



**San Benito County Probation Department**

400 Monterey Street  
Hollister, CA 95023  
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Joseph A. Frontella, Jr.  
Chief Probation Officer

**Community Corrections Partnership (CCP)  
December 2, 2021**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Joseph Frontella, Chief Probation Officer \*  
Eric Taylor, SBC Sheriff \*  
Alan Yamamoto, Director Behavioral Health \*  
Bea Gonzales, SBC Supervisor

Candice Hooper, District Attorney \*  
Carlos Reynoso, Hollister PD Chief \*  
Krystal Lomanto, SBC Office of Education  
Patricia Salcedo, Victim Witness Program

**Members Not Present:**

Daniel Martin, Public Defender \*  
Tracy Belton, Health & Human Services  
Enrique Arreola, CSWD

Omar Rodriguez, Superior Court Judge \*  
Diane Ortiz, Youth Alliance

*\*Executive Committee*

**1. Call Meeting to Order:**

Chief Probation Officer Joseph Frontella called the meeting to order at 09:31 a.m.  
Roll call was taken via Zoom video attendance by Karen Dozal, Probation Secretary.

**2. Acknowledgement of the Certificate of Posting (Motion):**

Alan Yamamoto motioned to acknowledge the Certificate of Posting, seconded by Candice Hooper, and all were in favor.

**3. Public Forum:**

None.

**4. Minutes 9-30-21 (Motion):**

Eric Taylor made a motion to approve CCP regular meeting minutes of September 30, 2021, which was seconded by Candice Hooper, and all were in favor. (Abstained: Alan Yamamoto)

**5. AB 109 Budget Update:**

Lorraine Carrasquillo: The amended budget was presented to the BOS on 11/23/21, which was approved. The adjustments included the accepted proposals for the jail staffing, vehicle lease increase, vehicle cage installation increase, and materials for training at the jail. The beginning

balance of \$4,274,352.00 and the proposed estimated revenue, came to \$6,300,023.00. With the expenses of \$3,893,272.00, this leaves an ending fund balance of \$2,406,751.00. We will reconcile at the end of the fiscal year once we have the actual numbers.

Local Revenue Fund 2011	Actuals 2021-2022	Current Year Estimate 2021-2022	Adopted Budget 2021-2022	Recommended 2021-2022
A. Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 4,274,352	\$ 4,274,352	\$ 4,274,352	\$ 4,274,352
B. Revenue	\$2,025,671	\$2,025,671	\$2,025,671	\$2,025,671
C. Total Financing, A+B	\$6,300,023	\$6,300,023	\$6,300,023	\$6,300,023
D. Expenditures	\$3,893,272	\$3,893,272	\$3,893,272	\$3,893,272
E. Ending Fund Balance, C-D	\$ 2,406,751	\$ 2,406,751	\$ 2,406,751	\$ 2,406,751

**6. Proposal – Jail Garden Build & Gardening Program:**

Renee Hankla: This is a program we have explored in the past couple of years. In 2019, along with Growing Hearts and Captain Lamonica, we visited Avenal State Prison’s horticulture program and decided this would be beneficial for San Benito County. Growing Hearts is a non-profit in Hollister that works with developmentally disabled adults to teach them life skills and vocational skills; they are interested in working with the jail population in terms of also teaching them social, interpersonal, and vocational skills. They will offer a class each week and help inmates with the garden build-out, as well as how to maintain the garden. They have put a proposed budget together. The first part of the budget is what they’re going to have covered/donated, and the second part of the budget is the request for \$10,000.00 for the program planning, facilitation, and materials. The total cost is \$23,550.00, but they are requesting \$10,000.00 from us.

They also included a timeline and a proposed profit schedule as well as a garden design which can be modified for any safety concerns. The design is basically raised garden beds that are low maintenance and low cost.

This is a one-time expenditure. If the program is successful and we find that it’s something we want to continue, they will need to come back with another proposal for an additional year.

A motion was made by Candice Hooper to accept the Jail Garden Build & Gardening Program, and was seconded by Alan Yamamoto, for a total one-time expense of 23,550.00.

Vote: Passed 5:0

**7. Public Safety Realignment Update:**

Joseph Frontella: Legislation changed over the last year, indicating that we must have an up to date plan every year by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Lorraine Carrasquillo sent a copy of the Public Safety Realignment Plan to executive members to review, and update required numbers. We’ve made changes and updated all the members. She is asking to review and confirm any changes, re-writes, or updates in your section. This is due on December 17, 2021. We will be updating this each calendar year. Recognizing that this is not the final version that we will be sending to the State, Chair requests the ability to approve once it’s in final format and submit it by Dec. 15, 2021.

