



Seeds to Start Grant Report

CommuniTea Garden Improvement

Thank you Moonflower for providing Resiliency Hub with the 2021 Seeds to Start grant funds! We had the goal to improve our CommuniTea Garden project, **“to boost the productivity of this public garden, increase the capacity of existing growing space, and provide education on perennial edible plants and rainwater catchment systems.”**

The CommuniTea Garden is a community-accessible green space and permaculture-inspired pocket park that our grassroots sustainability nonprofit has owned and managed since it was donated to us in 2016. The Tea Garden is a unique place where all people can visit, within walking distance from neighborhoods and schools in the downtown area of Moab, to learn about multi-beneficial native and adapted plants, supplement their lives through access to shared space, where there is a place to harvest perennial foods, and to find a connection to other people who are also learning about simple yet important ways to integrate nature, habitat, and edible landscapes into our common spaces.



Here is the breakdown of how your grant funds were used:

Plants

We purchased more native and regionally adapted plants to broaden the variety of herbs and culturally-important plants available for harvest. The plants purchased include: Desert Globemallow, echinacea, daisy fleabane, salvia, yucca, Texas sundrops, chamomile, tarragon, thyme, lemon verbena, parsley, lavender, hyssop, and more. We purchased these plants locally and planted them in the spring of 2022. All plants are thriving in the garden and have a plant name sign for identification, education, and harvest. We purchased wood chip mulch to top dress the plants once planted which helps maintain soil moisture, adds additional nutrients to the soil, and contributes to mycellia action, a hallmark of soil-plant health.

Rainwater Harvesting Infrastructure and Education

We purchased and installed rainwater harvesting infrastructure on the garden shed. The goal of this feature is to showcase multiple forms of rainwater catchment which is important in our climate of extremes between drought and heavy rains. We wanted to improve our active rainwater harvesting potential from the small garden shed at the garden.

To harvest rainwater off of the garden shed at the Tea Garden, we needed to install a new metal roof, add gutters, a downspout, and attach a rain barrel with all the necessary parts. The shed was free to us and was donated from the Canyonlands Waste Department in 2020 and we had it delivered and set at the garden. It had badly chipping paint and a compromised roof with holes in the shingles. To properly harvest rain and to make it a usable space, we put a big effort into properly renovating it.

Local landscape contractor Jeff Adams of TerraSophia (and Resiliency Hub board member) matched this Seeds to Start grant and donated more than the equivalent in labor cost for four employees' time and rainwater harvesting materials, which include the rain barrel, parts, and additional materials to prepare the shed for rainwater harvesting. Additionally, a local building contractor, Brian Rudd, donated his and a crew members' time to install the metal roof. Both contractors gave significantly to this project and more than matched this grant in materials and payroll donated to this project and to them we have given our immense thanks.

Paint was purchased to maintain the watershed mural. The mural is part of the water harvesting educational experience, tying together art and experiential understanding that we are all a part of a watershed, in our case in Moab, we live under the La Sal Mountains, and our creek systems and irrigation ditches convey this water into our valley, feeding the trees and plants, providing food, forage, and shade for the whole community. The garden is a microcosm of that idea within the greater watershed, and we hope to instill that understanding and responsibility as stewards of one piece of a greater whole, to all people who interact with and love this place.



Plant Propagation Equipment

We purchased a plant propagation machine, which will allow us to take cuttings from existing plants to grow more plants to use at the garden and to share with other individuals and organizations who want to add multi-beneficial plants to their surroundings. This past winter we used the propagator and created more rosemary plants which we transplanted into the



garden (which the public will be able to harvest from) and had them also available by free-will donation to the public. Many people took home one of the rosemary plants. We will continue to propagate plants and share them in this way, as well as teach others how to make their own new plants. This piece of equipment is educational and makes plants more accessible for anyone interested in having more healing plants in their lives.

Advertising and Education

Lastly, we used some remaining funds to pay for prints to advertise two events inspired by this grant. The first event celebrated this and two other recent grant-funded projects at the garden. At the event, we publicly thanked you for all that you made possible through this Seeds to Start Grant.

