



TREEPEOPLE

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## TreePeople Kicks Off 1,400 Tree Planting Campaign

*50 volunteers from Huntington Park schools the local community to plant 21 trees*

LOS ANGELES (October 12, 2017) – TreePeople is hosting a kickoff event on Saturday, October 14th, from 9am-12pm planting 21 new trees between Saturn Avenue and Hollenbeck Street in Huntington Park. Local youth will lead the event's facilitation.

The event celebrates the launch of a campaign to plant 1,400 new trees in a 3-square mile area of Cudahy and Huntington Park over the next five years along with plans to distribute 1,000 fruit trees to residents over the next two years.

“TreePeople has worked in Huntington Park since 2014. Now, we’re expanding the community’s ‘lungs’ to combat some of the worst environmental injustices in California,” TreePeople CEO, Cindy Montañez said.

Southeast Los Angeles is one of the most heat-impacted and largest food deserts in the LA area.

The campaign’s goal is to increase tree canopy from 15.5% to 17%. TreePeople will plant these trees and provide ongoing care for up to five years to help support any stressed trees. The value the new canopy will bring to the community includes shaded sidewalks, community organizing and a positive influence on public health.

TreePeople has met a \$1 million goal for a 5-year project to help Huntington Park fight climate change and protect public health. Funding is made possible by:

California Climate Investments

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Urban and Community Forestry Program

LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis

The Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District

The Dorrance Family Foundation

NBC/Universal’s 21st Century Solutions Grant Challenge

The Vernon CommUNITY Fund

Bank of America

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## **ABOUT TREEPEOPLE**

TreePeople unites the power of trees, people and nature-based solutions to grow a climate-ready, water-secure city and works equitably to protect people and the planet. Our leadership in environmental education, urban forestry, water policy and urban cooling research is changing the way Los Angeles does business and plans for the future. In this way, TreePeople seeks to build a powerful and diverse coalition to grow a greener, healthier and more water-secure Los Angeles for present and future generations. For more information, visit [treepeople.org](https://treepeople.org).