



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

■ UC Master Gardener Program



UC Master Gardener Program

# 2019 & 2020 IMPACT REPORT

*"Advice to grow by ... Ask us!"*



**The UC Master Gardener Program's 40th year was one of the most memorable and one of the most difficult. COVID-19 continues to present many challenges, but it has also revealed that new opportunities can sprout even in the most challenging times. I continue to witness our communities' strength and compassion, and innovative ways volunteers and staff are reimaging the way we deliver our program.**

Throughout the 2019 & 2020 Annual Report, I hope you too are inspired by the stories of UC Master Gardener volunteers who have selflessly continued to support the program's mission and help their communities and neighbors looking for trusted home gardening information.

Across history, people have found comfort putting their hands in the soil, growing their own food, or planting a garden. This was certainly the case during the last program year. We witnessed a flood of first-time or returning gardeners at virtual gardening events and connecting online through our social media channels and helpdesks.

Early reports suggest that the new virtual audience the program is engaging is more diverse. We are committed to opening our doors wider and building a larger table to ensure the program is a welcoming space for all communities across California. 2020 has been a year of change in so many ways, and you will continue to see that change in the way the program continues to push forward to help a more diverse audience of gardeners across California.

Every day I continue to be inspired and tremendously grateful for the work of UC Master Gardener volunteers. I hope that while you read this report, you can feel my gratitude for our volunteers, leaders, and program supporters' contributions.

Missy Gable,  
Statewide Director

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*Pictured on cover: UC Master Gardener volunteer, Cory Kelso, holding a freshly pulled bunch of carrots from the Garden of the Seven Sisters in San Luis Obispo. Fruits and vegetables harvested from the garden are donated to local food banks to help feed residents in need. Photo/Jacqueline Shubitowski*

## OUR MISSION

“To extend research-based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscaping practices to the residents of California.”

Primary Focus Areas	Program Topics
Sustainable landscaping	Right plant, right place Green waste Pest management Pollinator-friendly gardens Water conservation
Food gardening	Growing edible plants Expanding varieties grown Reducing produce loss Food security
Community well-being	Physical and mental health benefits of gardening and green spaces Spending more time outdoors

### In our communities

Together, even when the only option is virtual, we are growing healthier gardens and more sustainable landscapes for future generations. Since 1980, the UC Master Gardener Program has grown to serve 52 counties across California’s coastal land, deserts, mountains, and valleys. As we move into recovery from the global pandemic, the UC Master Gardener Program’s mission is more important than ever. Urban greening lifts morale, community gardens improve food security, and serving the historically underserved addresses equity and access issues that affect livelihood. We live and serve in our communities.

### Volunteers by county

#### Single-county programs

Alameda 181	Glenn 8	Merced 48	San Diego 358	Sonoma 248
Amador 64	Lake 41	Napa 168	San Joaquin 141	Stanislaus 55
Butte 111	Lassen 4	Nevada 113	San Luis Obispo 120	Trinity 15
Calaveras 78	Los Angeles 337	Orange 273	Santa Barbara 74	Tuolumne 102
Colusa 23	Madera 39	Placer 140	Santa Clara 303	Ventura 201
Contra Costa 276	Marin 341	Riverside 347	Shasta 42	Yolo 120
El Dorado 170	Mariposa 63	Sacramento 244	Solano 148	
Fresno 236	Mendocino 65	San Bernardino 181		

#### Multi-county programs

Del Norte-Humboldt 17	Lake Tahoe Basin 66	San Francisco-San Mateo 198
Inyo-Mono 50	Monterey-Santa Cruz 133	Sutter-Yuba 70
Kings-Tulare 91	Plumas-Sierra 9	



Photo/Evett Kilmartin



*Bobbie McCaffrey, UC Master Gardener of El Dorado County, touring local nurseries with fellow UC Master Gardener Audrey Brandt (not pictured) to write articles and take photographs for the program's newsletter. Photo/Aubrey Brandt*

## GROWING COMMUNITIES

The UC Master Gardener Program teaches people how to grow food and garden sustainably to protect California's natural resources. By customizing local gardening outreach to account for unique local landscapes and the diversity of California's residents, we strive to meet the needs of all the communities we serve.

The UC Master Gardener Program:

- » hosts hands-on educational workshops teaching how to garden sustainably to protect California's natural resources
- » answers questions by email or phone about how to grow fruits, vegetables, and flowers, and manage pests in the garden
- » provides hands-on demonstrations at school, community, and demonstration gardens
- » teaches horticulture skills to youth and adults in detention centers, seniors in memory care facilities, and veterans at military-serving organizations
- » ... and so much more!

### **In 2020, COVID-19 shut down the state. How did the UC Master Gardener Program help?**

When in-person events and classes could no longer take place, a movement grew to support our communities, answer questions, and extend information. Understanding the incredible benefits of gardening and connecting to nature to reduce stress and anxiety, UC Master Gardener volunteers answered a surge in demand for gardening content through email, phone calls, web content, videos, and Zoom. While programming quickly switched online to support "gardening in place," the program still found safe ways to support our community's needs.

