



Request for 2020/202 Funding Services and Activities Fee Committee

BUDGET PROPOSAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Department Name: Giving Garden (Sustainability Committee)

Create Date: 01/29/2020

Due Date: 02/07/2020

Submitter Name: Ryan Moriarty

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Department Head Approval:

Department Head: Jim Gawel

Requested Amount: **\$25,707**

Departmental Information

STUDENT UTILIZATION

The Giving Garden is asking for continued funding that will allow us to grow more food for students, further partner with faculty in integrating the Giving Garden in classes, and connect with the UW Tacoma community through educational and service oriented events.

The Giving Garden is requesting funds for one existing student position and one new one. The Giving Garden Greenhouse Assistant will work 15 hours a week managing the greenhouse to grow food year round. Having a student focused on the greenhouse is essential for producing more food in the winter when student visits to The Pantry are at their highest. The Giving Garden Assistant will work 10 hours a week, working with the Giving Garden Coordinator and the Greenhouse Assistant to advance the mission of the garden.

The Giving Garden is also requesting funds for tools and materials to improve the garden. Raised Bed Mix will replace soil in beds that have unproductive growth due to heavy clay content. Tools like a new wheelbarrow will allow us to get more done with larger groups of volunteers. Lumber for trellises will allow us to grow up instead of out, increasing productivity of individual beds.

These funds will benefit students by providing food, leadership opportunities, access to greenspace, experience working with difficult issues like food security and engage them in their local food system.

CORE VALUES/MISSION ALIGNMENT

Impact Goal: Students

The Giving Garden supports our students by fighting for food security on campus and providing a range and depth of opportunities for service learning and educational events around agriculture and sustainability. Specifically, the Giving Garden is able to strengthen persistence to graduation for all student populations by addressing the issue of food insecurity and the challenges it presents to our students.

Impact Goal: Communities

Similar to the founding of UW Tacoma the Giving Garden was born of an engaged community, specifically around the ideas of sustainability and food justice. The Giving Garden creates awareness of UW Tacoma in the community through its physical presence, bringing the immediate community into the garden, and therefore campus. The garden also provides opportunities for community partnerships with organizations like local high schools, Pierce Conservation District, Master Gardeners of Pierce County, Tacoma Tool Library, and many more. With 1/3 of UW Tacoma students facing food insecurity the garden serves as an example of how the University is a leader addressing the problems of our time and place. Through volunteer opportunities and student positions the garden trains students in community engagement and leadership. Finally, the garden is an excellent opportunity for engaging alumni in community service that benefits current students.

Impact Goal: Equity

The Giving Garden helps create a more engaged, civil, and just university by directly addressing the issue of food security through access to fresh local produce. Providing food and access to green space provides the opportunity to increase student satisfaction and reduces the disparities that affect those struggling with food security. The Giving Garden's events and service opportunities provide a space to have conversations about food justice and the experience of underserved populations.

Impact Goal: Scholarship

The Giving Garden has increased its connections with faculty and their curriculum in 2019 with partnerships across various departments. The Giving Garden as a program and physical space helps improve the infrastructure that connects faculty, community members, students and staff as scholarly partners.

SAF-FUNDED PROGRAM OR SERVICES GOALS AND OUTCOMES

Goal: Reduce Food Insecurity at UW Tacoma

Action: Develop written best practices for donating and packaging fresh food for The Pantry in collaboration with the Center for Equity and Inclusion (CEI).

Outcome: Produce was harvested, immediately placed in a container or compost bag, delivered to The Pantry and left with the assistants. Instructions were placed stating the produce needs to be washed before consumption. These practices will be written out in steps to be implemented for the 2020 growing season.

Action: Develop garden growing plan in collaboration with The Pantry, including cultural foods grown when applicable.

Outcome: The Giving Garden created a survey that was distributed to The Pantry to identify what fruits and vegetables students would like to see the Giving Garden grow and donate to The Pantry. The results of this survey were used to help decide what to plan for the 2019 growing season.

Action: Establish a Greenhouse to provide year round harvests, a controlled environment for student research, and space to prepare and host plant sales.

Outcome: The Giving Garden wrote a grant and received \$10,000 to build a greenhouse in 2020. The Giving Garden is continuing to explore other grants and funding sources to build a larger greenhouse that could provide more food to students year round.

Action: Increase donations to The Pantry by 200% through better utilization of raised beds, crop varieties, fertilizer, and student staff.

Outcome: We donated over 400 lbs of food in 2019, more details on this can be found in an attached document.

Action: Repair damaged raised beds and expand total number of beds from 33 to 50, filling unused space at the garden and increasing the capacity of the garden to grow and donate food.

Outcome: We have begun building the 20 new raised beds and plan to finish them in Winter Quarter.

Goal: Engage Students and the Community

Action: Host Educational Events quarterly at the Giving Garden

Outcome: The Giving Garden hosted 16 events at the garden in 2019 including 5 UWT classes, a Professional Development Center program, capstone, independent research, and graduate program research.

