

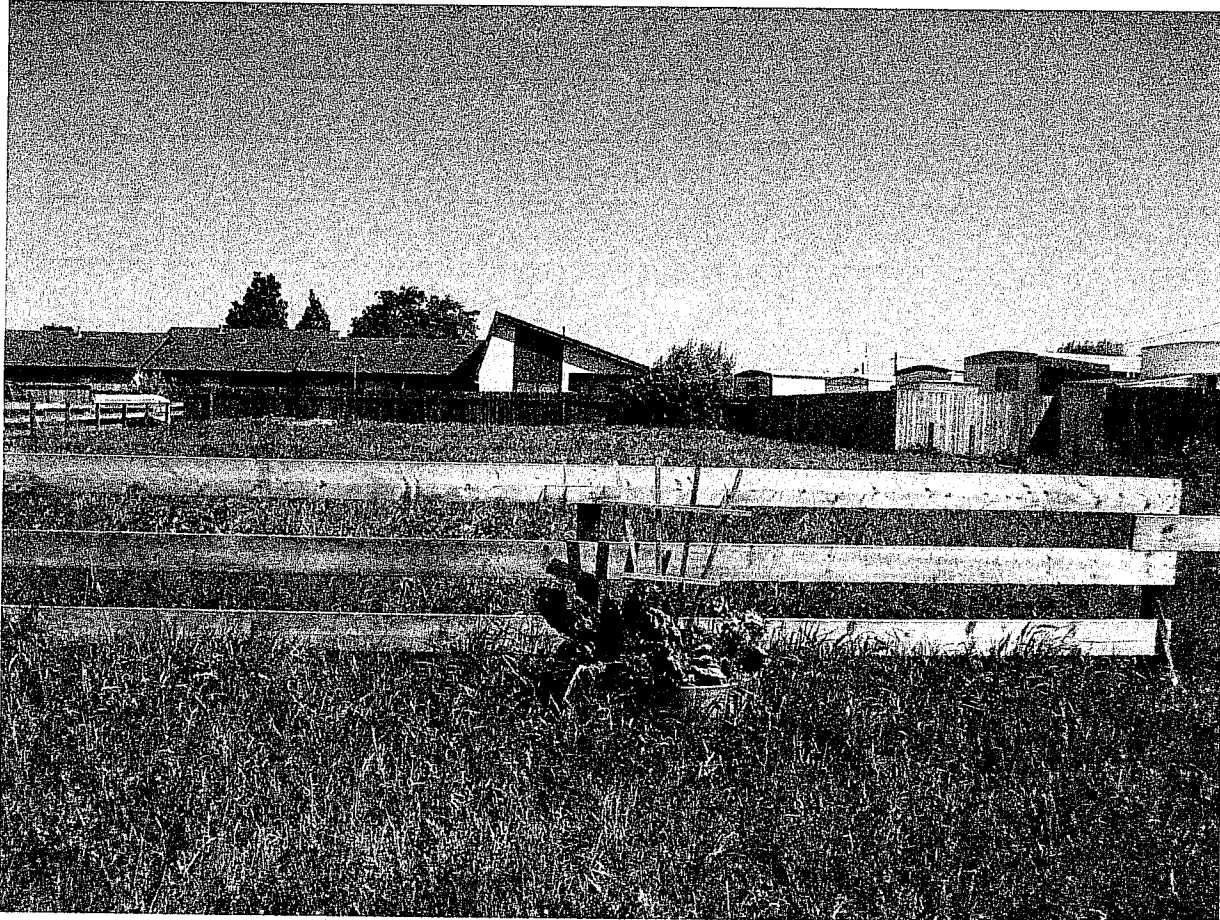
I think that no matter how old or infirm I may become,
I will always plant a large garden in the spring.

Who can resist the feelings of hope and joy
that one gets from participating in nature's rebirth?

Edward Giobbi (artist - <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/09/09/nyregion/still-going-strong.html>) -

Hope - Dream - Plant a Garden

An organic community garden in the heart of Lompoc



Join your neighbors working to establish a community garden at 900 West College.
Please sign up to be a part of this growing project.

Inspired by **Lompoc in Bloom**, the ***Hope - Dream - Plant a Garden*** project will be
a place for planting organic vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers;
a place for peace and healing;
a place for community connection; and,
a place that feeds and nourishes all who ask.

“Community gardening improves people's quality of life by providing a catalyst for neighborhood and community development, stimulating social interaction, encouraging self-reliance, beautifying neighborhoods, producing nutritious food, reducing family food budgets, conserving resources and creating opportunities for recreation, exercise, therapy and education.” (American Community Gardening Association – communitygarden.org)

Success depends upon a shared vision, developing skills, identifying resources, articulating incentives, and a clear plan of action.

Needed for SUCCESS:

- families willing to work for fresh vegetables,
- community partners,
- mentor gardeners,
- tools,
- plants,
- outdoor furniture,
- signage, arbors, & a bulletin board,
- video/photojournalist and web designer,
- grant writers and fundraisers,
- horticultural therapists, and
- any donations that will take us one step closer to a more sustainable future

Families, Individuals, and Organizations are encouraged to apply for a garden plot. Simple rules and expectations for participation are outlined on the application..

Community Partners have already demonstrated great generosity through volunteering
Lompoc in Bloom (Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce) – Lori Cordova

Lompoc Boys & Girls Club – Conrad Gonzales

CAC Head Start – Linda Wilkes

Home Depot – Santiago Vaca

Lompoc Valley Citizens for a Sustainable Future – David Eccles

Paul Larson Construction

UC Cooperative Extension: Mark Gaskell, Farm Advisor;

Michael Marzolla, 4-H Development and Master Gardener Program Advisor

Cabrillo High School Horticultural ROP Program – David Schroeder

Lompoc Horticultural Society – Rosemary Holmes

Lompoc Valley Health Care Organization Healthy Kids – Judy Taggart

- add your name and organization to our growing list of supporters!!

Mentor Gardeners are needed to plant demonstration garden plots, advise novice gardeners, and to help maximize production on the rows of food that will be grown to donate to the local Food Pantry and Community Kitchen program. Help and advice is also needed to direct our efforts to be California Certified Organic.

Tools and Plants are needed to help families planting their first kitchen garden – a system for sharing will be initiated. Organic compost/manure has been promised.

Outdoor Furniture, and Garden Structures - our goal is to create a lovely and peaceful place in the heart of Lompoc where residents can connect with each other while digging in the dirt.

Video/Photojournalist and Web Designers will be recruited to document our progress and tell our story to Lompoc and beyond.

Grantwriters and Fundraisers are necessary to ensure the financial stability of this new venture and the future security of the project. We will also be seeking enterprise opportunities such as participating at farmer markets, developing a signature product, and contract production for local caterers and restaurants.

Horticultural Therapists will ensure that the garden is accessible to all and offers a compassionate healing experience for anyone seeking comfort through nature. Horticultural therapy (HT) is not only an emerging profession, it is a time-proven practice. The therapeutic benefits of peaceful garden environments have been understood since ancient times. As a military community, we are well aware of the need for many returning service men and women to reconnect with family and community while digging, planting, growing, and harvesting.

There will be an opportunity for everyone to contribute to this worthwhile project. To be a part of growing healthy through hard work that connects us to each other and the earth. If you have an idea or want to make a positive contribution, please contact us.

For more information or a presentation please contact:

Dulcie Sinn, Ph.D. Dulcie.sinn@mac.com 805.735.1002

Project Manager Lompoc Housing and Community Development Corporation