community  
Partners



**17**  
Events  
Hosted



**26**  
Communities  
Surveyed



**1326**  
Vacant Parcels  
Surveyed

**121** **Total Ambassadors**



**22** **New Ambassadors**



**13** **Graduated Ambassadors**



**20** **Hours Ambassador Training**



## GTECH OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS



**4** **Reports**



**3** **Awards**



**4** **Conferences**



**3** **Office Dogs**

**429** **Volunteers**



**1321** **Volunteer Hours**



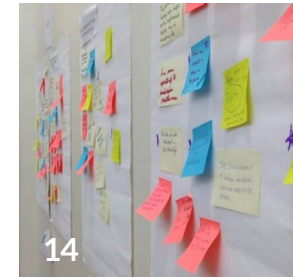
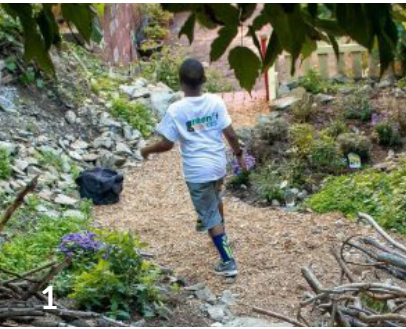


# 2016 ACTIVITIES

1. Green Playces Hilltop\*
2. Green Playces Wilkinsburg\*
3. Green Playces McKeesport\*
4. Green Playces Hill District\*
5. Green Playces Munhall\*
6. Maker Spaces & Playces
7. ReClaim Central
8. ReClaim the Route: Tactical Urbanism
9. PGH Mobile Toolbox
10. Remake Learning Playlist
11. Two Wheels Lots of Green
12. ReClaim Clairton

13. Northside Neighborhood Connections\*
14. LandCare Program\*
15. GTECH Green Stormwater Infrastructure
16. ReClaim South 2.0\*
17. Blight Bootcamp
18. Livability Solutions Stormwater Workshop
19. St. John's Green
20. Alcoa Summer Internship\*
21. Homewood Greening Clusters\*
22. Bundled Environmental Services
23. Healthy Homes Incentive Program

\* Featured Projects







# GREEN PLAYCES

*"Our partnership with GTECH's Green Playces program has allowed us to significantly improve access to green space and enhance the quality of our programming."*  
- Amber Rook, ALEC

## Purpose

GTECH developed Green Playces in response to a demonstrated need for more environmental education and playspaces in areas with the highest levels of vacancy (Youth in Green, 2014). Through Green Playces, GTECH facilitates the design and implementation of outdoor play and learning spaces and supports environmental education for underserved populations through partnerships with youth organizations. In its second year, we add 4 new Playces across the County.

## Accomplishments

1. Connected with youth service providers and environmental educators through a series of community conversations.
2. Identified specific locations near a community or youth facility to transform into an outdoor classroom, play space, or communal green space.
3. Designed spaces through a series of collaborative design charrettes.
4. Built out projects with the help of 380 volunteers!
5. Outlined and coordinated a series of educational modules with youth service and after school providers to focus on environmental justice, stormwater management, alternative energy, climate change, community resiliency, and material reuse.

9

Community-based Design Charrettes

490

Youth Engaged

5

Vacant Lots Transformed



# NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

## Purpose

To address One Northside's goals of creating safe connections between neighborhoods, beautifying the Northside, enhancing neighborhood assets, and promoting the Northside as a hub for arts and culture.

## Accomplishments

1. Included resident input: Attended One Northside meetings and community meetings, introduce the project and begin collecting feedback. Created Northside trail advisory committee.
2. Groundtruthd: Walked trail routes proposed by Northsiders, fine-tune routes and featured assets.
3. Designed trail maps: Combined input from residents to create trails that feature the assets in each neighborhood.
4. Shared maps: Provided public locations for Northsiders to access maps, provide maps for each Northside community group.

