



Gardens for Humanity

Our mission is to develop and share our relationships with Humanity and Nature through gardening, art, and education.

December 2020

Dear Members and Friends,

When the COVID-19 pandemic became a reality in March, we suddenly received many requests from people wanting to start gardens. Food security was in the forefront of peoples' response to the uncertainties we were facing, as the future of the supply chain came into question.



Gardens for Humanity Projects 2020

- With in-person contact restricted, *Gardens for Humanity* decided to meet the need for pandemic "Victory Gardens" by publishing an [online guide for starting a garden](#), and providing gardeners with useful resources. After that, we consulted as requested about starting a garden.
- Spring planting was underway, and our [Seed Library](#) was also unable to meet. So we began to mail seeds upon request.

With the cancellation of schools, our after school clubs, [Exploring Ecosystems through Gardens and Art](#), in five schools were also put on hold.

We realized that with school closures, and the focus on "learning" via computer, many children were missing healthy time outside, and the social/emotional support many experience with teachers and classmates.

- Thus, we created ["Home Garden Activity Kits"](#) that we have so far distributed to more than 150 families. A grant from the Verde Valley STREAM Council largely funded this project.

These kits provide an activity guide and materials with fun, hands-on learning at home, related to gardening and the environment. They get the kids outdoors, and stimulate their imagination and creativity. Kids explore all subjects through art and gardening activities.



- COVID-19 did not stop some of our teaching artists from offering our **Elder Garden Tile Project** at Sedona Winds Independent Living Center. In spite of the restrictions imposed to protect residents, our artists were able to provide all the materials, and mentored the dozen participating residents from a distance. The residents were so very appreciative and enthusiastic about this project!

The tiles were installed on the West Sedona School Garden fence as decorative panels.



- Our partnerships through the **Sustainability Alliance** enabled us to continue our community education efforts. The problems we face in physical and mental health, environmental sustainability, and social justice come down to the life choices we make. Alliance members are dedicated to help people gain the awareness and tools for a more Earth-friendly life.



Through gardens we may become co-creators in a living environment that responds to our care and intentions. This evokes from us those qualities of our humanity that nourish the roots of our happiness, gratitude, and success. These can heal all our relationships.

Our organization was founded with the insight and vision of **Adele Seronde** that the principles embodied in Nature and beauty can heal and bring communities together. This is our unique calling and service.

You can help us meet the critical needs to provide education and experiences that bring about a more nurturing, just, and humane world. Please support our programs by making your donation online at <http://gardensforhumanity.org/donate/> or contribute in the envelope provided. We look forward to a new year with new opportunities to serve!

With warm regards,

Richard

Richard Sidy, President



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GARDENS FOR HUMANITY is a 501(C)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization.