



THE WASATCH COMMUNITY
GARDENS' CAMPUS



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PROJECT VISION

Our vision is to transform a 1.2-acre property in the heart of Salt Lake's Central City neighborhood into a community resource dedicated to urban agriculture, community building, education, and stewardship. The Wasatch Community Gardens' Campus will provide a welcoming and inspiring space where community members can learn, share, and connect with each other through a shared love of gardening and healthy food.

MISSION

Our mission is to empower people of all ages and incomes to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. Since 1989, Wasatch Community Gardens (WCG) has provided Salt Lake County residents with garden space, educational programs, and community events to empower them to grow, harvest, and prepare fresh, healthy food, as well as to build and nurture community connections.



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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Since 2012, WCG has dreamed of putting down our roots and creating an urban agriculture center where community members can come to learn about growing and eating fresh, healthy food and connect with each other.

For years, we have worked tirelessly with the City, County, several realtors, and a developer to find an appropriate home. Then one day, there were three “For Sale” signs in a row right next to our flagship Grateful Tomato Garden! With financial support from some incredibly generous donors, we were able to purchase the parcels, complete with three charming, historic homes.

To make our dream a reality, we are now working to transform these properties into the Wasatch Community Gardens’ Campus, which will include:

- A garden education cottage with a teaching kitchen and indoor learning space.
- Additional demonstration gardens to showcase both tried and true as well as innovative ways to grow food in small, urban spaces.
- Expanded outdoor teaching spaces so that we can accommodate larger groups and run our programs concurrently.
- Office space for our program and administrative staff.
- Indoor/outdoor event space that community members can rent, providing ongoing revenue for WCG.
- An innovative, green, and affordable residential component that provides rental income and additional security for the garden and neighborhood.

We have been gathering input from community members about what they want to see at the new Campus and have received a lot of enthusiastic feedback. People are hungry for more hands-on gardening, learning, and community-building opportunities, and they are eager to help bring this community asset to fruition. It’s going to take a village, and we hope that you will be a part of it.



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600 EAST 800 SOUTH, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH





COMMUNITY IMPACT

By creating an urban agriculture center that serves as a showcase for the simple yet powerful impacts that come from growing fresh food in a dense, urban setting, we believe we can bring even more people together around gardening and fresh, healthy food. Specifically, the Campus will provide community members with:

- More hands-on gardening education opportunities, with up to 25% more workshop offerings annually.
- Enhanced teaching spaces where youth and school groups can learn about growing and eating healthy food.
- Continued opportunities to grow their own food in the onsite community garden.
- Indoor education spaces for year-round learning.
- Additional demonstration gardens where visitors can learn about different food growing techniques, such as vertical gardening, maximizing small urban spaces such as balconies and window boxes for growing food, and using a greenhouse and hoop house to extend the growing season.
- ADA accessible facilities and opportunities for adaptive garden programs.
- Expanded educational opportunities for adult audiences, such as garden clubs, corporate groups, and special/underserved populations.
- Rentable indoor/outdoor event space for weddings, birthday parties, and corporate events.



GARDEN CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Through our Community Education Program, WCG provides a range of classes and hands-on workshops to help community members grow and eat healthy, organic food. In 2018, we offered 37 workshops, attended by 454 community members.

CAMPUS IMPACT

Expanded demonstration gardens and workshop offerings, resulting in more community members having access to hands-on experiences related to gardening and healthy eating.



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STAFF SPOTLIGHT

MARYBETH JANERICH

Like many WCG employees, Marybeth began as a volunteer with the organization, working in the youth gardens and serving as the edible perennial expert at our annual Plant Sale. She has been running our Community Education Program since 2016 and has taught thousands of community members how to grow food more successfully. She revels in sharing her extensive knowledge of gardening with everyone she encounters and absolutely loves it when people share their stories of “shopping for dinner in their backyards.”

“IT GIVES ME GOOSEBUMPS TO HEAR STORIES OF GARDENING SUCCESS FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND TO SEE THEIR EXCITEMENT AT GROWING AND EATING GARDEN FRESH FOOD. THE EMPOWERMENT I SEE IN PEOPLE AS THEY ACHIEVE SUCCESS IN THEIR GARDENS, WHATEVER THE SIZE, IS WHAT MOTIVATES ME EVERY DAY.”

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT SPOTLIGHT

KAY BROWN & ELLEN BLOEDEL

Kay and Ellen are avid organic gardeners. They grow fruit and veggies in raised beds at their home in Cottonwood Heights. Kay built the raised beds herself, and even welded one of the ornamental trellises she uses for climbing vines. Cherry trees and a persimmon punctuate the garden along with a grape arbor, a favorite vantage for their cat Birdie.

Kay and Ellen have attended WCG workshops since 2009, including the Garden Guru series, an in-depth look at growing food organically, from soil amendments to integrated pest management to crop rotation.

“WE ENJOY THE ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTION WITH THE INSTRUCTOR, AND WE LEARN FROM THE OTHER GARDENERS, TOO - THEIR QUESTIONS AND PERSPECTIVES ARE SO HELPFUL. BEING ABLE TO TOUCH THE SOIL, TO BE PRESENT IN THE GARDEN, BREATHING IT IN, HAS HELPED US BE BETTER GARDENERS.”