37

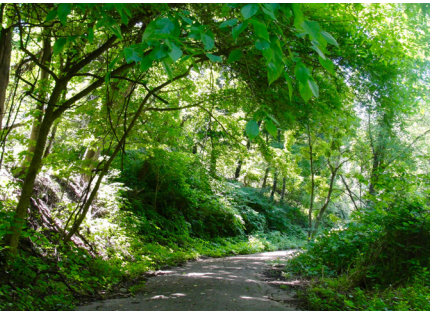
Miles of  
Neighborhood  
Trails Created

16

Trail Maps

520

Neighbors  
Engaged







# URA LANDCARE

*"Being a part of this partnership with GTECH and the URA has allowed us to grow the success of our business and our community."*

*-Kipp Jackson, K.R.J. Enterprises*

## Purpose

GTECH began working with the URA to improve the alignment of existing vacant land maintenance services with community priorities and capabilities. By utilizing data-driven coordination, and giving an outlet for the already existing desire of communities for participation in public process, GTECH built a framework for a new URA lot maintenance process that if successful, we hope can provide a baseline model for the City portfolio of vacant land as well.

## Accomplishments

1. Established a strategic framework for the program.
2. Assessed the current system through a series of interviews with actors in the contracting process.
3. Assessed current need through researching data trends in 311 with support from the University Center for Social and Urban Research.
4. Hosted a series of community meetings in April across the city to solicit input around the URA vacant lot maintenance process.
5. After making recommendations for a new and improved "LandCare Program," we worked with the URA to establish a new 2-tiered program that separates the URA portfolio into 8 bundles of properties.

**55**

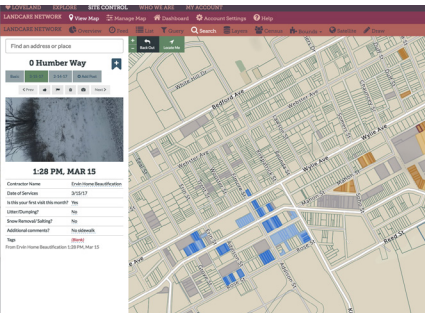
Individuals  
Employed  
in Property  
Maintenance

**7**

Small  
Businesses  
Contracted

**2.5**

Million Square  
Feet of Vacant  
Land Cleaned  
and Maintained





# RECLAIM SOUTH: SUSTAINING MOMENTUM

## Purpose

ReClaim South: Sustaining Momentum was launched to further bolster and support existing Ambassador projects implemented during the original ReClaim South program. ReClaim South: Sustaining Momentum provided both returning and new Ambassadors with additional skills, tools and resources necessary for improving Ambassador projects.

## Accomplishments

1. Launched program with a diverse cohort of 13 individuals across 7 Hilltop neighborhoods combining old and new Ambassadors.
2. Ambassadors participated in 260 hours of education and implemented 7 projects.
3. Ambassadors unanimously reported increases in the overall perception of their community and their ability to make a difference.
4. Leveraged \$60,000 in supplemental program investments.

5

New  
Ambassadors

76

Attendees at  
Two Wheels  
Lots of Green

197

Service Hours







# HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER INTERNSHIP

## Purpose

This program hosted 3 interns in the summer to take on active leadership roles within GTECH's Green Playce program. Max Rogow, Marquise Wheeler, and Breeonia (Bree) Prioleau were recruited from existing partners including the Holy Family Academy, Propel Schools, and Winchester Thurston Academy. As a team, the interns led a group project to create a sustainability plan for the Wilkinsburg Green Playce and presented their findings in a public presentation at the Hosanna House titled "Learn, Climb, and Grow in Wilkinsburg."

## Accomplishments

1. Presented their sustainability plans to 13 people.
2. Developed 3 environmental education modules focused on outdoor play, plant care, and pollinators.
3. Co-facilitated 2 design charettes in the Hill District with 12 residents and 35 youth in a hands-on community driven design process that incorporates both community development and environmental education.
4. Helped manage 133 volunteers, culminating in 561 hours of community service offered to the Green Playces program.



**12**

Community  
Build Days

**3**

Interns

**16**

Events



# DEFINING SUSTAINABLE RETURN ON INVESTMENT

## Purpose

In October, we published our first Sustainable Return on Investment Report (SuROI), outlining the process we took to measure the impact that our ReClaim McKeesport Ambassador Program had on the Ambassadors and residents of McKeesport. We combined two well-evidenced evaluation models -- Social Return on Investment (SROI) and Ecosystems Services Analysis (ESA) -- to lead us to quantify the social, environmental, and economic impacts of the Ambassador program. Program outcomes were categorized into well-being, crime, economic gains, employment, environment, and health outcomes. These outcomes were informed by direct resident and ambassador survey responses. We found that every dollar invested would produce an immediate return of \$9.20, and a long-term social return on investment of \$21.90 for every dollar invested.

