

# Impact Summary

Trees 4 Us - A Pawtucket Central Falls Green Equity Initiative  
Central Falls, RI and Pawtucket, RI  
Groundwork Rhode Island



## Project Goals

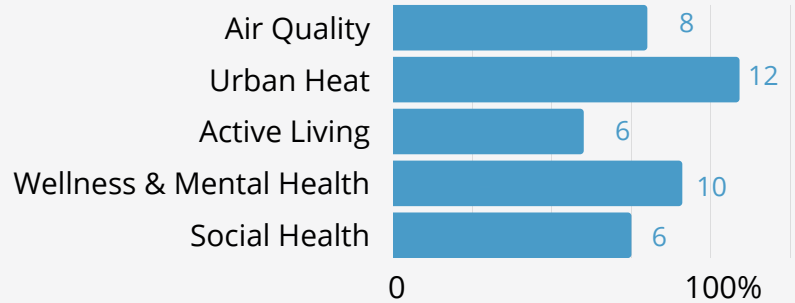
Groundwork Rhode Island planted 197 trees between May 2021 and November 2022 throughout the cities of Pawtucket and Central Falls, Rhode Island. Central Falls is the poorest municipality in the state. Both cities, which are predominantly Hispanic/Latino or Black, have higher rates of respiratory and cardiac disease than the state average. They also have the lowest levels of tree canopy in the state, which exacerbates the effects of urban heat and air pollution. The goal of the project was to increase tree equity, address social disparities, and promote public health in the two cities.



### Human Health



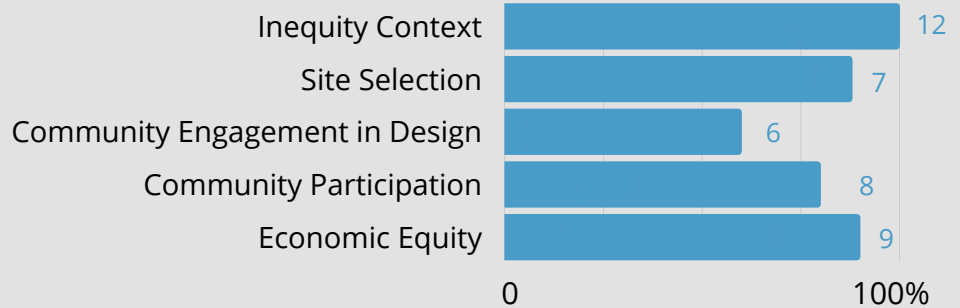
**42/50**  
Exceptional



### Social Equity



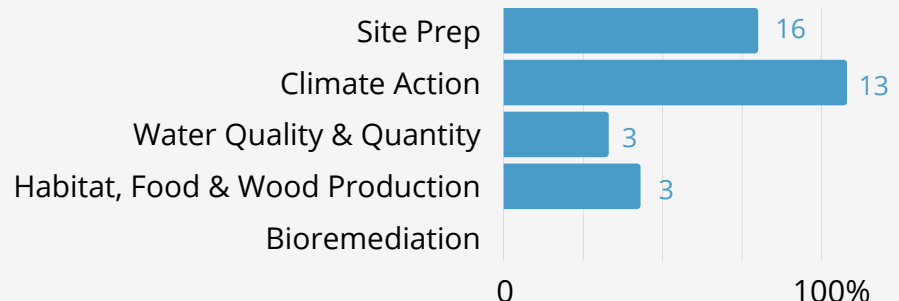
**42/50**  
Exceptional



### Environment



**35/50**  
Excellent



# Impact Summary

## Trees 4 Us Impact Project



Credits: Groundwork Rhode Island

### Improve air quality, reduce urban heat, and promote green career pathways

Trees were strategically planted at public spaces such as the Central Falls Public Library, downtown Pawtucket, playgrounds, and Central Falls schools. Through outreach by GWRI and a bevy of local partners, many residents were also rallied to have a tree planted on their yards. Tree plantings were largely conducted by GroundCorp, a social venture employment program for graduates of GWRI's adult job training program, and the Green Team, GWRI's youth workforce training program.

### UN Sustainable Development Goals



Improve health and well-being for residents



Increase water capture and infiltration



Youth & Adult workforce training



Increase tree canopy and benefits for all



Inclusive public outreach and participation



Reduce urban heat and energy needs



Deliver local climate action, quantify benefits



Diverse species for climate resilience



Community-based partnerships

### Quantified Benefits

Projected values (avoided costs) for ecosystem benefits per year in 25 years

#### Carbon Sequestration

129 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>  
\$3,222 (at \$25/ton)

#### Rain Interception

1,161 m<sup>3</sup>/year  
\$2,453 per year

#### Air Quality

O<sub>3</sub>: 0.04 t/yr  
NO<sub>x</sub>: 0.02 t/yr  
PM<sub>10</sub>: 0.02 t/yr  
\$948 per year

#### Energy Savings

Electricity - 15,480 kWh/yr  
Natural Gas - 571,086 kBtu/yr  
\$10,156 per year