



Class Project

Group 1 - Creative Connections

Creative Connections

Bringing art to youth at the
Jan Evans Juvenile Justice
Center -Wittenberg Hall



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ACADEMY**

Sierra Arts Foundation



Creative Connections Project: Our Why

The arts can provide an **outlet for addressing emotional and/or problem behaviors** through opportunities to learn new skills, develop new talents, **and express thoughts and ideas in creative and therapeutic ways** (Ezell and Levy 2003)."

The simple act of performing creatively "is often associated with an **increased capacity for resilience and adaptability** ."

Source: <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/m pg/literature-review/arts-based-program s-for-youth .pdf>.



Adverse Childhood Experiences are prevalent in juvenile offenders, who often struggle with resiliency and self - regulation.



Creative Connections Project: Overview

- Juvenile Services need for additional resources and activities for detained youths at the Jan Evans Juvenile Justice Center - Wittenberg Hall, in particular an arts program.
- WCLA team facilitated a renewed relationship between Jan Evans and the Sierra Arts Foundation.
 - Sierra Arts Foundation has a proven track record of delivering this type of enrichment program successfully
 - This connection reignited an invaluable arts program for Jan Evans.
- WCLA Project funds (\$5,000.00) provided seed money directly to Sierra Arts Foundation to pay for teachers and supplies for the program.
 - Jan Evans matched this with another \$5,000.00.
 - Washoe County School District to provide additional \$1,000 in art supplies.



Creative Connections Project: Art at Jan Evans!

- Weekly standard -based fine arts classes for youth at Jan Evans
- Three 45-minute sessions every Saturday
- Accredited art instruction and *credit recovery* ***
- Experienced instructors from Sierra Arts Foundation
- Art curriculum that supports the youth in developing self confidence and creative outlets
- Take home art materials with QR code/link to the resource guide

***A previous partnership between Jan Evans and Sierra Arts Foundation was with the Arts Alternative enrichment program. This partnership now includes standard based arts instruction to assist the students with their credit recovery during their time at Jan Evans. Sierra Arts and the art instructor will be a lot more involved with the standard based art curriculum, lesson plans, grading rubric, and communications with WCSD in entering the grades in coordination with Jan Evans.

Art Cares Gift Package

- Sierra Arts, Jan Evans, and Reno Type to provide colored pencils and sketch books with links to the Resource Guide as a departure gift.
 - Commissioner Garcia graciously contributed \$2,500
 - Reno Type \$1,000 to support this package.
 - WCLA conducted additional fundraising
- It will include QR code link to the resource guide to keep kids connected to th
- Probation Officer can help connect youth to additional resources





Resource Guide

- Connect at risk youth to community resources to spark further interest in the arts and the local art community.
- Hosted on the Sierra Arts website.
- Currently includes 13 resources
 - Sourced by WCLA, including the library system and additional youth services, like Eddy House.

Art Student Resource Guide

There are great resources for continuing artistic pursuits throughout Washoe County. We've put together this handy resource guide to get you started. Don't forget that your probation team can connect you to funding and other resources, so please ask them if you need help getting started. Go out and make more art!

Sierra Arts Foundation

<https://sierraarts.org/>

Riverside, 17 S Virginia St, Reno, NV 89501

Programs Available:

- Sierra Arts Academy Workshops
- Arts Alternative Program - (continued program from Jan Evans)



Arts for all Nevada

<https://www.artsforallnevada.org/>

250 Court St, Reno, NV 89501

Programs Available:

- Art Adventures After-School Program
- Art Classes for Youth and Adults (\$30+)
- Arts Education in General Education Classrooms
- Holiday Party for Youth in Transition



Holland Project

<https://www.hollandreno.org/>

140 Vesta St, Reno, NV 89502

Programs Available:

- Work In Progress
- Young Blood Showcase
- Girls Rock Reno (financial aid available)
- Workshops (\$10+)
- Volunteer Opportunities



Thank you

For supporting this academy that enabled us to learn about the many facets of county services, create impactful projects to better our community, and enable networking among like minded peers to sow the seeds for further collaboration



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Class Project

Group 2 – Community Garden Beds

Group 2 Class Project – Community Garden Beds



Project mission statement

**Enable, promote,
and celebrate
volunteerism in
our community**



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Project goals

- Bring visibility to the garden by promoting the space, educational opportunities, and benefits of gardening
- Support sustainable, healthy lifestyles by contributing to the construction of new demonstration beds
- Promote volunteerism in Washoe County
- Focus on diversity and inclusion



Established clear team member availability early

Below you will find a quick breakdown of our teammates who responded to the survey.

