We advocate for policies, projects and programs that will:

**Protect**
the mountains and rivers in our area, to conserve habitat and water resources and be more climate-resilient.

**Create**
more natural spaces, such as parks and bike paths, in our historically underserved neighborhoods.

**Connect**
people to public lands through transit access programs and improved recreation facilities which will lead to better public health.

Members of Nature For All
Nature For All’s mission is to build a diverse base of support to ensure that everyone in the Los Angeles area has equitable access to the wide range of benefits which nature provides. We’re committed to building support to protect, create access to our forests, rivers, and parks, and developing a new diverse generation of environmental leaders and stewards who connect to and care for our public lands.

As you’ll see throughout these pages, 2018 has been a banner year for Nature for All. We celebrated numerous achievements and milestones, including tremendous policy wins, such as the Safe Clean Water Program and the development of equitable grant guidelines for Measure A; finalized the SGM Mountains Monument Plan; completed the Metro Transit to Parks Plan; established a new office in a central SGV location; filed Articles of Incorporation with four committed advisory board members; and launched our Community Leadership Development Program.

With more than a decade of experience, Nature for All has coordinated efforts among a diverse array of organizations and constituencies to restore and protect the San Gabriel Mountains and watershed. We partner with local, state, and national agencies to fund and coordinate policy initiatives, ongoing sustainability programming, and on-the-ground community projects that recognize the region’s diverse and rich natural, historical, and cultural heritage.

Because of your continued support, all of this has been possible for Nature for All. As we work with tireless passion over the next year, we invite you to join us!

Belinda Faustinos
Executive Director

Roberto Morales
Chair, Nature for All Coalition
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San Gabriel Mountains Forever Program

Goal
The San Gabriel Mountains Forever Program is focused on federal protections for the San Gabriel Mountains, Wilderness Areas and Wild & Scenic Rivers designations, expansion of the San Gabriel Mountain National Monument, establishment of the San Gabriel Mountains National Recreation Area and robust implementation of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Management Plan.

Accomplishments
- Kamala Harris introduced a bill that will expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by adding approximately 109,143 acres in the upper Los Angeles River watershed; establish the San Gabriel Mountains National Recreation Area for the San Gabriel and San Jose Foothills and the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Rivers comprised of over 51,000 acres; expand Wilderness area designations within the San Gabriel Mountains by 31,069 acres; and designate 25.3 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers in the San Gabriel Mountains
- Congresswoman Judy Chu introduced the San Gabriel Mountains Forever Act and reintroduced the San Gabriels bill
- The San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Management Plan and the environmental review process was completed by the Forest Service in late 2018. Nature for All and several of our member organizations contributed significantly to the Plan and will continue to monitor final sign off and implementation by the Forest Service

2019 Focus
- Hearings of Congresswoman Chu’s bill
- Reintroduction of legislation by Senator Harris and Representative Chu
- Implementation of the Management Plan by the Forest Service with an focus on:
  - Access Programs with an emphasis on Community Transit Program.
  - Visitor Services such as Wayfinding Signage, East Fork Program and other “low hanging fruit opportunities”
- Water conservation and water quality projects on the East Fork

“I’m proud to introduce the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act. This bill would provide comprehensive protection for this public land and address wilderness conservation.”

Senator Kamala Harris
Goal
Influence the development and implementation of public policy on park, water and transit issues to improve investments in low income communities of color. We do this work with a commitment to *Environmental Justice for All*.

Accomplishments
- Passage of two new funding measures: Proposition 68 passed in June and Nature for All provided substantive input on the final measure language and public education and Measure W, the Safe Clean Water Program for LA County where Nature for All provided leadership level policy input and education for the general community about the benefits of Program.
- Measure A, the LA County Parks measure passed in 2016 and Nature for All worked diligently to provide policy guidance on grant program criteria
- Measure M work focused on the Metro Transit to Parks Strategic Plan
- Public Lands Defense Santa Clarita Valley - The coalition worked in the greater Santa Clarita area to develop allies in supporting the goal of developing a groundswell of support for the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument
- Public Lands Defense for Antiquities Act, Desert, California Coast and Environmental Laws

