Towards Green Justice for all.

Annual Report 2016
Dear community,

What an amazing year! With 65 grassroots leaders and 185 active volunteers, Got Green has continued to grow the community’s power to fight for racial, economic, and environmental justice in 2016.

Last year, leadership, staff, and board completed a year long process to develop Got Green’s organizational vision and strategic plan of what we are going to do for the next 5 years. This collective effort parallel with the development of our organization-wide narrative to grow our capacity in telling our story and unite all parts of our work for the next years to come.

After waging a 4-year grassroots campaign, the Young Leaders in the Green Movement committee won a resolution in the City of Seattle to create Green Pathways for young workers of color. Through living wage entry level positions in City green jobs with targeted hire, young people can access careers in the environmental sector, breaking the Green Ceiling and disrupting the school to prison pipeline.

Together with Puget Sound Sage, we co-wrote and released a report, Our People Our Planet Our Power, which highlighted the findings and recommendations from the community-driven research project led by leaders of the Climate Justice steering committee. Through this project, we lifted up the climate priorities of residents and groups in South Seattle, as well as bring the science to the sidewalk to activate new leaders in the climate justice movement.

We sit on the steering committees of Front and Centered and the Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy to shape community-driven climate policy that reduces pollution and invests directly in communities and the workers who are most impacted by environmental injustices and the fossil fuel industry. We will continue to be a vocal community advocate to defend against false solutions which harms our communities and instead lift up policies that transitions us to an economy healthy for people and the planet.

The Food Access Team continues to grow thanks to the added capacity from the new job share position. We’ve engaged multi-generations of families through people’s movement assemblies, farmers’ market tours, free cooking demos, the grassroots feminist organizing school, and taking it to the streets with the Women of Color and Families marching contingent. The women at Got Green are strengthening what it means to organize with the people we love and lift up gender justice within the movement.

We hope you enjoy this Annual Report of Got Green’s work in 2016 and celebrate in the victories big and small. This year, we further commit to educating and activating new and old leaders for climate justice as we address food insecurity, unemployment, pollution and displacement in order to keep our communities rooted in place, healthy, and resilient. We look forward to growing this movement together with you all, in 2017 and onward.

Thank you for all that you do,

Jill Mangaliman
Executive Director of Got Green
Movement Building

Got Green has been a movement force by participating in key coalitions and alliances this last year. As a member of Grassroots Global Justice Alliance, we hosted the 2nd Just Transition Assembly in the Pacific Northwest, bringing together over 150 activists and organizers from across the region to collectively vision and strategize what an equitable, living economy led by communities of color looks like.

Additionally, Got Green co-chaired the City of Seattle’s Environment and Equity Initiative task force, which led to the creation of Community Environmental Justice recommendations to the City, the Environmental Justice Steering Committee, and the Environmental Justice Fund.

As shared earlier, Got Green’s work with Front and Centered and the Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy, as a vocal community advocate to defend against false solutions which harm our communities and instead shape community driven climate policy that reduces pollution, re-invests directly in communities most impacted, and ushers a just transition for workers.

Lastly, our work has not gone unrecognized. In 2016, Got Green has participated in the national communications fellowship ReFrame Mentorship and have had over 30 media hits, serving to transform the narrative of climate action and ensuring that the voices of frontline communities are centered. Got Green has been honored for our work by receiving awards from the Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems, the Roberto Maestas Legacy Leadership Award from El Centro de la Raza, and the Tastuo Nakata Youth Award from the International Examiner.

Towards Green Justice For All

Green justice is a healthy local economy that stands on the foundation of thriving communities of color. When communities of color thrive, all communities thrive. Instances of displacement are minimized. People have access to healthy food, small people-of-color owned businesses grow, homes are secure because they are affordable, weatherized, and free of mold and toxins. There is less trauma, less anxiety, less violence and less family separation.
Young Leaders in the Green Movement

As the next generation of young people of color are caught in a cycle of unemployment, low wage dirty jobs, and the school to prison pipeline, Got Green’s Young Leaders in the Green Movement has had been working hard in fighting for green pathways for young adults of color in Seattle.

By waging the Green Pathways Out of Poverty campaign, the Young Leaders have been on the front lines of drawing the connections between the environment, labor, and racial justice, and have also have been directly providing an alternative to rampant unemployment, the school to prison pipeline, and racial exclusion in the environmental sector.

The year concluded with an enormous victory for the Young Leaders with the unanimous passage of the Green Pathways resolution by the Seattle City Council. This was the result of over four years of powerful organizing – building coalitions, engaging in a media strategy, developing policy, sharpening the skills of young leaders of color, and building a powerful base of support.

