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## **Go Green Foundation Teams with Alliance for Climate Education, Expands ‘Spare Our Planet’ from 200 to more than 5,000 Students**

*Innovative San Francisco Program Helps Protect the Environment as students  
make weekly commuting commitments that reduce their personal carbon footprints*

San Francisco, Ca., June 9, 2009 – The Go Green Foundation today announced a collaboration with Alliance for Climate Education (ACE) that this Fall will expand the Spare Our Planet interschool competition pilot program from 200 to more than 5,000 high-school students in the Bay Area.

The expansion of the competition, in which students from different high schools will compete to reduce their personal carbon footprints, is projected to achieve a reduction of 525,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> in four to six weeks, the equivalent of removing 44.1 cars from the road for one year, taking 31.5 homes off the grid for one year, or saving a section of Amazon rainforest the size of 27.6 football fields.

The contest is designed to raise the awareness of global warming and climate change among young people and to promote their carbon reduction by walking, biking, public transportation, and carpooling. Each week, via email, students will make a pledge on their commuting choice as a conscious decision to help reduce their personal impact on the environment. ACE will promote the competition as part of its multi-media educational program aimed at educating and empowering students to address global climate change.

Go Green Foundation conducted a successful pilot program earlier this year at The Urban School of San Francisco. The Urban student community demonstrated its





commitment to reducing its transportation-related carbon impact by 43,517.2 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> – the equivalent of removing 3.2 cars from the road for one year, taking 2.3 homes off the grid for one year or saving a section of Amazon rainforest the size of two football fields

“We’re already seen great results,” said Martin Gutierrez, founder of the Go Green Foundation. “Students adopted more sustainable transportation choices, such as walking, biking, and using public transportation, and they also demonstrated you can spread the message among other young influencers.”

The Fall Bay Area contest is part of a planned expansion of the initiative to high schools nationwide by 2012. The two groups plan to expand the program nationwide to 100,000 students this later this year – and to more than 2 million by 2012.

GGF says that its objective is to promote personal behavior alternatives to carbon-intensive consumption and lifestyle habits, to provide young people a voice, and empower them to play a significant role in developing climate change solutions.

“We have learned how the use of technology, a sense of commitment, and a competitive spirit can teach students they are in control of their choices, and that they can make a difference,” said Gutierrez. “The students are empowered to make choices that leave a smaller carbon footprint, and they begin to see that making better choices is part of the solution. It’s a new, higher level of awareness for students.”

Students at Urban High School agree.

“You can think about it, and you can want to do something about climate change, but to make a conscious decision to take another form of transportation instead of driving a car is where the real change lies,” said Julia Evans, a senior at The Urban School of San Francisco.





“The students we’ve met at our visits to hundreds of schools have shown us that they are ready to make a commitment to changing their habits and sparking change in their communities,” said Pic Walker, Deputy Director of ACE. “We believe young people will be major catalysts in solving the global climate crisis.”

Go Green Foundation a 501(c)(3) youth organization in San Francisco, in collaboration with youth communities, acts as the catalyst for mobilizing, measuring and monitoring of sustainable programs. In parallel, Go Green Foundation works with its advocacy and technology partners to design age-appropriate programs to integrate the GGF sustainability initiatives.

Go Green Foundation's mission is to create an educational and socially responsible advocacy platform for young people (primarily teens) to empower and engage their peers in guided self-advocacy to ensure a more stable and sustainable planet. More information may be obtained at [www.gogreenfoundation.com](http://www.gogreenfoundation.com)

ACE is a 501(c)(3) organization that aims to inspire, educate and empower students in the fight against global climate change. We believe that youth can have a substantial and near-term positive impact on the global climate crisis, and we are working with young people throughout the US to develop immediate, impactful solutions. For more information on ACE or to schedule a school presentation visit [www.climateeducation.org](http://www.climateeducation.org) or find ACE on Facebook, MySpace and Twitter. *Lower Your Emissions, Raise Your Voice.*



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