Another class was held that focused on the benefits of perennial plants at the garden and highlighted what is available to harvest along with plant ID signs to orient new gardeners. This class was taught by Jeff Adams and was attended by 20 community members with much positive feedback. This class was also in celebration and acknowledgment of our new plants from this grant!



2022 Moab Community Gardens Workshop Series

Multifunctional Perennial Polycultures

9- 11 am July 16th
CommuniTea Garden
 100 W 165 N
 Moab, UT 84532 Mask-friendly!

Join local permaculture contractor Jeff Adams of TerraSophia for an exploration of the role of multi-functional perennial plantings to enhance your gardens ecosystem services and harvests. The CommuniTea Garden will serve as our living laboratory as we dive into principles for designing and stewarding diverse polycultures and meet some great perennial plants.

Following the workshop, snacks and beverages will be provided by Moonflower Co-op!

This is a free event, any donations to support Moab Community Gardens will be welcome.
QUESTIONS? EMAIL: MOABGARDENS@GMAIL.COM

RESILIENCY HUB  **MOAB**



Celebrate

all that's new in the Garden!

Sunday, May 15 at 1pm
CommuniTea Garden

Refreshments • Good Company • Spring Blossoms

Brand new desert-adapted native plants

sponsored by Moonflower Community Cooperative

Botanical labels

sponsored by Slow Food Utah

Dazzling mural additions

by local artists Krista Guss + Aneta Vejhanovsk

STEM Spot an all-ages 'free library' to borrow books and activity kits, in partnership with Science Moab + Utah STEM Action Center + Utah State University Extension, sponsored by Northrop Grumman + Hill Air Force Base + Dominion Energy


RESILIENCY HUB

   

Grant Funds Used

Awarded:	\$1,000		
Spent:	\$984.51		
Remaining:	\$15.49		
Date	Items	Category	Amount
2021.09.28	Potting Soil	Plants/ Propagation	\$15.49
2021.09.29	Propagator machine	Propagation Supplies	\$271.04
2021.10.06	Mulch for new plants	Plants	\$40.00
2021.11.17	Paints for Mural	Rainwater harvesting/ Education	\$188.78
2022.04.06	Plants round one	Plants	\$79.17
2022.05.03	Informative prints for garden	Education	\$4.20
2022.05.09	Roof materials	Rainwater harvesting	\$74.71
2022.05.09	Plants round two	Plants	\$294.17
2022.05.11	Printing	Advertising	\$32.44

In-Kind Donations

TerraSophia materials and labor provided at CommuniTea Garden		
Materials:		
Rain Barrel	Free	Donated by Sarah Stock
Leaf Eater downspout filter	\$50.00	Price from google search - not including any tax or shipping
Bulkhead fittings	\$40.00	2 @ .20 each, price from MCM Taos website
Valve with removable handle and Lick Lock	\$47.60	
Shed - Primer, brushes, roof screws	\$137.34	
4 inch grommet for tank	\$17.00	
4 inch pipe for flood irrigation	\$92.74	

	\$384.68	Total Materials
Labor	Person hours:	
3.24.22	6	
5.03.22	4.5	
5.04.22	15	
5.13.22	3	
	28.5	hrs
	\$741.00	Payroll Costs
	\$1,125.68	Total financial contribution

B. Rudd Building Contractor In Kind Donations		
Date	Type	Cost Estimate
5/13/2022	Contractor rate	\$300/ day x 2 days
5/13/2022	Laborer rate	\$150/day x 2 days
	Final Financial Contribution	\$900

In-Kind Donation Totals:	\$2,025.68
---------------------------------	-------------------

Moonflower, you have been a consistent and invaluable partner for us since our beginnings as an organization and as stewards of the CommuniTea Garden. Through our partnership with you with co-hosted classes, grant funds received, specialty donation days, and in-kind donations over the years, we have co-hosted a pollinator garden tour, a garden design charette for the Tea Garden, received money to paint the watershed mural, co-hosted multiple herb walks, and now this past year with the Seeds to Start Grant, we were able to bring our community offerings to the next phase of interactive education. We want to thank you for your ongoing support of this grassroots and community organization!

Thank you Moonflower!

Love,

The Resiliency Hub Board of directors and active volunteers

Claire Core

Jeff Adams

Becky Mann

Ann Marie Aubry

Josie Kovash

Krista Guss