2019 Focus
- Measures A, W and M implementation policies will be the focus with an emphasis on actions which promote sustained community engagement and prioritizing investments in low income communities of color
- Proposition 68 policies for Access Programs
- Federal, state and local legislation, executive orders, motions will be monitored and acted upon as appropriate to insure that our core values are communicated and implemented to the full extent possible.
Access Program

Goal
Secure policies which promote access to public lands, particularly for park poor, high-need, communities of color
Ensure that community members in our target areas are aware of the access programs that can and should serve their communities

Accomplishments
• Metro Transit to Parks Strategic Plan - As a subcontractor to Metro, Nature for All played a critical role in the development of this plan which is a blueprint for achieving equitable access to parks throughout the County
• Prop 68 & Measure A Access Programs - The focus has been on developing policies for Measure A and providing input to state agencies and state electeds on the importance of a stand alone Prop 68 Access Program
• Secured a grant from Kaiser Foundation to launch five Community Transit Program projects
• The Azusa Pilot Program took over 50 youth from Azusa Parks and Recreation programs on a tour of the Azusa River Wilderness Park, many, for the first time

2019 Focus
• Implementation of five Community Transit Pilot projects
• All Aboard for Nature!, an event celebrating access to public lands
• Advocate for investment of Measure A, M and Prop 68 funds in access programs, with a focus on low income communities of color
Community Leadership Development Program

Goal
Parks & Water Open Space Program
- Provide education and outreach on the benefits and need for funding at the state level for park bond funds.
- Support policies and programs that protect our water supply and water quality

Community Base Building and Leadership Development
After coalition approval of this program in 2016 we were able to launch the program this year. The program highlights are as shown below to provide a path for activism for community members that start at the basic engagement level to developing community trainers and super volunteers.

2019 Focus
- Launch a program in the San Gabriel Valley
- Seek funding to expand the program to include climate education
- Work with coalition and other partners to expand the use of this model for community base building on parks, access and water issues.
Leadership Academy

Goal
To find, educate, develop and encourage environmental stewards to care for our public lands and to advocate for the protection and enhancement of our mountains, forests, rivers, parks, and urban open spaces.

Accomplishments
The Leadership Academy is one of our flagship programs which has graduated over 160 participants, many of whom have gone on to successfully executed 60+ community engagement projects around Los Angeles, San Gabriel Valley, and in the San Fernando Valley. Projects completed in 2018, include direct advocacy around a transit to trails program from Boyle Heights to Pasadena, mental health workshops and hikes, an environment-based music festival, and many more!

Congratulations to the following graduates from 2018:

Cohort 13:
Bernice Martinez
Omar Madrid
Jenny Lopez
Kimberly Orbe
Remi Mateo
Mary Pickert
Tiffany Lam
Elizabeth Bayne
Melanie Nhan
Monica Curiel
Rhonda Mulherin
Reina Duran
Michelle Tarian
Audrey Murray

Cohort 14:
Estela Romero
Malinelly Romero
Celia Contreras
Phillip Tran
Patricia Alamanza
Carolyn Jones
Danielle Zamora
Arthur Rodriguez
Christine Wang
Miyuki Gomez
Sam Saloman
Monica Sandoval
Danielle Zamora
Janet Yu

“Thank you Nature for All for reminding me of the power of sharing our community’s stories, the importance of elevating our voices (even when completely out of my comfort zone) and working collaboratively to truly spark change and improve our entire community’s quality of life.”

Jenny Lopez
2018 Leadership Academy graduate

2019 Focus
• Funding for at least one cohort per year from a new source
• Updating the curriculum to create more conversations around current Environmental Justice issues and community impacts
• Enrich the experience by adding more guest lecturers
The Nature For All Stewards Group is a volunteer group of participants who have risen through the Nature For All Leadership Academy. The Stewards Group has grown from a few Leadership Academy graduates hiking together, to becoming an organized grassroots volunteer group which empowers alumni, volunteers, and community supporters to continue their advocacy work and support the goals of Nature for All’s coalition efforts to protect the San Gabriel Mountains.