- » UC Master Gardener volunteers donated fresh fruits and vegetables as food banks were overrun with demand
- » Educational activities for students were developed with hands-on activities and take-home gardening kits
- » Vegetable starts and care guides were distributed through school and community free-lunch programs
- » Urban greening projects removed invasive plants, maintained community green spaces, and introduced vibrant flowers to promote community well-being

# BY THE NUMBERS

So much has changed over the past year, but the impact our volunteers make every day remains a constant. The UC Master Gardener Program had spring plans of in-person workshops, hands-on training, and booths at Farmers Markets - but everything drastically came to a halt with COVID-19. Adapting and quickly switching gears to offer online programming and support for home gardeners, we are proud and grateful to all UC Master Gardener volunteers to serve our mission and support our communities.

## Volunteer stats: All time

**7,735,154**

Total all-time volunteer and continuing education hours

**32,553**

Total all-time trained volunteers

## Volunteer stats: Fiscal year 2019-20

**395,239**

Total volunteer and continuing education hours

**6,216**

Active volunteers

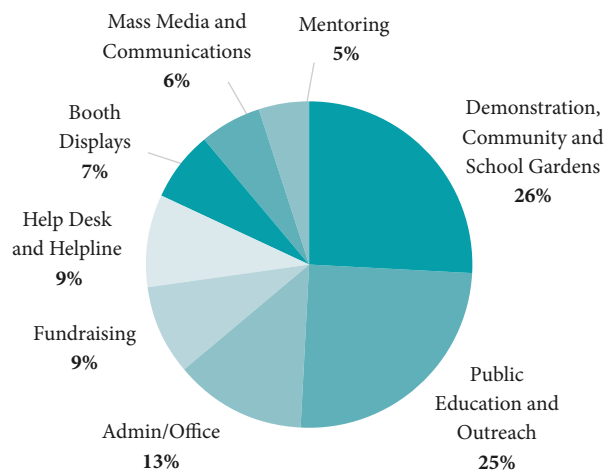
**63**

Average hours donated per volunteer each year

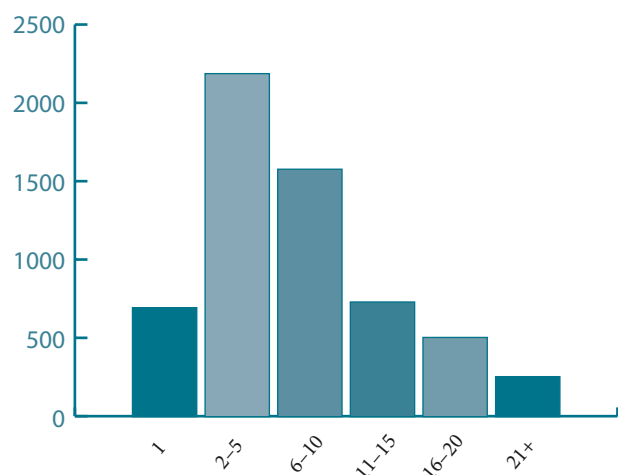
**8**

Average number of years of volunteer service

Volunteer Hours by Activity



Retention: Number of Years as Volunteer



## Community impacts from educational events

**74%** MONITORING FOR INSECTS, WEEDS, AND DISEASES

Reduces the use of pesticides that pollute our waterways.

**67%** USING PLANTS THAT ATTRACT AND SUPPORT POLLINATORS

Increases the number and diversity of pollinating insects.

**60%** EXPANDED VARIETIES OF EDIBLE PLANTS GROWN

Enhances individual and family nutrition.

**73%** IMPROVED FOOD-GROWING PRACTICES

Increases consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables.

**69%** SPENDING MORE TIME OUTDOORS

Fosters improved mental health and overall wellness.

*All data collected from 2019 and 2020 statewide program evaluation efforts*

## Financial value of the program

**\$243,734,702\***

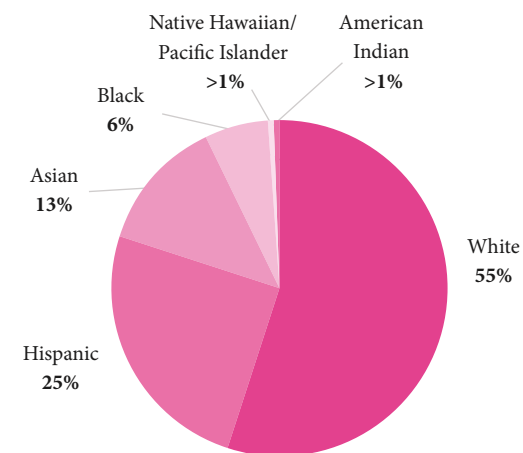
Value of all-time volunteer service hours

**\$12,453,987\***

Value of volunteer service hours in Fiscal Year 2019-20

*\*According to Independent Sector, California; value of volunteer time at a rate of \$31.51 per hour*

Contacts by Race and Ethnicity\*\*



*\*\*Based on contacts reported in Volunteer Management System; unknown contacts not included*

**"Thank you for all your wisdom and expertise. Your programs are responsible for my thriving garden and good mental health and happiness for my family."**

**— Chandrakala G.**



## OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

This past year, we laid a foundation for our statewide diversity, equity, and inclusion work by introducing educational resources, closely examining and improving current practices, and engaging in peer dialogue.

