

## The Carol A Borcherding NSCSAS Garden for Growth - Progress Report

### Email

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### Project Manager Name

Alanis Dilic

### Requested Metrics

These metrics are from March 2024 – May 2024

Number of attendees at each event -

Gardening & Survivalist Expert Event: 10 attendees

Keeling Community Garden Volunteering: 8 attendees

Garden Cooking Event: 8 attendees

Type + number of crops harvested (May) -

Onions: 3 bunches

Kale: 5 bushels

Lettuce: 3 heads

Purple Morning Glory: 5 flowers

Total: 16 plants

At the Gardening & Survivalist Expert Event, Station 22 of the Tucson Fire Department shared garden plot tips and emphasized the importance of providing ample water to our garden plot, as it is difficult to have a successful garden plot in our Tucson desert.

At the Keeling Community Garden, the nscsas aided in spreading mulch, organizing tools, harvesting vegetation, weeding, and building raised beds. This novel volunteering opportunity enabled another connection between the UofA College of Science clubs and the gardening community.

### Project Accomplishments

\*Successfully harvested 22 plants total this semester, with several herbs and vegetables donated to the Campus Pantry.

\*Thanks to the UofA Garden Managers, we have successfully replaced all 3 water lines in our garden bed

\*Now that we have ample water distribution in our bed, we have begun to grow at least 3 different vegetables in our plot.

\*Volunteered for the Keeling Garden Community and aided in spreading mulch, organizing tools, harvesting vegetation, weeding, and building raised beds. We look forward to volunteering for them in the future.

\*Held a successful Survivalist Garden Event with the Tucson Fire Department on March 16th at Station 22. Members asked survivalist experts for tips on growing plants in this desert, what plants to watch out for (caution), and how to survive in the desert with few supplies. Our club is also pre-health-oriented, and, as a result, our members asked the EMTs for opportunities to get involved with Tucson Fire.

\*Prepared resources for the Garden Cooking event (Saturday, 5/4). We will use the vegetables harvested from our garden as well as a few other ingredients to aid students in cooking healthy on-campus meals. With this collaborative activity, we hope that students will feel more confident in purchasing and preparing healthier meal alternatives.

## **Next Steps**

1. The Secondary Garden manager will succeed the Primary Garden Manager
2. The covers for the garden bed, as well as future prospects for the garden will be discussed among the new nscsas board
3. Initiatives for the fall semester will be implemented

## **Challenges Faced**

As detailed in our March Progress report, our garden plot initially experienced difficulties with water dispersal. However, with the aid of Genesis and the UofA garden managers, these challenges were efficiently and effectively addressed with a replacement of our water lines. Upon replacement of these lines, and providing as shady of an environment as possible for our plants, we have seen a significant improvement in the growth of our vegetables and are able to harvest many more vegetables for our closing event. I don't believe that we would have done anything differently, especially since ample shade and appropriate water dispersal are some of the most critical aids to promote garden growth and success.

## **Project Support**

Given the current financial crisis at the UofA, we understand that our project may not be renewed at this time. With this in mind, we hope that our novel and successful initiatives this semester—which have expanded to a partnership with the Tucson Fire Department and two new garden companies—may aid in a future opportunity and partnership with the CSF.

## Photo Link

## Media/Links

Destress Day (including Garden Cooking) flyer:

[https://www.instagram.com/p/C6hgR3BPNSV/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C6hgR3BPNSV/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==)

Keeling Volunteering Photos:

[https://www.instagram.com/p/C5zRfQ6LQ2h/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5zRfQ6LQ2h/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==)

Seeing a significant improvement in vegetable growth post: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5mY-mvv8b5/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5mY-mvv8b5/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==)

Survivalist/Garden Expert Event Flyer:

[https://www.instagram.com/p/C4hQuQKL7XH/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C4hQuQKL7XH/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==)

Keeling Garden Volunteering flyer:

[https://www.instagram.com/p/C5m3cKIOPM2/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5m3cKIOPM2/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==)

Photo of most of our attendees at the Survivalist/Garden Event:

[https://www.instagram.com/p/C4mC5TjPUK3/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C4mC5TjPUK3/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==)