

Attachment A



Community Garden: 222 NW 3rd Ave, Visalia, CA 93291, APN 094-053-029

RPC and its programming partners shall have exclusive use of the premises and shall actively and continuously use and operate the premises for the limited purpose of operating and maintaining a community garden asset for programming participants' use for the production of agricultural products. Below is a detailed Operational and Maintenance Plan for the Community Garden:

1. Prospective Funding Sources Beyond the CSET NBS Grant

To ensure the Visalia Community Garden remains financially viable beyond the initial Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) grant that CSET is pursuing, RPC and partners will pursue the following additional funding streams:

- **State & Federal Grants:**
 - USDA *Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grant*
 - California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) *Healthy Soils Program*
 - CalFire *Urban Forestry and Green Schoolyard grants*

- **Private and Foundation Grants:**
 - *Kaiser Permanente* and *Blue Shield of California Foundation* (community health & wellness)
 - *California Wellness Foundation* (food access and health equity)
 - *Clif Family Foundation* (sustainable food systems)
 - *Tulare County Farm Bureau* mini-grants
- **Collaborative Partner Support:**
 - **CAFF** will contribute technical assistance and funding linkages through its *Small Farm Tech Hub* and *Farm-to-School* network.
 - **A.L.M.A.A.** will engage high school youth volunteers, develop bilingual educational content, and apply for youth civic engagement microgrants.
 - **Parent University** and **Los Promotores Comunitarios** will co-lead fundraising events (plant sales, harvest dinners, crowdfunding).
 - **FoodLink** and **College of the Sequoias** will help secure food recovery and educational funding support.
- **Earned Income & Sponsorships:**
 - “Sponsor-a-Plot” program for families, schools, and local businesses
 - Seasonal *Garden Stand* with SNAP/EBT access
 - CSA-style subscriptions and value-added product sales (salsa, teas, jams)
 - Local business sponsorships for signage, materials, or equipment

2. Contingencies and Existing Funding Applicability

If necessary funding is not secured, RPC and the Collaborative will:

- Prioritize essential operations using in-kind contributions and volunteer labor
- Temporarily scale programming to focus on core maintenance and access
- Rely on ongoing CBO-funded programs (Parent University, A.L.M.A.A., and Los Promotores workshops) for continuity
- Apply existing *youth engagement* and *environmental literacy* funds (through CSET and College of the Sequoias programs) to sustain the educational component
- **Funding availability** for the CSET NBS grant: through June 2026.
- RPC will target renewal or additional grants by February 2026 to ensure uninterrupted operations.

3. Collaborative Partner Commitments

Partner	Role	Commitment
RPC (Lead Agency)	Coordination & Oversight	Manages daily operations, compliance, and reporting
CSET	Infrastructure & Workforce	Implements restoration work, provides youth labor and materials
Los Promotores Comunitarios	Outreach & Education	Conducts bilingual workshops, assists with recruitment
Parent University	Family Engagement	Delivers parent workshops, coordinates community events

Partner	Role	Commitment
CAFF	Agricultural Expertise	Provides farm system training, soil health support, and market linkages
A.L.M.A.A.	Youth Engagement	Leads high school youth volunteer activities, develops peer-led learning
FoodLink	Food Security	Manages donation coordination and local distribution
College of the Sequoias	Educational Partner	Provides college student interns and supports garden daily operations

4. Organizational Roles – with Employment Alignment

Position	Reporting/Employer	Function
Garden Coordinator	RPC	Daily management, community liaison
Volunteer Coordinator	RPC (with A.L.M.A.A. support)	Recruitment, scheduling, volunteer supervision
Education Lead	Parent University / Los Promotores	Oversees workshops and bilingual curriculum
Maintenance Lead	CSET	Coordinates tool/equipment management and repairs
Fundraising Lead	RPC / CAFF	Oversees donor engagement, event planning, and grants
Youth Program Assistant	A.L.M.A.A.	Peer mentor and youth activities facilitator

5. Draft Implementation Timeline

Phase	Milestones	Target Date
Phase 1: Site Preparation & Infrastructure	Site cleanup, install irrigation, planters, signage	Jan – March 2026
Phase 2: Garden Activation	Plot assignments, launch community registration	Jan–April 2026
Phase 3: Education Launch	Begin bilingual garden workshops, youth programs	May 2026
Phase 4: Community Events	Host first Harvest Day & “Sponsor-a-Plot” kickoff	April 2026
Phase 5: Evaluation & Sustainability Planning	Mid-year assessment; funding renewal applications	June–Sept 2026

6. Day-to-Day Upkeep and Operations

Daily upkeep will be managed collaboratively by RPC staff, volunteers, and partner representatives:

- **Routine Maintenance:**
 - Watering schedules maintained via irrigation timers
 - Weekly trash, compost, and tool checks
 - Pest monitoring and integrated pest management (IPM) practices
 - Pathway and signage upkeep
- **Seasonal Tasks:**
 - Spring: Soil amendments, seedling preparation, compost management
 - Summer: Irrigation system checks, harvesting rotations
 - Fall: Cleanup, re-mulching, crop rotation planning
 - Winter: Tool maintenance, planning meetings, grant reporting
- **Supervision:**
 - Garden Coordinator and Maintenance Lead will track tasks using a shared Trello board and monthly logbook (per original proposal).

7. Educational Program Enhancement

RPC's Community Learning Model combines:

- **Culturally relevant bilingual instruction** on gardening, composting, nutrition, and entrepreneurship
- **Youth & family workshops** co-led by A.L.M.A.A. and Parent University
- **Career pathways** in sustainable agriculture and microenterprise via CAFF collaboration
- **Learning outcomes tracking** using attendance logs, pre/post surveys, and milestone evaluations (e.g., number of families served, pounds of produce grown/donated)