### In 2020:

- » We introduced implicit bias resources and training statewide to all 6,000+ UC Master Gardener volunteers.
- » Our annual UC Master Gardener Program Coordinator meeting focused on inclusive volunteer selection and recruitment strategies.
- » We hosted a discussion for coordinators and volunteer leaders, Racial Equity in the Garden, which provided an overview of a new racial-equity resources webpage to guide training and understanding.

### Looking ahead to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in the future.

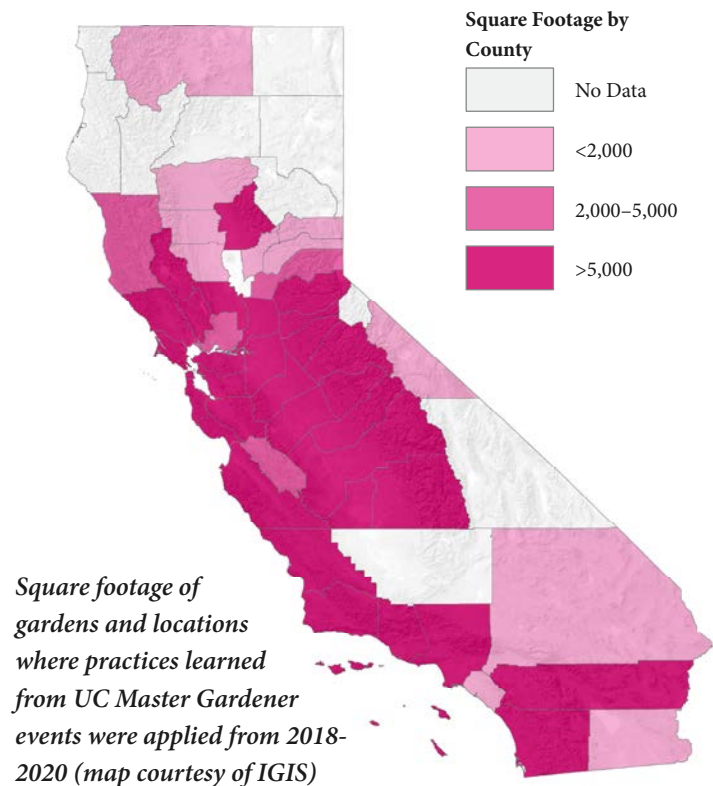
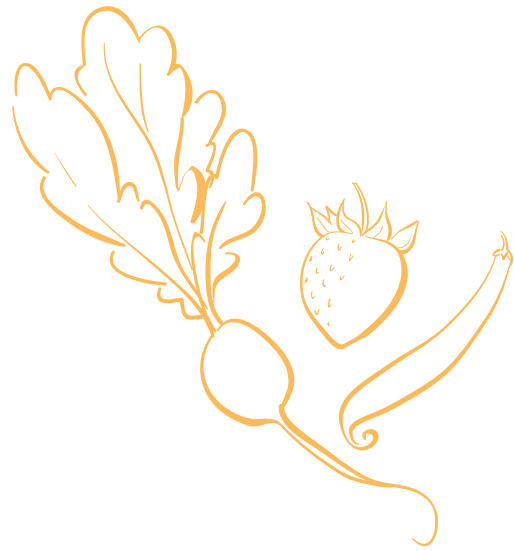
We've mapped out an active approach to raise the bar for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the UC Master Gardener Program by identifying barriers to engagement and addressing social justice shortfalls.

- » **Learning and Development:** We are committed to promoting and participating in lifelong learning opportunities for our UC Master Gardener community to improve our understanding of racial and social justice.
- » **Equity Assessment:** A preliminary equity assessment, focused on racial equity, will be completed by the UC Master Gardener Program's statewide office to evaluate our program's status and to identify next steps and future interventions.
- » **Inclusive Volunteer Selection:** We will continue to expand our efforts to evaluate program resources through the filter of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The work started in 2020 to revamp our new volunteer application and volunteer position description. New templates will be released in 2021. We are striving to improve the accessibility of our digital education and training materials for people with disabilities.
- » **National Network:** To ensure that we learn about different approaches, successes, and missteps, we will continue to connect and collaborate not only within UC ANR but also with national Extension Master Gardener colleagues.
- » **Celebrating California Gardens:** Collectively, with coordinators and volunteers, a blog series will be developed celebrating culturally important plants and foods, sometimes missing from UC Master Gardener curricula. For 2021, we look forward to celebrating Black History Month, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, and American Indian Heritage Month.



*A collection of succulents and a butterfly succulent mural at the home of Cynthia Nations, a UC Master Gardener volunteer in San Mateo & San Francisco Counties.  
Photo/Jeffrey Blake*

# FOOD GARDENING



*Square footage of gardens and locations where practices learned from UC Master Gardener events were applied from 2018-2020 (map courtesy of IGIS)*

In April of 2020, Jenny Martinez drove from store to store searching for toilet paper, pantry items, and fresh vegetables or fruits to fill her fridge. Working full-time and with two young children distance-learning at home, Jenny hadn't had time to make a trip to the grocery store before the aisles were left empty. "I remember walking into the grocery store and wondering, what is happening?" says Jenny. "I wasn't prepared for the feelings of panic that seeing empty shelves brought to me. I couldn't believe how bare the store looked. I drove across town, visiting store after store to find the items I needed."