Name	% of effort	Strengths
Mara Langer	16-25%	Detailed oriented and outgoing
Scott Benton	16-25%	Experience with homelessness
Cindy Welch	76-100%	Research, data analysis, written comms, time management, team presentation, goal oriented
Tyler Rogers	10-15%	Marketing, selling the idea
Ed Adkins	16-25%	Communications, marketing, design
Nick Kearney	16-25%	Organization, creativity, ethics, resiliency
Erick Rodriguez	51-75%	Project Management. Big picture full project outline
Luke Rippee	51-75%	Likes to get hands dirty. Easy going and willing to help where needed
Morgan Stetson	26-50%	Task oriented work, documentation and communication
Kristy Evans	16-25%	Community outreach, analyzing data
Amanda Harper	76-100%	Meeting and networking with others, planning and timelines



Collaborated to identify project idea

WCLA Group 2 - Team Organization Survey

tyler.b.rogers@gmail.com (not shared) [Switch account](#)

Project Ideation and Objectives

The most important step (AND usually the most challenging step) is to decide what our team's objective will be. Considering the time available, the team's interest to ensure the project is successful, the project is actionable and has a sustainable outlook after we initiate our project, please review the following questions and offer your opinions.

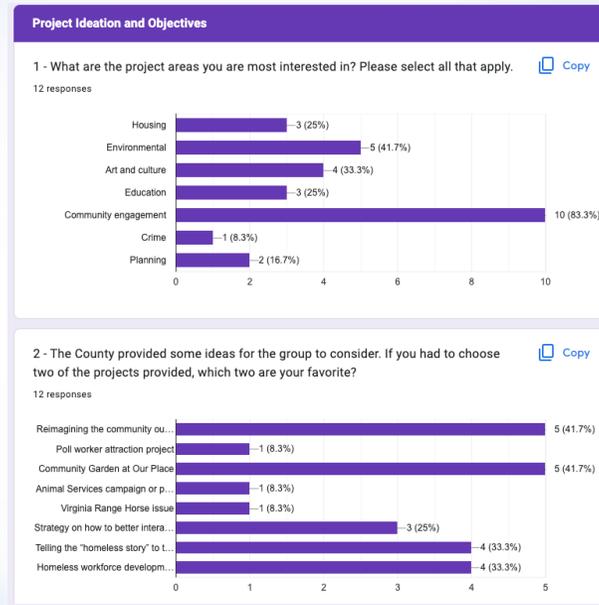
1 - What are the project areas you are most interested in? Please select all that apply.

- Housing
- Environmental
- Art and culture
- Education
- Community engagement
- Crime
- Planning
- Other: _____

2 - The County provided some ideas for the group to consider. If you had to choose two of the projects provided, which two are your favorite?

- Reimagining the community outreach model
- Poll worker attraction project

Team survey

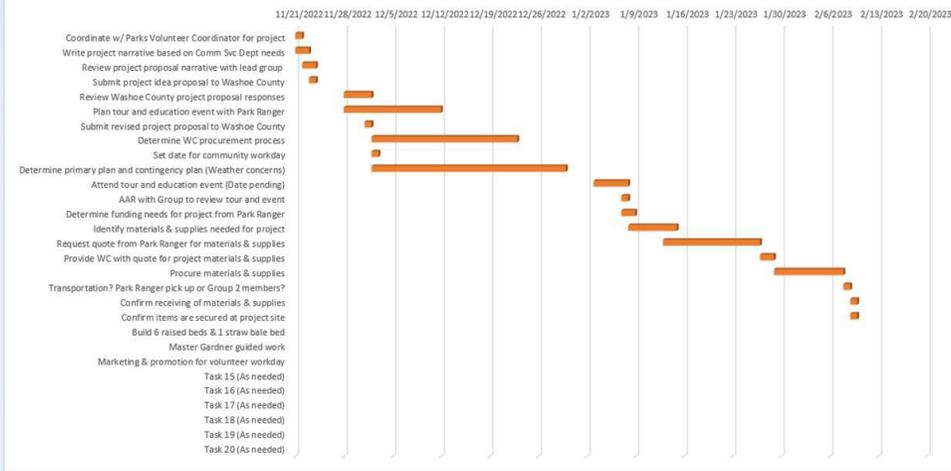


Review results

Idea 1 - Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Idea 2 - Washoe County Parks Dept