Action: Host open volunteer hours every week, dependent on student worker's class schedules each quarter.

Outcome: In 2019 the Giving Garden student staff hosted 225 open hours at the garden for students to drop in and volunteer.

Action: Collaborate with The Pantry to advertise the availability of fresh produce throughout campus.

Outcome: Advertised the Giving Garden alongside food in The Pantry, on social media, and through The Pantry assistants.

Action: Connect with student groups on campus for service opportunities and events at the garden.

Outcome: The Giving Garden hosted work parties with Court 17 and Center for Service and Leadership for Earth Day and Day of Caring.

Action: Participate in the Center for Service Leadership's Day of Caring event.

Outcome: The Giving Garden hosted 23 individuals for the Center for Service and Leadership's Day of caring event.

STUDENT UTILIZATION (COMPARISON OVER PAST 2 YEARS)

Student Utilization in 2018:

-Donated 198 pounds of food to The Pantry and St. Leo's Food Connection

-Hosted 24 events at the Giving Garden running from work parties, harvest parties, Day of Caring in partnership with the Center for Service and Leadership, and Art in the Garden.

-Engaged with 101 participants at our events.

Student Utilization in 2019:

-Donated over 406 pounds of food to The Pantry and St. Leo's Food Connection

- Hosted 16 large events/work parties, plus small work parties consisting of less than 5 people during 225 open volunteer hours
- 633 volunteer hours logged, 130 were unduplicated participants, 296 returning participants
- Engaged with IDEA High School, Club/Camp Pierce, UWT Craft Beer Program, 5 UWT classes, 3 capstone/independent studies done in the garden

Student Quotes:

"Working in the Giving Garden and facilitating undergraduate students working in the garden was a huge benefit to me as a graduate student. I am pursuing research about how shared food experiences can be used as tools for community building, and my thesis research will focus on cooking and eating experiences. But broadening out my studies to include the growing and land stewardship practices that are at the heart of the food system allowed me to clarify my research ideas while actively building community for myself on the UW Tacoma campus. I now feel more connected to campus, know more students on campus, and was able to fulfill some of my degree requirements in an active and relevant way."

"Over the last week or so I have had the pleasure of making some batches of green sauce with the tomatillos from the giving garden which I have received through the pantry. As a vegan student experiencing some pretty acute food insecurity right now, having such a high quality ingredient to cook with has been a lot of fun and delicious. My beans and rice have been so good!"

More information can be found in the attached documents labeled 'Giving Garden Volunteer Hours 2019' and 'Giving Garden Harvest 2019).

COLLECTION OF FEEDBACK & IMPROVEMENTS

The Giving Garden created a student survey to capture students' experiences in working with the garden. We have used email and digital collection for these responses but are switching to a QR code system where students and community members can fill out the survey at the garden on their phones. We also created a survey that was distributed to The Pantry to find out what produce students would benefit from the most.

To track students' benefit we track volunteer hours, event attendance, and amount donated to The Pantry as a means of measuring engagement.

Since we have only been collecting data for half a year (since we first received SAF funding) we are still identifying ways to improve our services with the feedback we have received.

SERVICE BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

According to a 2013 study by UW Tacoma Faculty Dr. Christine Stevens, one-third of students at UW Tacoma are food insecure. This statistic aligns with national studies (Goldrick-Rab, Sara, et al. Still Hungry and Homeless in College. Wisconsin Hope Lab. 2018) on food insecurity and shows a growing need to assist our students.

The Giving Garden is already addressing this need by providing fresh produce to The Pantry. Fresh food and produce is a big request of students accessing The Pantry, according to their surveys. In 2019 the garden donated over 400 pounds of produce compared to 198 pounds in 2018. With continued funding for student staff and materials the Giving Garden can continue to grow that number.

The immediate benefit to students participating in the Giving Garden is fresh nutritious food that they grow and a sense of service in supporting their fellow students. Beyond that, they have an outlet to be in nature and interact with the natural world without having to leave campus. Exposure to nature and fresh air have been shown to reduce stress and anxiety. (Capaldi C, Dopko RL, Zelenski J. Frontiers in Psychology. 2014)

The Giving Garden starts a career of community leadership with students, helping them learn about food security, equity, and the possibilities of growing your own food, even in an urban environment. The donated food benefits student who use The Pantry without ever attending an event or visiting the garden itself.

The garden also provides opportunities for students to work on campus in a leadership capacity. Allowing students to engage in a professional setting while giving them tools and connections for their future. It gives an opportunity for students to step foot outside of the classroom by integrating the Giving Garden into the curriculum. Students are able to apply concepts they're learning through a hands on approach, while connecting amongst their peers and building their community.

The garden is becoming more and more intertwined with campus through its partnerships with The Pantry, Center for Service and Leadership, Professional Development Center, faculty and their curriculum, and Facilities Services. Access is a core value of the University of Washington Tacoma and the Giving Garden serves this value through access to food, education, community, green space, and student growth.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OF FUND UTILIZATION

In the 2019/2020 academic year SAF funded two student staff positions, materials for building new raised beds, and supplies for garden operations. 1/4 the funds for the Salaries and Wages have been spent as we had one student who didn't show up for work after being hired. We now have both positions filled after a second round of hiring. 1/3 of the funds for Supplies and Materials have been spent, the remainder of this money will be spent quickly as we build the raised beds in Winter Quarter and purchase our seeds and supplies for the 2020 growing season.