This unique process allows GTECH the ability to go beyond traditional evaluation measures by assigning a dollar value to outcomes experienced, so that we can better identify where programs have the greatest impact. This model enables us to strengthen programs and ensure that investments made are positive and sustainable. Moving forward, we hope to strengthen the SuROI model by:

- Increasing its application across GTECH programs
- Developing local proxy values to better measure GTECH and Pittsburgh-based programs
- Continue to set a standard of accountability and transparency for local and national efforts in program evaluation.

25

Proxies  
Measured

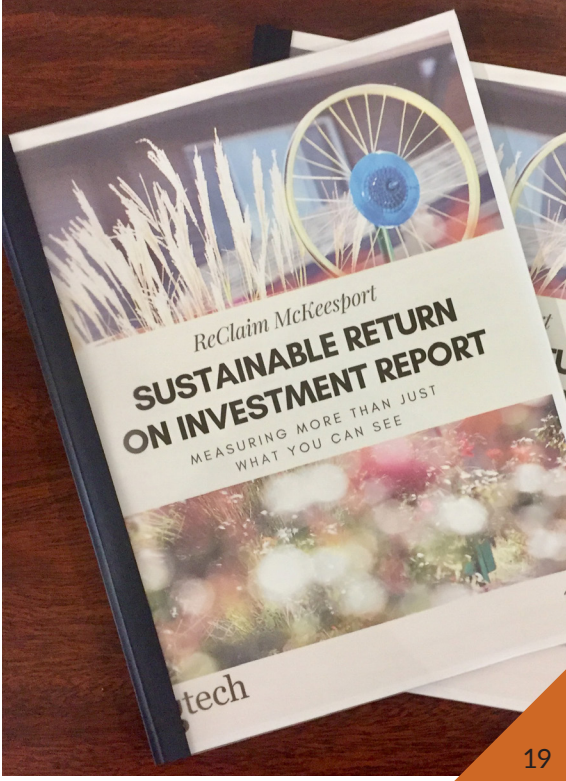
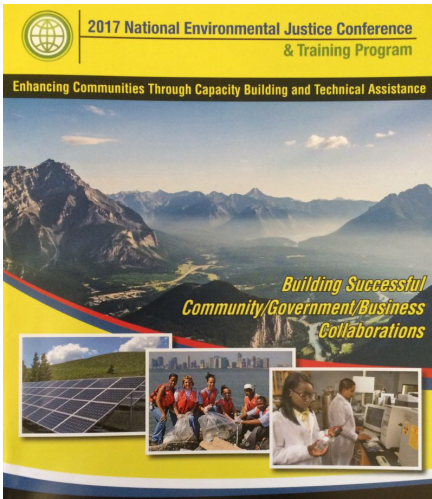
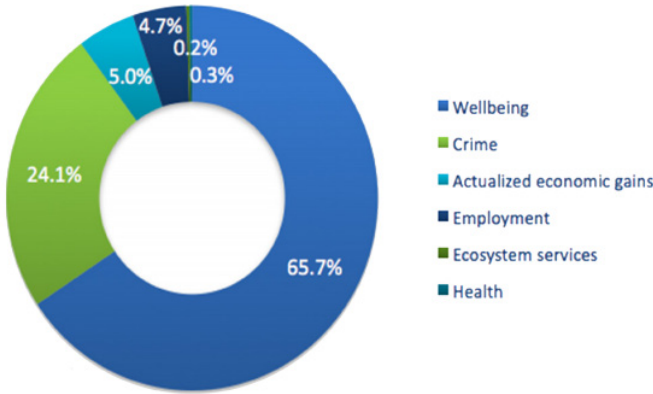
\$1:\$21.90

SuROI Calculated for  
ReClaim McKeesport

6

Categories  
Evaluated

Impact by Category







# GREENING HOMEWOOD CLUSTERS

## Purpose

In 2016, GTECH partnered with Operation Better Block (OBB) to implement 9 new greening projects in Homewood based on the needs and desires of existing, present-day community stakeholders. The projects were implemented in two phases and each project was imagined, designed and implemented with the help of residents via the Cluster Planning Process and OBB.