Built a detailed project plan to keep us organized



Project plan

ASSIGNMENT LIST (ICS 204)

1. Project Name: Community Garden Demonstration Beds	2. Operational Period: Date From: _____ Date To: _____ Time From: _____ Time To: _____	3. Branch: _____ Division: _____
4. Park Liaisons Personnel: Name _____ Contact Number(s) _____		
Park Liaisons Chiefs: Luke Rippee & Erick Rodriguez		
Branch Director: _____		
Group Supervisor: _____		
5. Resources Assigned: 6		
Resource Name	Leader	
Luke Rippee		
Ben McDonald		
Nick Kearney		
Morgan Stetson		
Manuel Mederos		
Erick Rodriguez		
6. Work Assignments: • Works with the Park Rangers and UNR Master Gardener to determine what is needed on site. • This includes the budget, procurement of materials, and coordination with the Volunteer Coordinator to set up the site. • Works with Park Rangers to line out the site. • Provide logistics to volunteer day including materials, stations setup, pop-up tents for sign-in, etc. • Work with Education/Media team to plan, design, and execute the event.		
7. Special Instructions: • Additional instructions will be provided on day of the event to the group as well as each individual.		

PROJECT BRIEFING (ICS 201)

1. Project Name: Community Garden Demonstration Beds	2. Project Number: 2023 WCLA Group 2	3. Date/Time Initiated: Date: _____ Time: _____
9. Current Organization (fill in additional organization as appropriate):		
Project Management Leads		Liaison Officer Cindy Welch

PROJECT BRIEFING (ICS 201)

1. Project Name: Community Garden Demonstration Beds	2. Project Number: 2023 WCLA Group 2	3. Date/Time Initiated: Date: _____ Time: _____
7. Current and Planned Objectives:		
Plan and take part in an educational training session and tour of the Rancho San Rafael Park – to include an in-depth look at the community gardens as well as an overview of all the responsibilities of the Washoe County Parks Department.		
Work with the Park Rangers and Master Gardeners to build 6 raised beds and 1 straw bale bed to demonstrate different types of gardening techniques and garden types: Square foot garden, French intensive garden, Companion planting, Saucybed (salsa and pizza garden), Kids garden (easy pick), Herb and Edible flower garden, Straw bale bed garden, Weed mitigation: installing weed cloth between rows, around beds		
Coordinate a community volunteer day tentatively scheduled for March 25, 2023 – marketing the event to draw a larger number of Washoe County residents and friends to support a community garden workday. Include food trucks and sponsor booths such as Immunize Nevada, the Washoe County Green Team, Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts of America, Boys and Girls Club, Washoe County's Sheriff's Department, etc.		
Ask UNR Master Gardeners to offer classes to the public for anyone that takes part in the community event. Per Denise Evans at the Parks Dept stated, "currently the Master Gardeners work with our volunteers at no charge since they are required to provide outreach to the community in order to be "Master Gardeners".		
8. Current and Planned Actions, Strategies, and Tactics:		

ICS documents



Created two groups to lead distinct workstreams

Marketing Team	Park Liaison Team
Tyler	<i>Erick</i>
Ben	<i>Luke</i>
Scott	Nick
Kristy	Ed
<i>Amanda</i>	Morgan
<i>Cindy</i>	Manuel