It was the coronavirus pandemic that drove Jenny to start her own patio vegetable garden. "I had always thought about starting a garden but never had the time," Jenny says. "Between being home and wanting to make sure my family would have our small garden of fresh tomatoes, herbs, and strawberries, I felt like it was the perfect time to start one."

Just like Jenny's own personal story, history has shown us that many people turn to gardening in times of crisis. The past year has exposed our food supply's fragility during a crisis with empty

grocery store aisles, long lines at food pantries, and overwhelmed online retailers. According to Packaged Facts, 25% of consumers reported planting a food garden because of the pandemic.

Throughout all this, UC Master Gardener volunteers across California were thinking about ways to support their neighbors, friends, and community members looking to start a food garden for the first time or improve their gardening practices.

**73% of respondents at UC Master Gardener Program events reported starting or improving gardening practices around growing edible plants.**

To meet the growing demand of home food gardeners in **Los Angeles County**, UC Master Gardener volunteers developed a popular "Garden in Place" online workshop series. Weekly one-hour workshops focused on various gardening topics, emphasizing how to garden with items you already have. "Our "Garden-in-Place" workshops arose organically from

friends worried about the COVID-19 emergency, worried about shortages, and stuck at home. "Gardening was both an activity that could be done with family and a way to have some agency in an out-of-control world and at least in part assure some food variety in uncertain times," says UC Master Gardener, Roger Gray.

Los Angeles County also continued its "Grow LA Victory Garden" series, virtually offering gardening lessons that included food gardening best practices. One of the classes focused on how to plant the seeds from your food pantry and how to read a seed packet. "Grow LA Victory Garden classes filled up within a week! The demand for education around growing your food is very high in Los Angeles County," says program coordinator Valerie Borel. "We are excited to see so many people interested in growing their food. We have plans for an online LA Victory Garden series offered in Spanish in the spring of 2021."

Two hours north of Los Angeles, UC Master Gardener volunteers in **Santa Barbara County** partnered with a local community resilience nonprofit to develop a "Growing Community" workshop series. The series taught home gardeners

how to grow an abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables to support the increased demand on local food banks. UC Master Gardeners in Santa Barbara also offer weekly one-hour online talks, with a dedicated Q&A time to help new gardeners.

The UC Master Gardener program in **San Luis Obispo** has been donating food from its demonstration garden since 2016. UC Master Gardener Program coordinator Maria Murrietta reported seeing needs at her food bank triple in March 2020, and that seed racks at two local San Luis Obispo nurseries were nearly empty. "Food insecurity is not a new topic, but is a new concern for many people for the first time," explains Murrietta. "In San Luis Obispo County, our community benefits from the harvest at our demonstration garden and gardening education that the volunteers provide. I think COVID-19 has highlighted the importance of what UC Master Gardeners can offer a community, and it has reminded UC Master Gardener volunteers of how important their work is. Their skills and knowledge and their desire to contribute go beyond helping other gardeners have a pretty landscape!"



*UC Master Gardener volunteers (from left to right) Kathlene Henry-Gorman, Lisa Mowery, and Aliza Golan in San Luis Obispo County with a recent harvest being donated to a local food bank. Photo/Jacqueline Shubitowski*

## COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

The popularity of gardening surged in the spring of 2020 when statewide stay-at-home orders were issued in California to help slow the spread of COVID-19. With more people social-distancing, working from home, and distance-learning, people sought activities they could do to beautify their space, stay active, and reduce stress or anxiety.

According to a survey by Axiom Marketing, “people turned to gardening because it gave them something to do while isolated at home, it provided a source of exercise, and helped to cope with stress. But, overwhelmingly, most were gardening to add beauty in their lives.” The pandemic has connected people to the many benefits of gardening and the important role and benefits of gardens and green spaces.

The UC Master Gardener Program helped people embrace a connection to nature through whatever garden space they had available to them. “UC Master Gardeners has been a big part of my life during the pandemic,” said a workshop participant in San Mateo County. Whether you have a backyard, patio, or single window box, UC Master Gardener volunteers encouraged gardeners to get outside and put their hands in the soil or tend to whatever they had at their disposal.

***69% of respondents reported spending more time gardening or outside as a result of attending a UC Master Gardener Program workshop or event.***

The newest UC Master Gardener Program in California, **Stanislaus County**, is helping its community feel more connected to nature with the development of its new demonstration garden. UC Master Gardener Roxanne Campbell was passionate about having an educational garden space in her community after attending training in her neighboring county. “I was able to enjoy the demonstration garden the UC Master Gardeners of San Joaquin County had built. It inspired me so that I couldn’t wait to get our garden up and running because I wanted to help create somewhere beautiful for our community to come learn from the UC Master Gardeners of Stanislaus County and hopefully be inspired to create beautiful gardens at home,” says Roxanne.