The Stewards were extremely successful in 2018 in organizing six events: The Stewards Retreat, The Haramokngna Spring Festival, The San Gabriel Mountains Beer Series, San Gabriel Hikes and river Clean-ups, Convert-A-Can and San Gabriel Mountains Fall Festival.

**Impact #’s**

- **Four** Convert-A-Can hikes
- Over **600** lbs of trash collected with East Fork Preservation
- Spring Festival at Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center = **50 participants**
- San Gabriel Mountains Beer Series = **Over 300 participants** including elected officials
- Fall Film Festival = **Over 60 participants**
- Convert-A-Can = **20 participants** in collaboration with the USFS Field Rangers

**Thank You Nature For All Steward Organizers:**
Amy Wong, Araceli Hernandez, Brenda Kyle, Bryan Matsumoto, Joel Glen, Kimberly Orbe, Liliana Griego, Megan Devine, Melina Simonds, Michael Gasbarro, Reina Duran, and Rob Morales
Snapshots of Work

Abe Sanchez sharing his native peoples traditions and knowledge about the Yucca Plant at a two-day, overnight workshop at Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center to participants

Visitors for the Leadership Academy project “Eco Freaks Music Festival” at Los Angeles State Historic Park enjoying a beautiful sunny day with music and games

COFEM participants and super volunteers meeting State Senator Kevin de Leon at a Prop 68 Rally at Vista Hermosa Park in Downtown Los Angeles

Community Organizer Luis Melliz, Super Volunteer and Smokey Bear sharing their support for the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument #ProtectCreateConnect

San Gabriel River clean up in the East Fork led by Leadership Academy graduate Joel Glen with 20 awesome volunteers clearing over 160 lbs of trash!

“Modern Hiker” Author, outdoor enthusiast and San Gabriel Mountains Monument advocate Casey Schreiner tabling and engaging with visitors at our San Gabriel Mountains Beer Series
Impact by Numbers

147 Volunteers trained in Nature for All Programs

341 Volunteers/staff tabled at community events

3,557 Petitions and letters collected

202 Meetings with elected officials

28 Nature For All hikes in the San Gabriel Mountains
As we head into 2019, Nature For All will continue our work to build a diverse base of support to ensure that everyone in the Los Angeles area — no matter where they live — has equitable access to nature and all its benefits.

Looking Ahead

Nature for All cannot thank our supporters enough; we do this work because we are passionate about people and the environment. Our inspiration comes from every encounter we have with the community, our promos, leadership academy students, stewards, colleagues and funders. We have an unprecedented opportunity in Los Angeles County to make a real difference in people's daily lives to promote the overall health of our communities; socially, physically and mentally. However, we must remain vigilant to ensure that the public’s trust in us and our policy leaders is upheld.

By working with our colleagues across the various coalitions in which we participate at the leadership and organizer level -- OurWaterLA, EnviroMetro, OurParks, ParksNow, Prop68 and Statewide Access Coalition -- we draw inspiration from each other and knowledge that our collective efforts will have lasting impacts for social change which will improve park poor communities of color.

We are grateful to our funding partners who make this work possible:

- Patagonia
- Rose Foundation
- Water Foundation
- Resources Legacy Fund
- Garfield Foundation
- Kaiser Foundation
- Anonymous Donor

One of our major donors who prefers to remain anonymous must be acknowledged for playing a vital role over the years in helping to grow and inspire the conservation community of Southern California

Contracts with Metro and Regional Park and Open Space District also provided the opportunity to work on matters of mutual interest; the Metro Transit to Parks Strategic Plan and Measure A community meetings. We also appreciate funding approved in late 2018 from The Wilderness Society for the Leadership Academy program.

2019 is shaping up to be epic in terms of opportunities and positive impact. We invite you to join us in this effort at whatever level you can participate. Mark your calendars for Public Lands Day, Sept. 28 to participate in our major fundraising event, All Aboard for Nature! We cannot do this work without your support and engagement; looking forward to a year of strengthening existing bonds and building new relationships.

David Bier, Belinda Faustinos, Omar Gomez, Araceli Hernandez, Luis Melliz, Roberto Morales & Kim Orbe

Nature for All Coordination Committee
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contact@lanatureforall.org

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