Eric Taylor made a motion for the Chair, Joseph Frontella to have the authority to approve and submit the final plan to the State on behalf of the executive committee, seconded by Alan Yamamoto.

Vote: Passed 5:0

Lorraine Carrasquillo informed we also must complete a survey. She asked the committee to review the sections and inform Probation of any updates, new goals, and objectives. We will be submitting the survey along with the Realignment Plan.

Candice Hooper made a motion for the Chair, Joseph Frontella to have the authority to approve and submit the final survey to the State on behalf of the executive committee, seconded by Carlos Reynoso.

Vote: Passed 5:0

**8. Round Table:**

Eric Taylor announced today is Captain Tony Lamonica's last day, if anyone would like to reach out to wish him farewell and thank him for all the support that he provided to the CCP.

**9. Schedule Upcoming CCP Meeting:**

The next regular CCP meeting will be scheduled in March of 2022, date TBD.

**10. Meeting Adjourned:**

A motion to adjourn the CCP meeting was made by Candice Hooper, seconded by Alan Yamamoto. Meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m. by Joseph Frontella.

Attachment(s): 1

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Dozal, Secretary  
San Benito County Probation Dept.

Growing Hearts Garden Center  
171 Santa Ana Road  
Hollister, CA 95023  
(831) 537-7700  
83-2202218



ATTN: San Benito County Jail  
Draft Proposal: Jail Garden Build & Gardening Program

**Background:**

Growing Hearts Garden Center is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit organization founded in 2018 serving special needs adults and simultaneously beautifying community spaces in San Benito County. At Growing Hearts, we provide a safe and supportive environment for our special friends so that they may challenge themselves and gain further independence through our project-based learning and job coaching.

Growing Hearts has experience building and maintaining gardens. We are interested in working with the County of San Benito to build a garden at the San Benito County Jail and facilitate a gardening program within the jail. We will provide support and education in the garden for inmates that participate in the Gardening Program. For this program we intend to teach inmates effective gardening practices and ensure a solid background in plant care, giving them the tools necessary to obtain and retain employment upon release.

Our job coaches, special needs staff, and volunteers will assist with construction, maintenance, gardening courses, and promotion of the garden. The majority of gardening courses will be taught by the founders of Growing Hearts and some may be taught by guest instructors from local organizations.

**Scope:**

Growing Hearts, with the assistance of Cutting Edge Landscape, will construct garden beds at the San Benito County Jail. We will work with inmates on construction tasks such as preparing materials and conducting finishing touches.

After construction of the garden is complete, **each week we will hold a gardening course lasting 1 hour with 1 hour of instructor access after class in the garden** where we teach inmates different ways to be self-sufficient, resourceful gardeners. Some techniques we will share include how to support young plants, protect those plants from the cold, house and nurture cuttings, rid the garden of weeds, collect seeds, keep wild mammals away, create weed barriers, and manage garden pests. We will cover important environmental topics such as composting, healthy soils, and waste reduction practices in the garden. We will discuss proper care for a variety of plants that attendees can grow. We will assist them in growing a successful garden to ensure access to enough organic foods to meet dietary needs for a productive and healthy life as well as to gain the skills they need to care for plants in a nursery/landscaping setting. Classroom settings for the program will include circle processes that have proven effective with other garden programs with incarcerated populations.

**Budget:**

We have made significant connections in the community to obtain gardening material donations and free delivery of materials. This greatly reduces our operating costs for this proposal. However, we are also happy to provide service to the County in obtaining grants and donations that could help us provide even better services at this garden.

It would help the team at Growing Hearts if the County were to make a donation to fund the gardening activities supplied by our staff. To complete the garden program that lasts one year we request the amount of **\$10,000**, apart from the garden build, which could later be supported through grant opportunities.

<b>Garden Build Budget</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Metal VegoGarden 17" 9 in 1 Garden Boxes	12	\$300	\$3,600
Pathway Gravel - 20 cubic yards	20	\$50	In Kind
Soil - 10 Cubic yards	10	\$75	\$750
Weed Block Fiber - 5 rolls	5	\$40	\$200
Fruit Tree	8	\$150	\$1,200
Irrigation Supplies			\$800
Labor			\$7,000
Material Delivery - Tri County Transportation			In Kind
<b>Total Build</b>			<b>\$13,550</b>

<b>Gardening Program Budget: 1 Year</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Program Planning	\$2,000
Program Facilitation	\$6,000
Program Materials	\$2,000
<b>Total Programming</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

<b>Total Build + Program</b>	<b>\$23,550</b>
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Please let us know if these numbers work with the county. We look forward to working with San Benito County to ensure proper garden education for our incarcerated interested in reintegration. Below is an example timeline for the garden programming offered by Growing Hearts and the garden design draft.