“I see the Learning Landscape demonstration garden as a place where one day UC Master Gardener volunteers, community partners, friends, and neighbors can come together to learn from each other best practices for gardening,” explains program coordinator Anne Schellman. “Gardens provide a place where people can experience nature, which has many health and well-being benefits. Our hope is that our new demonstration garden will provide that to people.”

When “Kids’ Day in the Garden,” one of the largest events for the UC Master Gardener Program in **Calaveras County**, was canceled, UC Master Gardener volunteers knew that they still wanted to help children and parents in their community grow an interest in gardening. UC Master Gardener volunteers quickly changed the annual event theme to “Kids’ Day in the Garden – at Home!” 150 take-home garden kits were assembled and distributed to all families that registered for the event. Families and children expressed gratitude for having the activity available to do at home at a time when most activities were canceled or postponed. Take-home garden kits were also distributed to 500 elementary students in El Dorado County as part of a partnership between the UC Master Gardener Program, Cal Fresh Healthy Living UC, and the California Dairy Council. Seeds were distributed to students with information about how to successfully grow their own food using limited supplies.

The UC Master Gardener Program of **El Dorado County** also provided learning opportunities alongside its community partner MORE, a nonprofit that provides services to adults with developmental disabilities and empowers individuals with disabilities to enhance their quality of life. Despite not being able to meet in person, UC Master Gardeners continued to engage MORE clients. A team of volunteers developed learning opportunities and videos to share about various gardening topics and projects like how to build a birdhouse and grow succulents.

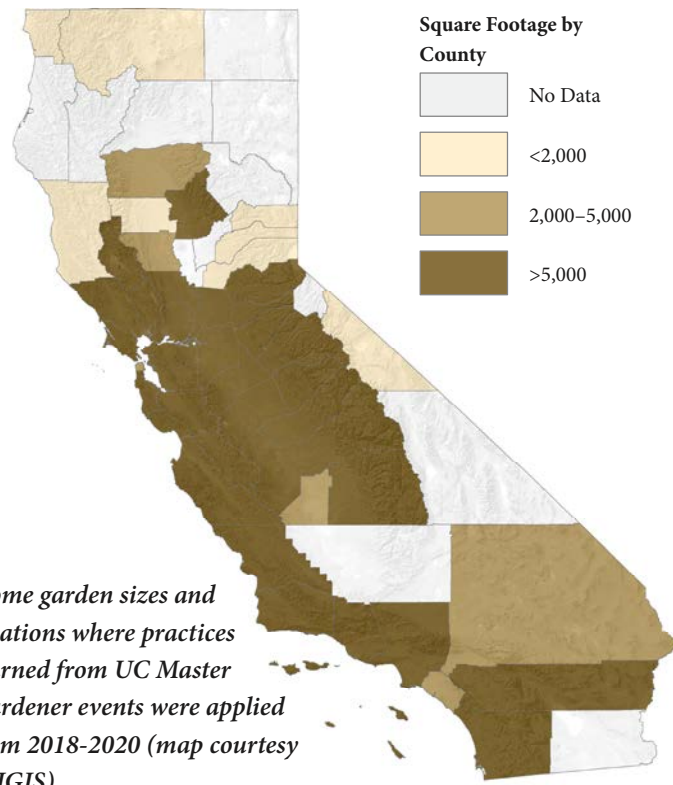
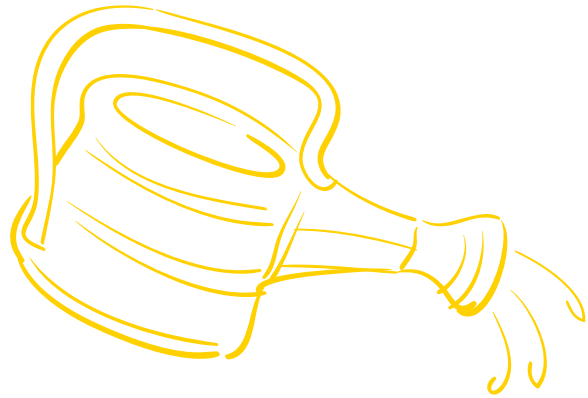
“Our partnership with the UC Master Gardener Program has had a significant impact on our clients. It opened up a whole new hands-on experience, and our clients learned about where food comes from, how it grows, and the miracle of harvesting. UC Master Gardeners treated our clients with such respect that they felt part of the community. While in-person activities had to pause because of COVID-19, UC Master Gardeners actively supported MORE clients. We can’t wait to return in-person to the garden!” says Susie Davies, Chief Executive Officer at MORE.



UC Master Gardener volunteers of Tulare and Kings Counties Debbie Hayner (left) and Laura Manser (right) at the Woodlake Rose Garden. UC Master Gardener volunteers provide education in the demonstration garden about how to care for roses. Photo/Sally Pace



# EXPANDING OUR REACH



Home garden sizes and locations where practices learned from UC Master Gardener events were applied from 2018-2020 (map courtesy of IGIS)

“How do I grow seeds?” “What is this bug on my tomato?” “Should I add compost?” These are the types of questions that flooded into the UC Master Gardener Program. This past year, with COVID-19 stay-at-home orders and limited safe activities, the UC Master Gardener Program saw a rush of gardeners looking for help and advice on starting a garden. Calls and emails poured into UC Master Gardener Program hotlines, Facebook groups, and websites.