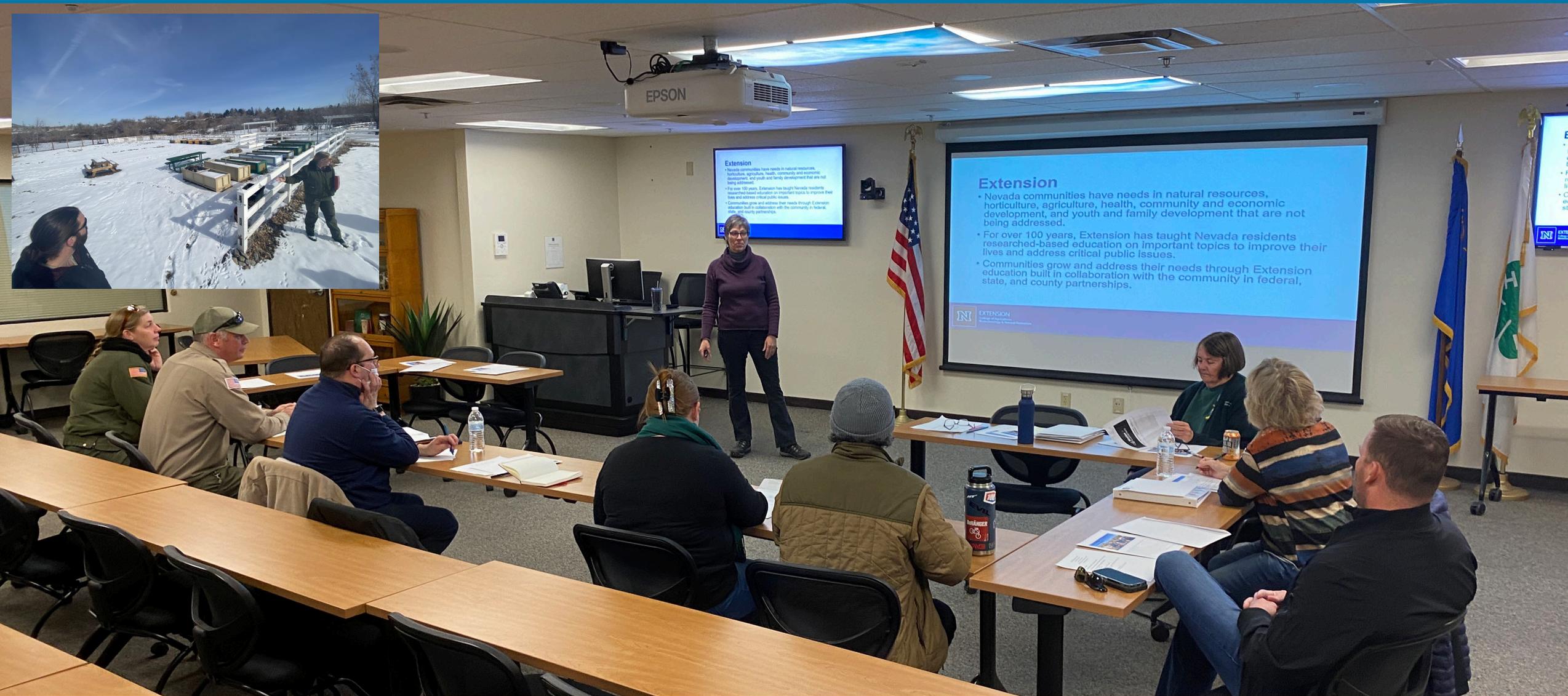
Project plan

**Build community
garden beds at
Rancho San Rafael
Regional Park**



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Group 2 Class Project – Community Garden Beds



Extension
Nevada communities have needs in natural resources, horticulture, agriculture, health, community and economic development, and youth and family development that are not being addressed.
For over 100 years, Extension has taught Nevada residents researched-based education on important topics to improve their lives and address critical public issues.
Communities grow and address their needs through Extension education built in collaboration with the community in federal, state, and county partnerships.

Extension

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- For over 100 years, Extension has taught Nevada residents researched-based education on important topics to improve their lives and address critical public issues.
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NI EXTENSION
University of Nevada, Reno

