



VALUES STATEMENT

City Parks Alliance believes that parks and recreation services offer a great opportunity to advance racial equity. Equity is about fairness: Full and equal access to opportunities, power, and resources so all people may thrive and prosper regardless of demographics.

Our work will be guided and informed by our beliefs and commitments to:



Equitable Access

We believe that everyone living in urban areas should have equal access to quality parks that provide diverse, affordable recreation opportunities in clean, safe, and healthy environments. All city park visitors should have park and recreation choices that enrich their quality of life and cultural connection to beautiful places and vibrant experiences.



Equitable Funding

We believe that park and recreation budgets can be used more strategically to address racial and economic equity. We share best practices and help local and national park leaders develop creative solutions to meet the need for both capital and operations funding that includes building cross-sector connections for securing investment and leveraging resources.



Workforce Equity

We support implementing hiring policies, building cultural competency, and nurturing leadership that results in a workforce of park and recreation field staff reflective of the diverse communities they serve with upward mobility for all.



Community Participation

We believe local voices—through public partnerships with community-based organizations—are essential to creating vibrant places and recreational services. We provide support and strategies for developing community-inspired policy and programs that serve and reflect the diversity of park users.



Evaluation Standards

We strive to support park and recreation service delivery with an equity lens by sharing standards and assessment tools for data collection and measurement to help prioritize investment in underserved communities and to measure racial diversity within organizations that serve those communities, including City Parks Alliance.



Equitable Urban Systems

We work to show the value of park and recreation places and programs in addressing cities' broader equity challenges with other community development issues such as affordable housing, environmental justice and resiliency, youth development, incarceration reduction, food security, and transportation options.