



SPEAK FOR THE TREES

Boston

ANNUAL
REPORT
2019



OUR MISSION

Founded in 2018, the mission of Speak for the Trees, Boston, is to improve the size and health of the urban forest in Boston. We support the vitality of the urban tree canopy, especially in areas with low tree canopy coverage. Our programs focus on plantings, community education and outreach, and public advocacy. We partner with residents, community groups, municipalities, and national partners to build a healthier tree canopy for all.

OUR HIGHLIGHTS IN 2019



83 trees
planted



195 free
trees given
away



5,146
street trees
inventoried



1,430
empty
sites
inventoried



27
educational
& outreach
events
hosted



1,142
people
engaged



1,073 total
volunteer
hours
donated

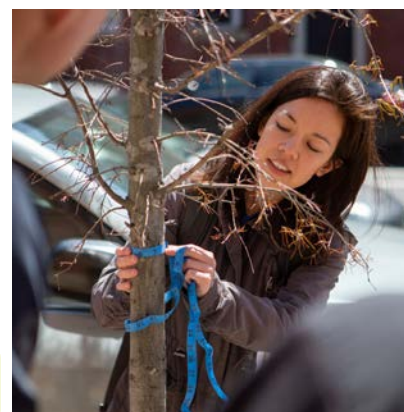


7% of
volunteers
are youth

BRANCHING OUT TREE INVENTORY

In 2019 we launched our #BranchingOut Street Tree Inventory. Using the OpenTreeMap app (www.opentreemap.org/boston), volunteers helped to collect details like tree location, diameter, species, and site characteristics. Over 5,000 trees and 1,500 empty planting sites in Roxbury, Dorchester, Chinatown, Charlestown, and East Boston have been measured since the launch. We plan to all of Boston streets by 2021.

SFTT hosted 27 education and outreach events in Boston.
Want to schedule a session for your neighborhood or employees?
Contact us at trees@sfttbos.org!



TEEN URBAN TREE CORPS

With support from Boston's Department of Youth Employment and Engagement and Private Industry Council, SFTT launched its Teen Urban Tree Corps program in 2019. Nine Boston youth collected data on nearly 5,000 trees and empty planting sites in Roxbury and Dorchester. In 2020 TUTC will expand to provide education and employment opportunities for 17 teens, with the aim of having teens create outreach material and inventory over 10,000 trees in Dorchester, East Boston, and South Boston.





GIVING AWAY FREE TREES

With support from John Hancock & Hancock Natural Resource Group, SFTT gave away over 145 trees to Dorchester residents in the spring and fall of 2019. Residents were excited to receive fruit trees that included persimmons, apricots, serviceberries, sour cherries, and figs. SFTT plans to expand its free tree program and distribute over 1,000 trees to residents in 2020 in undercanopied and underserved Boston neighborhoods.

PLANTING TREES IN THE CITY

In October 2019, Speak for the Trees collaborated with the Boston Parks & Recreation Department, Bank of America, American Forests, and Keep Hyde Park Beautiful to plant trees at Sherrin Woods Urban Wilds. Invasive plants were removed to make way for volunteers to plant and mulch 100 trees and shrubs.

OUR GOALS FOR 2020



Give away
1,000 free trees



Expand
TUTC to
17 teens



Host 40
educational
& training
events



Inventory
15,000
street trees



OUR FIRST FULL YEAR

2019 was a banner year for us at Speak for the Trees, Boston. We ran four successful programs, (three for the first time!), expanded our board, and deepened our local & national partnerships. We're grateful for the support we've seen from the ground up.

Recently, with our world shifting underfoot, the work we do feels more critical than ever. In this era of social distancing and climate change, we know that nature and community trees have to be part of our shared future. We invite you to join us in facing these challenges head-on and building a more resilient, compassionate, and healthy city.

With gratitude,

David Meshoulam, PhD

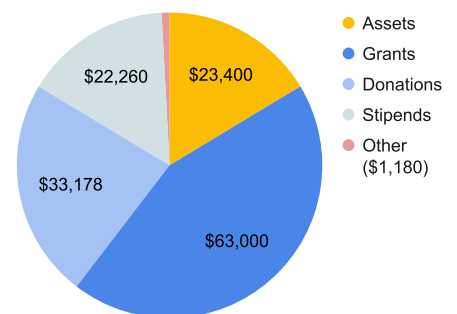
Executive Director & Co-Founder

Want to volunteer, partner, or sponsor our programs?

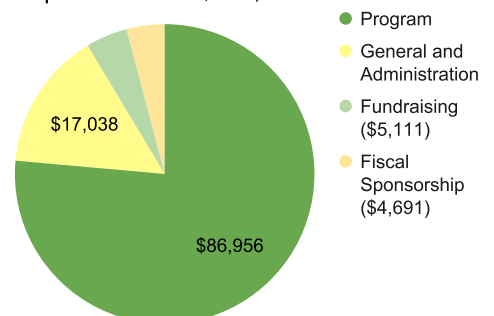
We welcome partnerships and support at all levels. Our work relies on help from all residents. Email us at trees@sfttbos.org.

FINANCIALS

Revenue 2019: \$143,018



Expenses 2019: \$113,796



*SFTT, through a partnership with Jet-Sett Offset, had \$176.88 of individual donations come from mileage-based donations.