Group 2 Class Project – Community Garden Beds



Budget and supplies

Rancho San Rafael Regional Park Community Garden Project Budget			
As of:			
4/10/2023	Park Liaisons Team Costs		Status
1.	Drip irrigation from Western NV Supply:	\$1,670.47	Paid
2.	5 Raised garden bed. Materials from Home Depot:		
	3/4 in x 4in x 12ft cedar boards - \$16.59 each x 40	\$663.20	Paid
	1/2in x 2ft rebar - \$4.15 each x 24	\$111.60	Paid
	34in x 4in x 8ft cedar boards - \$11.04 each x 10	\$110.40	Paid
	Concrete planter corner blocks - \$3.48 each x 80	\$278.40	Paid
3.	Straw hay bales from Green's Feed - \$14.25 each x 6	\$85.50	Paid
4.	Weed barrier for crop rows from Amazon:		
	6.5ft x 330ft landscape fabric	\$188.98	Paid
	Landscape staples quantity 240pcs	\$24.99	Paid
5.	Soil from Full Circle Compost (30% discount)		
	Boost soil amendment - 1/2 yard for crop rows	\$21.00	Paid
	Full Circle Kick soil - 12yds plus delivery	\$809.00	Paid
6.	Wood garden sign stakes from Amazon	\$24.61	Paid
7.	Outdoor acrylic paint - 30 colors from Amazon	\$29.99	Paid
8.	New directional sign to Community Garden	\$65.35	Paid
9.	5 Gal stain - Flood Pro S-T Alkyd/Oil Stain 5g Mushroom	\$232.66	Paid
10.	Chalkboard paint 5 @ 5.98	\$34.90	Paid
	Total	\$4,351.05	
As of:			
4/10/2023	Marketing/Education Team Costs		Status
1.	Printing tri-fold brochures (English only) x 200 copies	\$90.00	Paid
2.	Printing tri-fold brochures (Spanish only) x 200 copies	\$90.00	Pending
3.	Engravers of Reno - Plaque	\$20.30	Paid
4.	Catered lunch for volunteer day (Port of Subs)	\$380.00	Paid
	Total	\$580.30	
	Grand Total	\$4,931.35	
	Total Budget	\$5,000.00	
	Remaining Budget	\$68.65	

Group 2 Class Project – Community Garden Beds



Washoe County Leadership Academy 2023

Group 2 - Community Project: Rancho San Rafael Community Garden Demonstration Beds

Leadership Academy Members

Amanda Harper	Nick Kearney
Ben McDonald	Morgan Stelson
Ed Atkins	Scott Benton
Erick Rodriguez	Tyler Rogers
Kristy Evans	Luke Ripee
Manuel Mederos	Cindy Welch

Staff and Partners

Rachel McClure, Washoe County Master Gardener Coordinator
Denise Evans, Parks Volunteer Coordinator
Bryan Harrower, District Park Ranger
Bob Holland, Park Ranger
Celia Walker, Park Ranger
Tami Cummings, Digital Communications
Bethany Drysdale, Media & Communications Program Manager
Volunteers of Washoe County

Background and Need

The Community Garden at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park is located within the Nevada Farms and Families area, next to the Wilbur D May Museum. The garden was started by the Park Rangers in 2021 to give members of the public a space to garden and grow their own produce. In 2022 Rangers partnered with UNR Master Gardeners to give workshops to community members, educating garden visitors on Nevada gardening practices. During harvest, all extra vegetables and herbs are donated to Reno Sparks Gospel Mission. The garden has become very popular, resulting in a robust gardening and educational space, with many volunteers. A need for demonstration beds was identified by the Park Rangers and Master Gardeners, that would allow for educational and learning spaces, without disrupting the structure and integrity of the larger working garden.

Project Overview

The Washoe County Leadership Academy chose to work with Rancho San Rafael Park for the following reasons:

- Bring visibility to the garden by promoting the space, educational opportunities, and benefits of gardening
- Support sustainable, healthy lifestyles by contributing to the construction of new demonstration beds
- Promote volunteerism in Washoe County

A "Volunteer Workday" was planned, and took place on April 8th, 2023. Forty (40) volunteers participated in building and installing all new garden boxes, creating signage, placing weed barriers, and preparing crop rows.

The \$5000 grant was used for supplies to build the demonstration beds and prepare the garden for use. With an additional donation from Western Nevada Supply, the garden expansion was fully completed. The following supplies were purchased for the expansion efforts:

• Irrigation supplies-all drip irrigation on timers	• Soil
• Weed barrier cloth between all crop rows	• Supplies to build 6 new demonstration garden boxes
• Vegetable and herb seeds	• Signage on all garden beds

Value of the Project

Gardening is more than growing tomatoes and pretty flowers – it's therapeutic, it's learning new skills, it's providing fresh alternatives, and it's fun! Rancho San Rafael Park and UNR's Extension Master Gardener program designs programming to teach research-based Nevada gardening practices through educational presentations, workshops and community events. The new demonstration beds will allow the park to provide and expand upon these educational opportunities. With the growing garden, the park will also have the ability to offer more volunteer opportunities.

