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CONTACT: Kelly Carlisle, Executive Director, Acta Non Verba: Youth Urban Farm Project, (510) 277-7489,

kelly@anvfarm.org

Nickels to Support Urban Farming & Education for Oakland Low-Income Youth

Acta Non Verba: Youth Urban Farm Project will receive donated 5 cent bag credits from partner Whole Foods Oakland starting today

Oakland, CA - Acta Non Verba: Youth Urban Farm Project (ANV) is proud to announce they will be the sole partner and recipient of Whole Foods Oakland's Nickels for Non-Profits Program. From today, September 26, until January 15, 2017 every time a customer checks out at Whole Foods (230 Bay Place, Oakland, CA 94612), they have the option of donating their 5-cent reusable bag credit to Acta Non Verba: Youth Urban Farm Project. It has never been easier to support local people and the planet!

Acta Non Verba means deeds, not words. In 2011, returning Navy Veteran and Master Gardener, Kelly Carlisle found ANV to elevate life in East Oakland through sustainable urban farming, environmental stewardship, and educational opportunities. ANV's quarter-acre farm, located in Tassafaronga Park, is planned, planted, and harvested by youth in grades K-8 from the surrounding, low-income African-American, Latino, and Middle Eastern populations in East Oakland.



Photo Credit: Pete Rosos

Because children with savings accounts are six times more likely to go to college, according to a Washington University in St. Louis study, one hundred percent of the proceeds from ANV's farm sales are placed into educational savings accounts for the benefit of youth who participate so they can start to build assets and chart a better educational future. This densely populated urban area suffers from a high crime rate, pollution, and blight. Imagine a child who has never seen carrots come out of the ground, never known that peas grow in pods, or screams in fright if a worm pokes its head out of the soil. This is the reality of many of the children (and adults) with whom ANV works.

Funds from Whole Food's generous partnership will support ANV's programs like Camp ANV and ANV After-School Program, which offer vital services in education, child care, economic empowerment, financial literacy, and access to healthy food to a community sorely lacking in these areas. ANV's programs have inspired over 3,000 local, at-risk youth and families to focus on nutrition, sustainable living, and activities that promote wellness and improve the quality of life in the neighborhood through our farm and programming. For more information about ANV, how to enroll your children in our programs, or how to get involved, go to www.anvfarm.org.

And don't forget to tell your cashier you want to pass on your \$.05 reusable bag credit to Acta Non Verba!

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Acta Non Verba: Youth Urban Farm Project (anvfarm.org) elevates life in the inner-city by challenging oppressive dynamics and environments through urban farming in Oakland, CA. Their unique approach to social, environmental, and economic justice and equity was honored by President Barack Obama in 2014.