“We experienced an exciting increase in gardening activities and interest this year,” says statewide program director Missy Gable. “People looking for information about how to become a UC Master Gardener volunteer increased by almost 50% on our online inquiry form.”

The traditional method for extending educational workshops and events has been in-person, which was impossible because of COVID-19 restrictions. The program had to think about creative ways to help this new wave of gardeners.

## Followers on the statewide UC Master Gardener Program Facebook page doubled in 2020, and subscribers on the statewide YouTube channel grew by 61%.

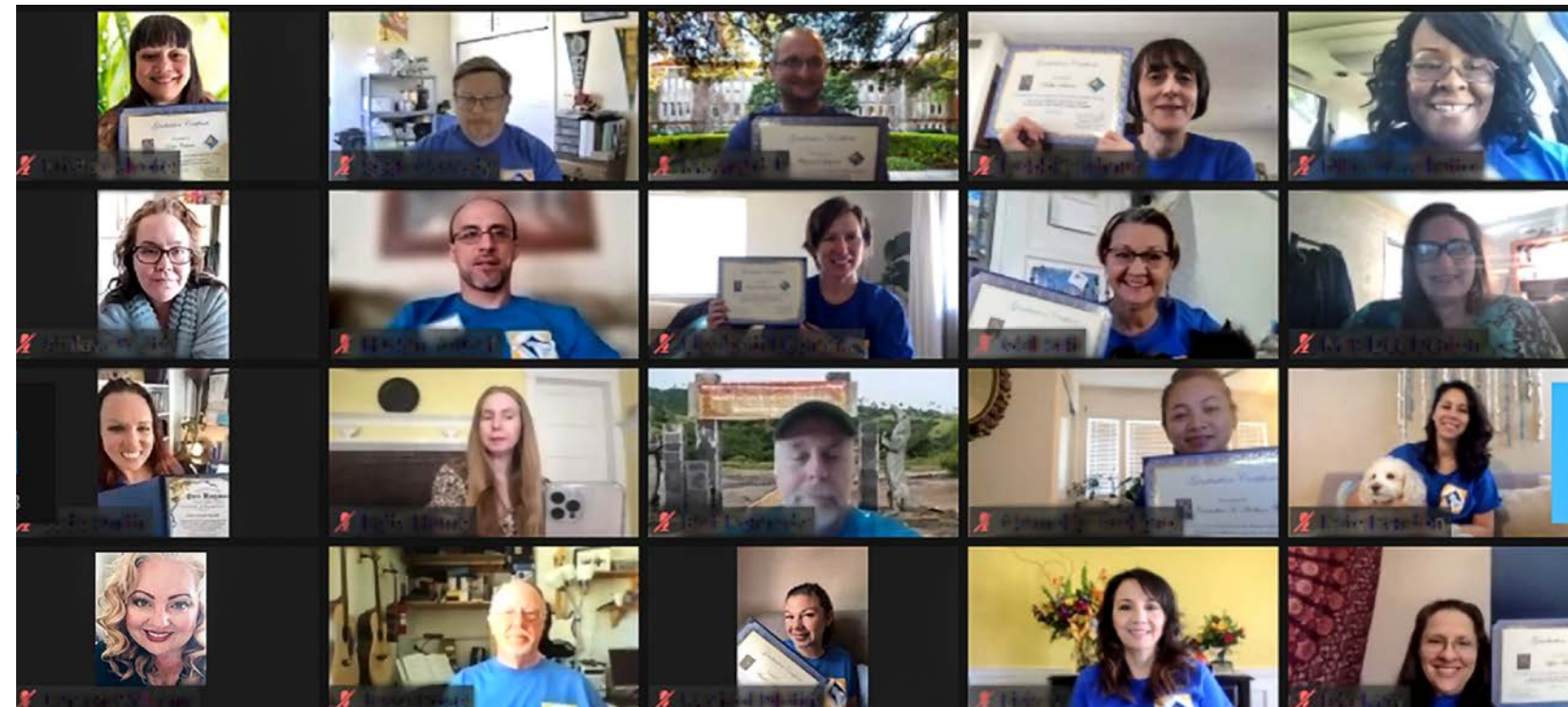
In **Riverside County**, a trio of UC Master Gardener volunteers who help coordinate youth and school gardens quickly shifted gears to continue supporting schools, with virtual gardening education. UC Master Gardener volunteers Chris Curtis, Kim Coons-Leonard, and Brad Hardison lead local youth and school garden projects in Riverside County. “UC Master Gardeners have had a robust program that supports youth and school gardens for a number of years, providing consulting and on-site education in the garden. For us, the pandemic changed the types of services we could deliver, but it also provided an opportunity to bring the science of gardening into a format that can be used online when we can’t be in the gardens with students,” stated Curtis.