## Accomplishments

1. GTECH engaged the community with a series of 4 training sessions.
2. Hosted visioning sessions with Homewood cluster groups inform GTECH's site designs.
3. 9 Greenspace projects were implemented with the help of 27 volunteers.
4. 4 maintenance guides produced for future up-keep.



**240**

Plants  
Installed

**192**

Service  
Hours

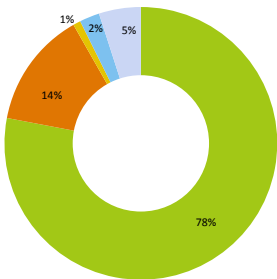
**12**

Bags of Trash  
Removed

# FINANCIALS\*

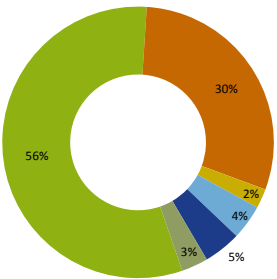
## REVENUE

Foundation	\$ 1,474,751	
Government	\$ 260,727	
Individual, Board	\$ 16,826	
Corporate	\$ 44,792	
Other NPO	\$ 94,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,891,096</b>	



## EXPENSES

Personnel	\$ 577,478	
Program	\$ 303,800	
Professional Fees	\$ 23,720	
Office	\$ 42,509	
Facilities	\$ 45,737	
Travel, Other	\$ 32,466	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,025,708</b>	



## BALANCE SHEET AS OF 12/31/2016

Cash and Investments	\$ 505,450
Accounts Receivable	\$ 695,530
Other Assets	\$ 18,419
Fixed Assets	\$ 14,207
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,233,614</b>
Liabilities	\$ 40,503
Net Assets	\$ 1,193,111
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,233,614</b>

\* ALL NUMBERS ARE UNAUDITED

### -FOUNDATION PARTNERS-

AmazonSmile Foundation  
Anonymous  
Birmingham Foundation  
Buhl Foundation  
Grable  
Heinz  
Hillman Family Foundation  
Jefferson Regional  
Foundation  
Neighborhood Allies  
The Pittsburgh Foundation  
PNC Charitable Trust  
PNC Foundation  
RK Mellon  
Sprout Fund

### -GOVERNMENT PARTNERS-

Allegheny County  
Conservation District  
Allegheny County Health  
Department  
City of Clairton  
City of Pittsburgh  
PA Department of  
Community and  
Economic Development  
Pittsburgh Water and  
Sewer Authority  
Urban Redevelopment  
Authority

### -CORPORATE PARTNERS-

Accenture  
ACF Environmental  
Alcoa Foundation  
American Eagle  
Chipotle  
Eat 'n Park  
EverGreen Facility Services  
FedEx Ground  
Google

Green Mountain Energy  
Highmark Foundation  
Loveland Technologies  
Peoples Gas  
Rolf Glass  
Starbucks  
Trust Franklin Press  
UPMC Health Plan

### -COMMUNITY PARTNERS-

Allegheny City Historic  
Society  
Allegheny Partners for  
Out-of-School Time  
Allentown Learning and  
Engagement Center  
Amani CDC  
Beltzhoover Neighborhood  
Council  
Bible Center Church  
Brashear Association  
Brighton Heights Citizens  
Federation  
Brightwood Civic Group  
Carnegie Library of  
McKeesport  
Center for Community  
Progress  
City Source Associates  
Civic Square LLC  
Community Economic  
Development  
Corporation of  
Clairton  
Conservation Consultants  
Inc.  
Design Center  
Economic Development  
South  
The Energy Doctor  
Ervin Home Beautification  
Friendship Circle

Friends of South Side Park  
Greater Pittsburgh  
Community Food Bank  
Greenspace Alliance  
Harrison Township  
Hazelwood Initiative  
Hilltop Alliance  
Hilltop Rising LLC  
Holy Family Academy  
Hosanna House  
ioby  
Jeron X. Grayson Center  
Just Harvest  
Knoxville Community  
Council  
KRJ Enterprises  
Landforce  
Mon Valley Initiative  
Mt. Washington CDC  
Neighborhood Allies  
New Sun Rising  
Northside Bike/Ped  
Committee  
Northside Coalition for Fair  
Housing  
Observatory Hill Inc.  
One Northside  
Operation Better Block  
Origin 4 Design  
Pittsburgh Association for  
the Education of Young  
Children  
Perry Hilltop Citizens  
Council  
Pittsburgh Parks  
Conservancy  
Pittsburgh Community  
Reinvestment Group  
Pittsburgh Green  
Innovators  
Pittsburgh Three Rivers  
Marathon



