

NEW HAVEN

THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT ACT SUCCESS STORIES

No.
602



In Spring 2011, **The New Haven Land Trust** will undertake a project to restore 20 community gardens and provide food security to economically disadvantaged community



members. This critical project will be financed by a **Community Investment Act** funded Department of Environmental Protection Community Garden and Urban Green Project grant in the amount of \$35,454 along with \$19,092 in matching funds from The Community Foundation of Greater New Haven, The City of New Haven, and individual donations.

A total of \$54,546 will support the restoration of gardens that are integral to providing vital sustenance to many who lack access to land and gardening tools. Along with bolstering local food security, this project will strengthen the local economy by employing at least two professionals.

250 garden beds will be restored with environmentally friendly treated Pine that will last four times longer than the current materials. Additionally, 20 community gardens will be provided \$1,000 each to make much needed improvements, including new fencing, outdoor seating areas, and rainwater harvesting systems.

This project is part of a larger initiative to create livable and healthy neighborhoods by building community, empowering residents, and reclaiming vacant lots. New Haven's community gardens will flourish with help from this grant — so too will the residents of New Haven, the local economy, and the health of the city.



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The Community Investment Act, enacted in 2005, stimulates private investment to protect our natural, agricultural, and historic resources, and to assist affordable housing. CIA funds come from a surcharge on real estate document recording fees. They are then invested in agriculture viability, dairy farm support, historic preservation, open space, farmland, affordable housing, Local Capital Improvement Projects and Town Clerk records management.