GARDEN PLOTS FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The Grateful Tomato Garden is one of 16 community gardens managed by WCG throughout Salt Lake County where community members can grow their own fresh, organic produce. In 2018, 437 households – 57% of which are low-income per federal standards – grew their food in one of our community gardens. 82 gardeners of refugee background participated in our gardens through our partnership with the International Rescue Committee.

CAMPUS IMPACT

Continued opportunities for community members to grow their own fresh, organic produce in the historic Grateful Tomato Garden.



"IN THE GARDENS, I HAVE MET AT LEAST 20 DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES AND WE COMMUNICATE ONE LANGUAGE OF GARDENING AND SHARE OUR DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE WITH GARDENING."



ZANA JOKIC

COMMUNITY GARDENER SPOTLIGHT

Zana Jokic came to Salt Lake City eight years ago from Bosnia. Before she found WCG, Zana had never grown her own food. She credits her involvement with WCG's Community Garden Program with not only helping her learn to grow healthy food for her household, but also helping her integrate into American society. She has been a community gardener in our Harmony Park Community Garden and more recently at our Grateful Tomato Garden, and her involvement has encouraged several other Bosnians to join her in our gardens.

KIDS IN THE GARDEN

Through our Youth Garden Program, WCG connects children to healthy, local food through hands-on, garden-based learning in our youth teaching gardens. In 2018, 1,870 youth attended a class, field trip, or summer camp with WCG.

Our Youth Garden Club classes are executed through partnerships with social services agencies that serve youth from primarily low-income families. Our partners bring groups of children to the garden every week to learn about gardening and healthy eating.

CAMPUS IMPACT

New and expanded teaching spaces including an indoor kitchen to accommodate larger school field trip groups as well as multiple groups at one time, resulting in more opportunities for children to grow, prepare, and eat fresh, healthy food.



YOUTH GARDEN CLUB PARTICIPANT SPOTLIGHT BRECKEN HUNTER

Brecken Hunter is a 14-year-old who has been participating in WCG's Youth Garden Club classes for many years through our partner, YouthCity Liberty Park. Inspired by what he learned at the Grateful Tomato Garden, he volunteered to help YouthCity Liberty Park create a garden of their own.

"IT WAS REALLY FUN TO START MAKING THE GARDEN AND FIGURE OUT WHAT TO GROW. I LOVE GARDENING AND WHILE LOTS OF PEOPLE DON'T LIKE THE DIRT, IT DOESN'T REALLY GET YOU TOO DIRTY, IT'S REALLY FUN, AND YOU GET DELICIOUS FOOD!"



COMMUNITY INPUT

We asked our constituents what types of programs and garden features they would most like to see at the Wasatch Community Gardens' Campus. We have tallied the votes and here are some of their favorites.

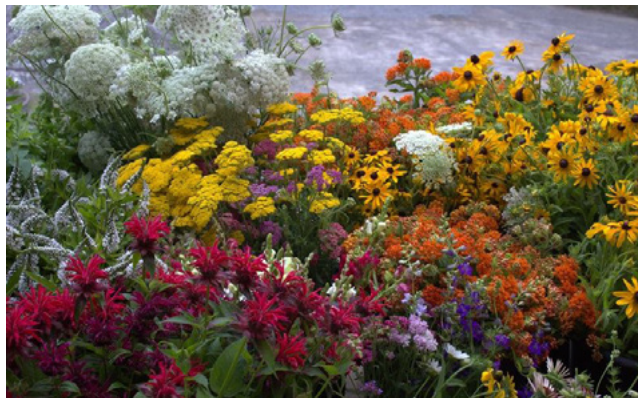
49 BEEHIVES



44 RAIN COLLECTION



34 POLLINATOR GARDEN



32 VERTICAL GARDENS



32

ROOFTOP GARDEN



30

MEDICINAL/
HERB GARDEN



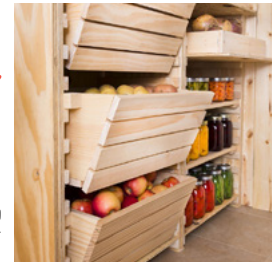
27

PERENNIAL
FOOD GARDENS



27

ROOT CELLAR



20

AQUAPONICS



17

COMPOSTING



14

EXISTING WELL
WATER FEATURE + BRIDGE



22

OUTDOOR
CLASSROOM



23

CHICKEN COOP



19

SMALL SPACE
GARDENS



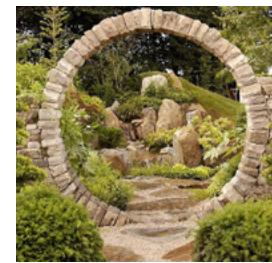
15

CONTAINER
GARDENS



36

ENTRY GATEWAY



12

ENTRY FENCE



21

DIY GREENHOUSE



26

GARDEN WALK SHADE



15

SEED SAVING
GARDEN



12

HYDROPONICS



7

SQUARE FOOT
GARDENING





HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Wasatch Community Gardens' Campus is a project that will not only benefit our community today, but will sow seeds for future generations of Utah gardeners. We need your support to make this dream a reality! To learn more about this project and to make a financial contribution, please contact:

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