Phipps Homegrown Program  
Premier Touch  
Cleaning Propel  
Propel Schools  
Save Race Street Committee  
South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association  
Steel Rivers Council of Governments Student  
Conservation Association  
SUDS at CMU  
Trinity Church of God in Christ  
Tree Pittsburgh  
UrbanKind Institute  
Venture Outdoors  
Visit Pittsburgh  
Winchester  
Thurston School  
Wilkinsburg CDC  
Youth CAST  
Youth Opportunity Development  
Youth Places

#### -DONORS-

Andrew Lessard  
Andrew Butcher  
Brenda Hill  
Brian Allenby  
Ann Criss  
Craig Marcus  
Chitra Gurung  
Cheryl Capezzuti  
Carl Pezzino  
Denise Rousseau

Diane Bickford  
Elizabeth Scharpf  
Evaine K. Sing  
Fernando Cardoza  
Greg Crowley  
Harry Hochheiser  
JoAnn Rizzo  
John Mahood  
Janet Ban  
Josh Lucas  
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Linda Wallen  
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Susan Fineman  
Susan Smith  
Steve Allenby  
Suzanne Photos  
Stephen Tirone  
Terrell Jefferson  
Tom Wilson  
Wendy Paff

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Emily Bayer  
Gina Winstead  
Justin Weaver  
Jordan Kay  
Phyllis Barber  
Ryan Sims  
Quincy Swatson  
Zaheen Hussain

#### -AMBASSADORS-

**SOUTH 15-16**  
Brian Fallet  
Cara Jette  
Cheryl Ruffin  
Gordon Hodnett  
Heather Messiah  
Jamie Balser  
John Neiderberger  
Larry Jones  
Lila Scogdins  
Linda Piso  
Natalie Thomas  
Robin DeVaughn  
Suzanne Photos

**CLAIRTON 16-17**  
Corinne Brookes  
Bikila Darden  
Felix Fusco  
Skylar Randolph  
Jawanna Warren  
Anton Jackson  
Toni Schley  
Sue Vigliotti  
Ty Allen  
Donna Hudson  
Janella Hamlin  
Pauline Long

**CENTRAL 16-17**  
Gale Felton  
Cheryl Larry  
Willie Larry  
Rhonda Lockett  
Tamaira Binion  
Pam Walker  
Tasean Fields  
Tamara Thompson  
Demetria Williams  
Brenda Toley

#### -BOARD-

Andrew Butcher  
Court Gould  
Lisa Freeman  
Elizabeth Visnic  
Jon Pastor  
Chelsea Burket  
Ayanna Lee-Davis  
David Lassman  
Kristin Hughes  
Dora Magovern  
Jordan Fishbach  
Shad Henderson  
Matthew Ciccone

#### -INTERNS-

Joe Marren  
Kate Hancock  
Marquise Wheeler\*  
Max Rogow\*  
Breeonia Prioleau\*  
Shynika Stokes\*

# THANK YOU!



#### -STAFF-

##### *Top row to bottom row, left to right*

Ellie King, Project Coordinator\*  
Sarah Koenig, Project Manager: Land Use & Environment  
Joe Marren, Intern  
James Snow, Project Manager: Planning & Analysis  
Tacumba Turner, Project Coordinator  
Andrew Butcher, CEO\*  
Katherine Chamberlain, Project Manager: Relationships & Memberships\*  
Lydia Kramer, Project Coordinator  
Evaine K Sing, COO, incoming Executive Director  
Kristen Matthews, Administrative Coordinator\*

##### *Not pictured:*

Kevin Gieder, CFO  
Ian Brown, Project Manager: Youth Engagement  
Gavin White, Project Coordinator  
Lydia Yoder, Project Coordinator  
Kate Hancock, Intern  
Tom Mulholland, PULSE Fellow  
Katie McAuley, Project Manager: Communications & Outreach\*

\* Thanks to those who completed their service this year





gtech