Next Steps

A new annual event has been designated as "Annual Harvest Day" – a Fall event for volunteers who participated in planting and caring for the crops during the growing season to come together for harvesting the crops. Additionally, this event will provide healthy food choices to the Reno Sparks Gospel Mission and other community members.

Nevada Farms and Families Area & Community Garden

The Community Garden is located within the Nevada Farms and Families area, next to the Wilbur D May Museum.

The Community Garden was started by the Rancho San Rafael Park Rangers in 2021 to give members of the public space to garden. Boxes and rows in the garden are used by community members to grow their own produce. All extra vegetables and herbs are donated to the Reno Sparks Gospel Mission during harvest season.

Demonstration beds are managed by the University of Nevada, Reno Extension Washoe County Master Gardeners to educate visitors on Nevada gardening practices. Down to Earth Composting helps to oversee composting bins for soil amendment to use in the gardens.

In 2023, the garden is GROWING!

The Washoe County Leadership Academy, along with Western Nevada Supply, has generously donated funds and volunteer time to expand the garden, providing more educational programming opportunities for the community.

The Pollinator Garden is the newest feature taking shape, featuring hundreds of native species sure to attract beneficial bees and butterflies. This area will soon feature a stunning art piece, shaded outdoor classroom, and seating area

Farm Area Map

Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space

Rancho San Rafael Regional Park
1595 N Sierra St, Reno, NV, 89503

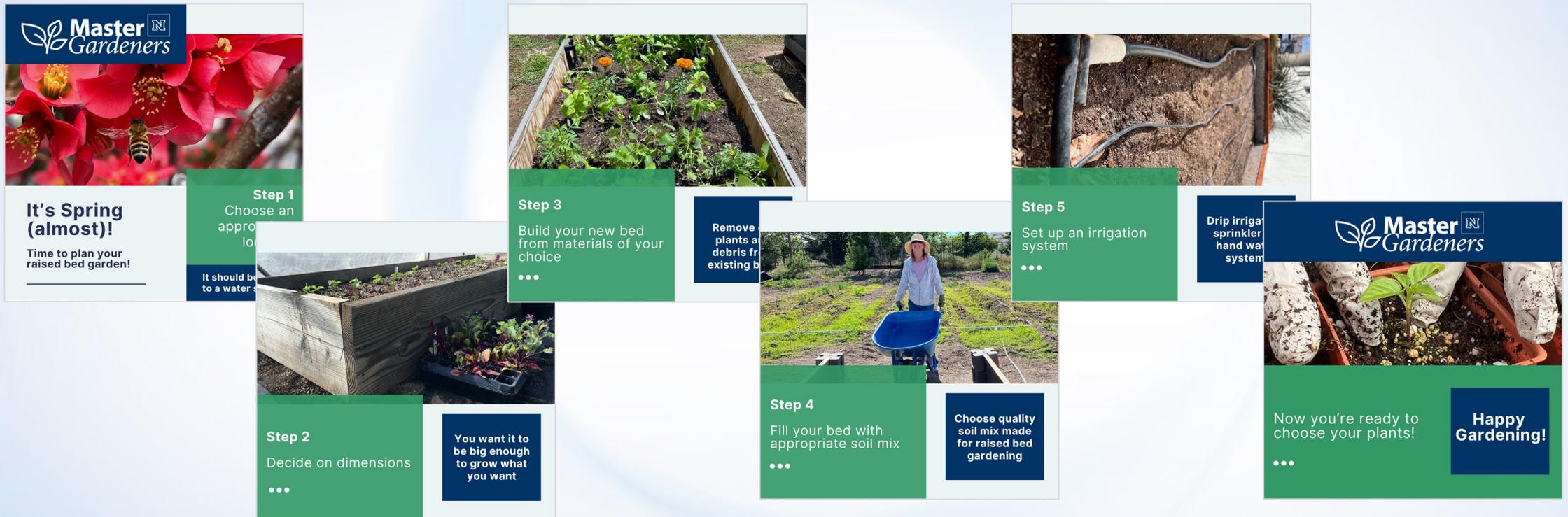
Rancho San Rafael Regional Park

- ✔ Community Garden
- ✔ Pollinator Garden
- ✔ Corrals, Barns and Turkeys
- ✔ Discovery Room
- ✔ Dinosaur Playground
- ✔ Picnic Pavilions
- ✔ Tractor Barn
- ✔ Volunteer Opportunities

Project summary

Educational trifold

Parallel social campaign promoted gardening



Master Gardeners

It's Spring (almost)!
Time to plan your raised bed garden!