Over the past year, UC Master Gardeners in **Riverside County** developed 20 digital educational gardening lessons and made them available at no cost to educators, parents, students, and the public. UC Master Gardener volunteers are in the process of developing a video series to add to their TK-12 grade educational toolkit. “The pandemic has led us all to find alternative ways to share garden-based research and guidance with the public. [We] believe this is a golden, time-laden opportunity to add video to our educational toolbox. It is well worth the effort and will remain a post-pandemic component of our school and youth lessons,” says Coons-Leonard.

Reaching more residents in the county with sustainable gardening information was a goal for the UC Master Gardener Program in **Colusa County**. “Our local newspaper hosts several podcasts, and they approached the UC Master Gardener Program and asked if we would be interested in starting one,” explains program coordinator Gerry Hernandez. The podcast, titled “A Garden Runs Through It,” broadcasts monthly, sharing sustainable gardening best practices and answering the community’s most common gardening questions.

UC Master Gardeners in **Sacramento County** saw the pandemic as an opportunity to work on new extension projects. A team of 55 UC Master Gardener volunteers formed a video production group and collaborated on a series of 30 educational videos for its new YouTube channel, focused on how to grow food and to garden more sustainably. The video series has nearly 30,000 views, and feedback from the community has been exceptional. “Great, entertaining, and very informative video!! Really appreciate your thoroughness and simplicity.” “Fantastic video! So much good information to help home gardeners be more successful with fruit trees and berries.” “Thank you for sharing this info. I’m in the Sacramento area, and there are not too many YouTubers that make content for our area. I appreciate this info.”

In 2020 the UC Master Gardener Program in San Bernardino County recruited its first-ever all-virtual training class, pictured below. The program had to shift the way it helps people, exploring the possibilities that new technology brings. Photo/Janet Hartin



# SEARCH FOR EXCELLENCE

The Search for Excellence Awards recognize outstanding projects that make an impact in local communities and support the mission of the UC Master Gardener Program. Congratulations to the 2020 Search for Excellence winners based on their outreach, impact and innovation.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Place Reminiscence Gardening

### San Diego County

The UC Master Gardener Program of San Diego was inspired by its growing understanding of the need for more everyday experiences that address the issues facing members of our community affected by dementia-related diseases. UC Master Gardener volunteers in San Diego County saw an opportunity

to collaborate with residential memory care communities and Alzheimer's San Diego (AlzSD) to provide sensory exploration and tabletop gardening activities for individuals living with dementia and their care partners, and founded the Reminiscence Gardening project.



*During the pandemic, the UC Master Gardener Program in San Diego delivered workshop supplies to facilities and provided step-by-step instructions. UC Master Gardener Diane Woodward (left). Photo/Debbie Handal*

UC Master Gardeners in San Diego County, alongside AlzSD, offered social activities for individuals with dementia and their caregivers. The Reminiscence Gardening project's goal for those individuals is to boost energy levels, build confidence, prolong maintenance of existing skills, and perpetuate a sense of purpose and joy through gardening. UC Master Gardener volunteers with the Reminiscence Gardening project are sharing their love of gardening and their advanced training from the UC Master Gardener program for the benefit of those in the community who need it most. Since the

project's inception in 2018, and with the help of 50 UC Master Gardener volunteers, more than 1,000 individuals living with dementia and their family members, caregivers, and staff have been able to participate. Serving nine different residential care facilities across San Diego County, the Reminiscence Gardening project provides step-by-step instructions for gardening activities that can easily be replicated at home. UC Master Gardener volunteers in San Diego are making a meaningful difference in their community and the Reminiscence Gardening project is a wonderful way to express that.

*"You are all not only UC Master Gardeners, but compassionate individuals who enjoy helping others. It is the expression of joy on our residents' faces, as well as on your members', that speak to the importance of great programs such as yours, which connect people of all abilities. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. It brings tears to my eyes to see some of our residents find joy and the ability to express themselves, for those are precious moments. Their families are so happy and grateful, as we are. Please share with your entire group that the joy they are bringing to the lives of those who need it most is deeply, deeply appreciated by everyone here."*

*Linda Cho, Executive Director, Stellar Care*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Gardening with Underserved Communities

### Contra Costa County

Gardens can bring people together regardless of their race, color, age, sex, disability, or religion. The UC Master Gardener Program of Contra Costa County wanted to meet people where they are in their communities across the county and ensure they had access to quality sustainable gardening information and resources from the University. Collaborating with Contra Costa Health Services, the County Department of Behavioral Health, Bi-Bett Corporation, Eden Housing, and the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office, the UC Master Gardener Program of Contra Costa County created a series of gardening lessons for outreach at senior centers, residential treatment centers, and at the local Veterans Services campus.

UC Master Gardener volunteers developed a series of 18 gardening lessons aimed at serving a community of individuals with limited mobility, mental health conditions (including addiction and PTSD), or language barriers. Volunteers carefully identified key gardening topics and the best delivery options to suit a variety of learning styles. All of the gardening lessons combine interactive lessons with hands-on learning. Some of the lesson topics covered include vegetable gardening, soil health, composting, best practices to support pollinators, and how to manage pests in the garden. The UC Master Gardener Program of Contra Costa County has supported more than 2,000 individuals in their gardening efforts since the project started in 2017.