Staff Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
Student Staff ³	<p>Greenhouse Assistant (15 Hours/Week) (\$13.50/Hour) (Eligible for pay increase after six months) The Greenhouse Assistant will work to set up and run the Giving Garden's new greenhouse which will be built in Summer 2020 with funds already secured through the Strategic Initiative Fund (SIF). This position will manage planting, growing, and harvesting produce, specifically from the greenhouse, throughout the year for donation to The Pantry. E001</p>	
	Student Staff Wages:	\$10,530
	Fringe @ 20.9%:	\$2,201
Student Staff ³	<p>Giving Garden Assistant (10 Hours/Week) (\$13.50/Hour) (Eligible for pay increase after six months) The Giving Garden Assistant will work with the Giving Garden Coordinator to manage the garden's 50 raised beds, fruit trees, native plant walk, S.H.E.D., and grounds. The Giving Garden Assistant will help deliver produce to the The Pantry, host open hours at the garden, and coordinate student events. E002</p>	
	Student Staff Wages:	\$7,020
	Fringe @ 20.9%:	\$1,467
PERSONNEL TOTAL:		\$21,218

Other Budget Requests

Category	Details	Amount Requested
Other Services	Tacoma Tool Library Organization Membership (Allows us to rent hundreds of different tools needed for projects in the garden like building trellises.) S001	\$120
Non-Food Supplies & Materials	Organic Seeds (Seed Packs, seed counts vary by crop), 50 units at \$10.00 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S002	\$551
	Organic Fertilizer (12lb Bag), 5 units at \$32.99 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S003	\$182
	Organic Raised Bed Mix (One Cubic Yard), 30 units at \$29.00 per unit. \$150 delivery fee included. 10.2% tax included. S004	\$1,109
	Compostable Produce Bags (2.6 Gallon, 100 Count), 3 units at 19.95 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S005	\$66
	Paper Towels (12 Rolls), 1 Unit at \$19.59 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S006	\$22
	Wet Wipes (304 ct), 1 Unit at \$12.19 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S007	\$13
	First Aid Kit, 1 Unit at \$34.99 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S008	\$39
	Giving Garden Logo Canvas Bag, 100 Units at \$5.55 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S009	\$612
	Giving Garden Logo Sticker (300 Count), 1 Unit at \$139.00 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S010	\$153
	Hinged Trellis: 1x4x8ft. Cedar Boards, 36 units at \$8.64 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S011	\$343
	Hinged Trellis: 1 1/4in. Construction Screws-1lb., 2 units at \$8.47 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S012	\$19
	Hinged Trellis: 2 in. Wood Screws- 1lb. box, 1 units at \$7.25 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S013	\$8
	Hinged Trellis: 3 in. Zinc Plated Broad Utility Hinge, 18 units at \$3.98 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S014	\$79
	Tomato Trellis: 2x2x8 ft. cedar, 40 units at \$9.98 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S015	\$440
	Tomato Trellis: Trellis Netting (5x30 ft.), 3 units at \$16.68 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S016	\$55
	Tomato Trellis: Galvanized 20d Nails-1 lb., 1 units at \$5.25 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S017	\$6
	Tomato Trellis: 12 ft. x 400 ft. Painters Plastic Sheeting, 1 units at \$25.98 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S018	\$29
	Food	Granola Bars (48 x 1.2 oz), 4 units at \$15.69 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S019
Bottled Water (40 x 16.9 oz), 4 units at \$3.69 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S020		\$16
Equipment	LEM Products Stainless Steel Scale, 1 unit at \$47.84 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S021	\$53
	Folding Table, 1 Unit at \$47.98 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S022	\$53
	Wheel Barrow, 1 Unit at \$74.98 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S023	\$83
	Hammer, 1 Unit at \$4.97 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S024	\$0
	Cordless Drill, 1 Unit at \$159.00 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S025	\$175
	Pruning Shears, 2 Units at \$22.09 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S026	\$49
	Loppers, 2 Units at \$41.24 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S027	\$91
	Trowel, 5 Units at \$10.34 per unit. 10.2% tax included. S028	\$57
SUPPLIMENTAL TOTAL:		\$4,489

PERSONNEL TOTAL:	\$21,218
SUPPLEMENTAL TOTAL:	\$4,489
COMPLETE PROPOSAL TOTAL:	\$25,707

Supplemental Documents



GIVING GARDEN 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

A document the Giving Garden produced to illustrate the progress made in the past year.



GIVING GARDEN HARVEST 2019

A log of all the food we harvested and donated in 2019.



GIVING GARDEN VOLUNTEER HOURS 2019

A log of all the volunteer hours and participants we had in 2019.