Step 1
Choose an appropriate location
It should be close to a water source

Step 2
Decide on dimensions
You want it to be big enough to grow what you want

Step 3
Build your new bed from materials of your choice
Remove plants and debris from existing beds

Step 4
Fill your bed with appropriate soil mix
Choose quality soil mix made for raised bed gardening

Step 5
Set up an irrigation system
Drip irrigation, sprinkler, or hand water system

Now you're ready to choose your plants!
Happy Gardening!



County promotion led to full volunteer sign-ups

The screenshot shows the SignUp.com interface for an event titled "Community Garden Volunteer Day" on Saturday, April 8, 2023. The event is organized by Washoe County Nevada and Regional Parks & Open Space. The description states: "Join Washoe County Parks staff, Washoe County Leadership Academy & University of Nevada, Reno Extension Washoe County Master Gardeners in preparing the Rancho San Rafael Community Garden for the growing season. Receive hands-on instruction and leave with tips on how to cultivate your own home garden. Registration required - please sign up to join us below!". A "Share this Invite" button is visible. Below the event details, there is a "Hide Full Spots" checkbox and a date selector for "Sat Apr 8, 2023". A green box highlights the status "40 of 40 Filled" in the bottom right corner of the event card.

SignUp.com

What We Do Create a SignUp Find My SignUp Idea Center Help Sign In Register

Community Garden Volunteer Day
Sat Apr 8, 2023

Join Washoe County Parks staff, Washoe County Leadership Academy & University of Nevada, Reno Extension Washoe County Master Gardeners in preparing the Rancho San Rafael Community Garden for the growing season. Receive hands-on instruction and leave with tips on how to cultivate your own home garden. Registration required - please sign up to join us below!

Share this Invite

Hide Full Spots

Sat Apr 8, 2023

40 of 40 Filled

Impact

Saturday, April 8

**Rancho San Rafael
Regional Park**



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Project by the numbers

23

community
volunteers

168

total combined
hours

\$5,032

total combined
Volunteer hour
value*

\$4,935

total funding used

5

demonstration
beds completed

5

planting rows
completed

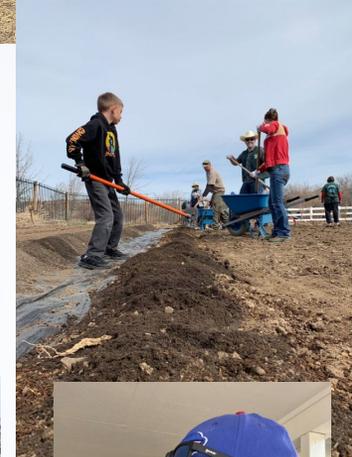
100%

project workplan
completed

*Based on current estimated national value of volunteer hour

Sustainability

- Harvest Day
- Tri -fold to promote volunteers
- Volunteer engagement





*“Gardening is more than growing tomatoes and pretty flowers – it’s therapeutic, it’s learning new skills, it’s providing fresh alternatives for healthy food, and **it’s fun!**”*



Special Thanks to the following:



Rachel McClure, Washoe County Master Gardener Coordinator

Master Gardener Volunteers



Nancy Leuenhagen, Communications Director

Alexandra Wilson, Program Assistant

Marc De La Torre, Community Outreach Coordinator

Candee Ramos, Community Outreach Coordinator

Bailey Falk, Office Assistant II

Bethany Drysdale, Media & Communications Program Manager

Tami Cummings, Internal Digital Communications Supervisor



Bryan Harrower, District Park Ranger

Bob Holland, Park Ranger

Celia Walker, Park Ranger

Denise Evans, Volunteer Coordinator



Thank you



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