In addition to pushing the city to make a commitment to the Green Pathways tenants, the Young Leaders have shaped the City of Seattle’s new definition of a green job. With many lessons learned, the Young Leaders are building on this victory with the goal of passing a city ordinance that will create an equitable green job program for the public and private sectors.

“Got Green has taught me so much about the importance of alliances, connection, and overall being present when the community needs you.”

Marion Romero
Seattle Weekly - 2016

What is a Green Job?

A “green job” is one that preserves or enhances environmental health as well as the economic and social well-being of people and communities, centering communities most negatively impacted by climate change. A green job pays a living wage while providing career pathways. Green jobs do not contribute to displacement or divestment from these impacted communities.
Food Access Team

With rising food costs hurting households in Seattle and all over our country, the Food Access Team is committed to their campaign to close the food security gap so that working-class families everywhere can put local, healthy food on the table.

In 2016, the Food Access Team continued to defend our historic Fresh Bucks victory by guarantee that this significant program continues to receive funding. Additionally, the Food Access Team has launched a new campaign making sure that the City’s new Sugary Beverage Tax will promote health equity by serving to close the food security gap and utilize a racial equity lens in application.

Lastly, in the spirit of the Women in the Green Economy (the former name of the Food Access Team), Got Green has been a significant force in centering gender justice in our work. Both of Got Green’s Food Access Team co-organizers have had the opportunity to attend national trainings on gender justice and community organizing, training up Food Team members as facilitators and educating the broader Got Green community. This has culminated in the formation of the Womxn of Color and Families network.

“I am a single mother with two teenage children. I have a job making a decent wage, but recently experienced a raise in my rent. I struggle to put the healthy food on the table that my children require to stay fit to play sports. I am not able to benefit from the Fresh Bucks program because I do not qualify for EBT/SNAP benefits.”

Willea Cooks
Food Access Team & Board Member
With the release of Our People, Our Planet, Our Power (co-authored with Puget Sound Sage), Got Green has demonstrated that climate change is an issue deeply relevant to communities in South Seattle.

Climate change is causing more floods, heat waves, mold and high utilities bills. The homes being hit hardest are working-class families and families of color in South Seattle. Only with strong and powerful communities rooted in place will we be able to weather the storm of climate change. Being rooted means having fair housing, dignified work, public transit, and healthy food.

With a rapidly changing city, Got Green is drawing the links between gentrification, displacement, climate change and community power. Over the last year, the Climate Justice Committee has further developed this framework through events and trainings as well as strategic campaign development.

“We are all environmentalists; we just don’t think of it in that mainstream definition of what ‘environment’ is. All of these things” – affordable housing, access to public transit, access to healthy food – “are environmental issues.”

Jamie Stroble
Climate Justice Committee
Seattle Weekly - 2016
Operations

Membership

Grassroots Leaders - 65
Volunteers - 185

Demographics

Race
People of Color - 91%
  • Black Folks - 24%
  • API - 41%
  • Latinx - 13%
  • Native - 4%
  • Mixed - 8%
White - 9%

Miscellaneous

Queers - 23%
People with disabilities - 10%
Immigrant Household - 26%
Trans / Gender Non-Conforming - 10%
Young Adults - 70%

Got Green Staff

Jill Mangaliman Executive Director
Mo! Young Leaders in the Green Movement Organizer
Hodan Hassan Climate Justice Organizer
Ngoc Nhan Operations Manager
Tammy Nguyen Food Access Co-Organizer
Sean O’Neill Development Director
Marion Romero RVC Fellow
Tanika Thompson Food Access Co-Organizer

2016 Board Members

Jasmine Marwaha Board Chair
Cherry Cayabyab Board Treasurer
Burke Stansbury Board Secretary
Elaine Agoot* Lylianna Allala
Willea Cooks Violet Lavatai
Yolanda Matthews Alice Park
Elena Perez Julio Sanchez
Christina Twu

* left the Board in 2016

2016 Budget

Revenue - $582,783
Expenses - $471,000

Grants - 54%
Grassroots* - 29%
Contacts - 17%

* Grassroots includes individual gifts of all sizes, including monthly sustainers, Give Big, and Green-A-Thon.
Mission

Got Green organizes for environmental, racial, and economic justice as a South Seattle-based grassroots organization led by people of color and low income people. We cultivate multi-generational community leaders to be central voices in the Green Movement in order to ensure that the benefits of the green economy (green jobs, healthy food, energy efficient & healthy homes, public transit) reach low income communities and communities of color.