**2022 Garden Maintenance Timeline:**

**January:** Protect & maintain garden, plan for spring  
**February:** Prep garden, plant bare root perennials, start cool-season seeds indoors  
**March:** Set out seed starts, plant spring garden, watch for frosts, add compost  
**April:** Pull weeds, add mulch, sow greens every week  
**May:** Plant for summer, harvest cool-season crops, manage insects  
**June:** Manage weeds, direct sow, thin seedlings, add compost  
**July:** Cultivate & amend soil, water soil in early morning, direct sow  
**August:** Evaluate garden successes & failures, plant fall garden, monitor moisture  
**September:** Prep garden, plant cool-season vegetables, compost summer annuals  
**October:** Compost garden debris, protect seedlings, add mulch, plant weekly  
**November:** Maintain & feed garden, prep for spring  
**December:** Protect & maintain garden

**Proposed Monthly Garden Topics Schedule:**

**January:** Grow Your Own Food  
**February:** Exploring Food Forests  
**March:** Layered Mound Gardening  
**April:** Soil Life & Health  
**May:** Composting 101  
**June:** 3R's in the Garden  
**July:** Garden Cuttings  
**August:** Germination Exploration  
**September:** Improving Nutrition through Home Gardening  
**October:** Edible Landscaping  
**November:** Love for the Bugs  
**December:** Companion Gardening

## Proposed Garden Design

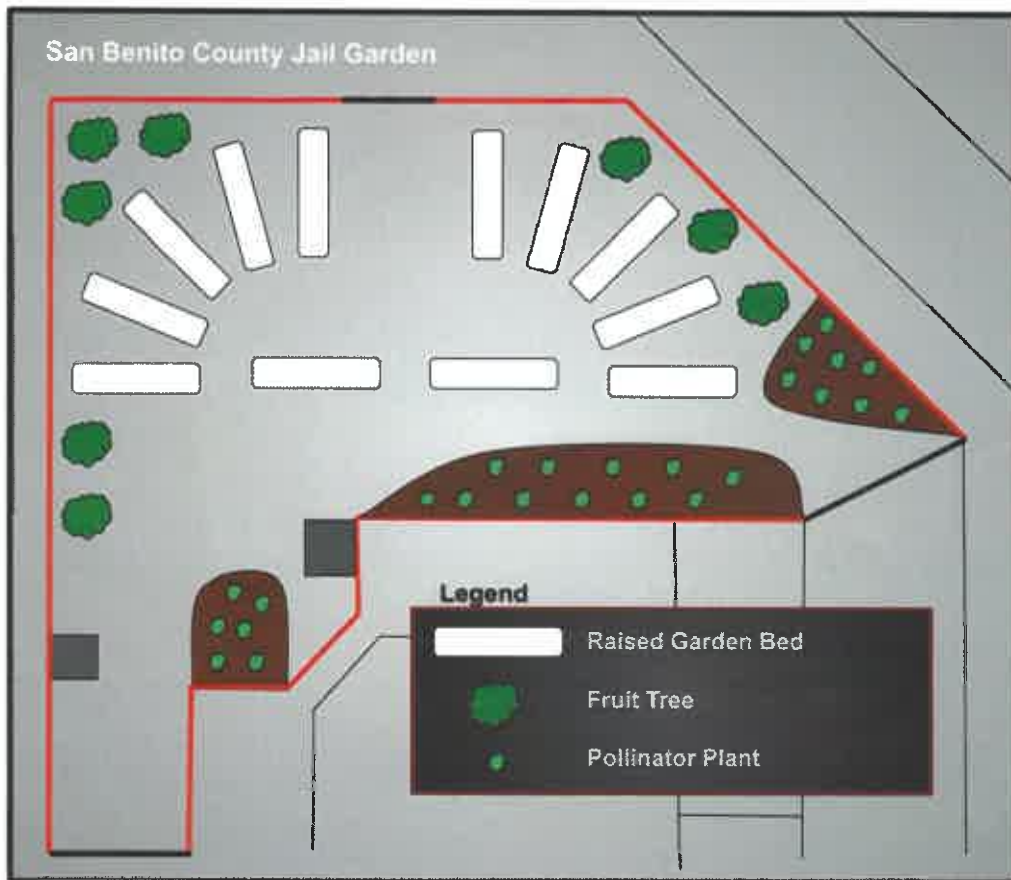


Image not to scale

This proposal is negotiable to incorporate the needs of the County and our community as needed. We look forward to working with the County and greater community to provide garden education and to discuss the new jail garden soon.

Sincerely,

Robb Rodriguez  
Executive Director  
Growing Hearts Garden Center  
growingheartsgardencenter@gmail.com  
(831) 207-8282