

# Individual Project Report

## Frontera Inspiration Garden Project

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### Project Description

1. Describe the project. What was done, when, and where did the project activities take place?

The Inspiration Garden, a project of Weslaco Rotary Club and Frontera Audubon, is a demonstration garden featuring native plants, a compost area, and water-wise features for those who wish to gain inspiration for their gardens at their homes and/or places of employment. It is also intended as a space to conduct outdoor gardening workshops for children and families.

The Weslaco Rotary Club assisted with building the basic structure of the garden, including the perimeter fence, four planter boxes, and several vertical garden structures made with reclaimed pallets. Items were purchased for the garden's features, such as a circular herb garden, a rain barrel system, a composting area, benches, pergola, and trellises. Native plants, soil and compost were also purchased.

Educational materials were also purchased, including workbooks and books that outline hands on gardening activities for children and families. Local native plant guides and flashcards were purchased for two workshops, presented by Incredible Edibles. Signs for the garden perimeter were purchased, to display the Rotary logo. Smaller signs for each garden area and plant groupings were also purchased.

The project took place Winter and Spring of 2016. The Inspiration Garden is located at the front of Frontera Audubon's 15-acre nature park, inside its historic orchard area. This location allows for open space to continue to improve and maintain the gardens, while also providing educational space to conduct outdoor gardening projects for the community.

2. How many people benefited from this project?

This project launched our Gardening Workshops program. Ten new programs will be created as a result. Each program serves about 20 participants, for a total of 200 participants.

Additionally, Frontera Audubon hosts school groups and walking tours, serving about 300 people per year.

The Inspiration Garden remains open for our nature park visitors, bird and butterfly enthusiasts from all over the world. The Garden has a potential to reach 5,000 people per year.

3. Who were the beneficiaries, how were they impacted by this project, and what humanitarian need was met?

The primary beneficiaries are children and families. By providing a garden as a means of experiencing nature, Frontera Audubon expects to positively impact children and adults by nurturing their understanding of the reciprocal relationship between humans and nature and the benefit nature brings to their overall health and well-being. Their time in nature will allow them to learn about the natural environment, experience it, learn healthy eating habits, and allow nature to nourish them through relaxation and/or experiencing its beauty and wonder.

The humanitarian need met with this project is to benefit overall health and well-being of the recipients.

4. How many Rotarians participated in this project?

15

5. What did they do? Please give at least two examples, not including financial support provided to the project.

Members of the Weslaco Rotary Club volunteered over several weekends for two main aspects of the project. First, they assisted with erecting the perimeter fence structure, digging and setting the main posts. Secondly, they assisted with creating vertical garden structures made of reclaimed wooden pallets. They also helped haul supplies and assemble planter boxes and other features of the garden such as the trellises and other water-wise features.

6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was its role?

The Rio Grande Valley Texas Master Naturalists also participated on this project. They tilled the ground and prepared the area at the outset of the project. Master Naturalists consulted on the care and selection of native plants. They will continue to assist with the project by conducting gardening workshops throughout the year.

## Financial Report

Date	Description	Funding Source	Amount	%		
Aug 24, 2015	Garden Project	District Grant	\$3,000.00	40.00 %		
Aug 04, 2015		Club/Other	\$4,500.00	60.00 %		
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$7,500.00</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>		
Description	Supplier	Local Amount	Currency	Tax	Total	Amount
Gardening tools, equipment and supplies	Rotary	\$2,516.51	USD	\$0.00	\$2,516.51	\$2,516.51
Plants, mulch & soil	Rotary	\$1,001.80	USD	\$0.00	\$1,001.80	\$1,001.80
Fencing, bricks, cement, lumber, other materials	Rotary	\$973.56	USD	\$0.00	\$973.56	\$973.56
Benches and tables	Rotary	\$875.59	USD	\$0.00	\$875.59	\$875.59
Workshop supplies and educational materials	Rotary	\$824.10	USD	\$0.00	\$824.10	\$824.10
Other/Indirect (as related to	Rotary	\$787.00	USD	\$0.00	\$787.00	\$787.00
<b>Total:</b>						<b>\$7,495.56</b>

Description	Supplier	Local Amount	Currency	Tax	Total	Amount
educational workshops)						
Signage, labels, and printing	Rotary	\$517.00	USD	\$0.00	\$517.00	\$517.00
					<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,495.56</b>