

# S.O.U.L.S. Community Service and Service Learning Center

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## **The Esplanade Association**

This public green space, which stretches along the Charles River for three miles between the Museum of Science and the Boston University Bridge, contributes in many ways to the vitality and vibrancy of Boston. The Esplanade, like all public parks, requires ongoing care and maintenance. The Esplanade Association (TEA) was formed in 2001 as a park friends group to help restore and enhance the Esplanade in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Many park improvements have been made since TEA was founded, but there is still a great deal left to do.

The Esplanade is your park, and you play an important role in its upkeep and preservation. As a volunteer, TEA member, major donor, or advocate, your contribution makes a huge difference in the look and feel of the Esplanade today and into the future. Generous community support since 2001 has made it possible to rebuild Stoneman Playground and the ball fields at Lederman Park, replace river docks, install benches, new water fountains and solar trash compactors, re-open the Dartmouth Street bathrooms, improve tree care and, most recently, begin construction of new Community Boating docks.

Address: 10 Derne Street Boston, MA 02114

Website: [www.esplanadeassociation.org](http://www.esplanadeassociation.org)

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## **The Food Project**

“Our mission is to grow a thoughtful and productive community of youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build a sustainable food system. We produce healthy food for residents of the city and suburbs and provide youth leadership opportunities. Most importantly, we strive to inspire and support others to create change in their own communities.”

“Each year, we work with over 140 teens and thousands of volunteers to farm on 31 acres in rural Lincoln, MA, 9 acres in Beverly and Ipswich, 2 1/2 acres in Boston and 1 acre in Lynn. We grow nearly a quarter-million pounds of food without chemical pesticides, donating thousands of pounds to local shelters. We sell the remainder of our produce through Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) crop “shares” and farmers’ markets. Locally, we educate urban gardeners about lead-contaminated soil and promote raised bed gardening by residents and organizations in Boston and Lynn.”

Address: 10 Lewis Street Lincoln, MA 01773

Website: [www.thefoodproject.org](http://www.thefoodproject.org)

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## **Groundwork Somerville**

“Groundwork Somerville is an environmental 501(c) 3 non-profit organization that promotes sustainable community development and revitalization. By creating opportunities for healthy EDUCATION, green JOBS, and sustainable COMMUNITY, Groundwork Somerville empowers people to lead healthier, happier, and more prosperous lives.

Groundwork Somerville believes in the power of collaboration, and achieves results by building coalitions. We engage city residents, city government, businesses, and community organizations in the planning and execution of our projects. We also guide cities and non-profits throughout the Mystic River region seeking to build similar programs.”

Address: 240 Elm Street Suite B7 Somerville, MA 02144

Website: [www.groundworksomerville.org](http://www.groundworksomerville.org)

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## **Lead Action Collaborative**

“Since 1993 the Lead Action Collaborative (LAC) has played a leadership role in the fight to eliminate childhood lead poisoning in Boston. Made up of non-profit organizations, foundations, and government agencies, LAC has been working to develop and implement strategies that will greatly reduce the risk and eventually eliminate the likelihood that children in Boston will test positive for lead poisoning.

Our multifaceted approach to combating lead poisoning includes increasing visibility, ensuring the effectiveness of related policies and regulations through advocacy and coalition building, and training community groups to develop and sustain their own outreach programs at the grassroots level.

The Collaborative also facilitates networking on lead issues among grassroots organizations, non-profit groups, and public agencies. Through the continued commitment of these diverse groups, we aim to virtually eliminate childhood lead poisoning in Boston within the next few years.”

Website: [leadactioncollaborative.org](http://leadactioncollaborative.org)

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## **Sierra Club**

“Sierra Club is a nonprofit membership organization, with leaders elected by our membership on an annual basis. We have 26,000 members in Massachusetts, and more than 700,000 members nationwide, dedicated to the protection of the Earth's natural environment. The Massachusetts Chapter currently has 5 active groups serving much of the commonwealth, with volunteer leaders who are active on local environmental issues. If you would like to get involved please contact us.”

Address: 10 Milk Street, Ste 632, Boston, MA 02108-4621

Website: [www.sierraclubmass.org](http://www.sierraclubmass.org)