Offering a hands-on gardening component allows participants to immediately use what they learn to create something, providing them a sense of accomplishment and success in their new skill. Photo/Darlene DeRose

*"I like garden group because it is very educational. There are so many things I never knew. I thought you just planted a few seeds, watered it, and watched it grow. I didn't know there is a whole science behind gardening. I didn't know that there are so many components to making a healthy garden. I also like that, in the end, you have things to take to your kitchen table."*

*Participant, Contra Costa County*

*"I like garden group because I like being outdoors. I feel like I am learning something that I can take with me to the outside world. I am learning things that I can do at home and occupy my mind."*

*Participant, Contra Costa County*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Mornings at Martial Cottle Park... Lessons in the garden for school children

*Santa Clara County*

Working together with community partners, the UC Master Gardeners of Santa Clara County created and taught a science- and nutrition-based curriculum for field trips at San Jose's Martial Cottle Park. Through dynamic, hands-on, outdoor lessons in a garden setting, second graders take part in a half day of healthy food and science learning. Local grants helped pay for the cost of transportation for Title 1 schools and schools in low-income neighborhoods.

Centuries-old oak trees, native plants, flowers, and raised garden beds serve as the backdrop for this extraordinary four-acre teaching and demonstration garden, managed by UC Master Gardener volunteers.

Students, teachers and chaperones rotate through four learning stations around the garden every 25 minutes while being taught about a plant's lifecycle, insects, pests vs. beneficial insects, and nutrition through growing and eating healthy fruit and vegetables.

At the end of the day the students, teachers, and UC Master Gardener volunteers gather together to review what they have learned. Families are encouraged to return to the garden any time during the garden's normal open hours. "I have a special-needs brother and I think you all did a really good job. Don't change a thing!" said a teacher following a recent field trip. For some students, their visit to Martial Cottle Park is their first time in a garden or hearing about how plants and food grow. UC Master Gardener volunteers are thrilled to be able to introduce these students to the wonders of science and horticulture.

When asked for comments and suggestions for future trips, teachers said the following:

*"Kids were very engaged and enjoyed themselves. This was exactly aligned with our current unit of study."*

*"The education match to the unit taught in the classroom is spot on."*

*"The organization of the stations and the delivery of the information was excellent."*

*"Students definitely learn and remember more from real-life experiences."*

*"It's perfect for our ELL and special needs students."*



UC Master Gardener volunteers teaching students about plant life cycles, insect anatomy and adaptation, and beneficials and pests in the garden. 'Mornings at Martial Cottle Park' is a half-day field trip offered to low-income schools as well as schools throughout Santa Clara County. (Photo taken before COVID-19.) Photo/Jerry McClory

## VOLUNTEER MILESTONES

Our gratitude goes to each and every UC Master Gardener volunteer for the time, energy, and enthusiasm they display as they improve the sustainability of California landscapes and communities. Here we offer special appreciation to those volunteers whose commitment, in terms of longevity and time, inspires us all to continue working toward our program's mission.

### 35+ years

- » Lori Ann Asmus
- » Gerrie Bannister
- » Otillia Bier
- » Diana Blasingame
- » Pamela Bone
- » Fran Clarke
- » Kay Clegg
- » Cathy Coulter
- » Pearl Eddy
- » Virginia Feagans
- » Joyce Gemmell
- » Rose Gong
- » Carol Graham
- » Fred Hoffman
- » Gwen Kilchherr
- » Greta Lacin
- » Dana Lozano
- » Marilyn Madrone
- » Gail McFarland
- » Val Myrick
- » Anita Pane
- » Duke Petersen
- » Marsha Prillwitz
- » Steve Radosevich
- » Candace Schuncke
- » Pamela Smith
- » Robin Stanley
- » Dmaris Whitehill
- » Ruth Wilson

### 30+ years

- » Elaine Byrd
- » Cathy Calef
- » Laura Cerles-Rogers
- » Yvonne Fee
- » Cathé Fish
- » Diane Galvan
- » Jennifer Greenfield
- » Caroline Hathaway
- » Cathy Holden
- » Nancy Kissam
- » Irene Krepak
- » Sandra Massen
- » Rosemary McCreary
- » Tony Mekisich
- » Theresa Phipps
- » Diane Pollock
- » Linda O'Connell
- » Jerry Rickard
- » Toots Van Ruiten
- » June Stewart
- » Cooki Vonasek
- » Lyn Woodall
- » Milli Wright

### 25+ years

- » Marie Antoniou
- » Reka Badger
- » Barbara Beck
- » Kim Belford
- » Gayle Bergmann
- » Bethallyn Black
- » Joan Borgman
- » Grace Boyle
- » Jackie Bradley
- » Barbara Brown-Neville
- » Bonnie Burrows-Gillespie
- » Mindy Cecchettini
- » Carole Chavin
- » John Chwistek
- » Jeannie Claypoole
- » Gail Cole
- » Emma Connery
- » Duane Cornett
- » Robbie Cranch
- » Loleta Cruse
- » Ellen Dana
- » Charlene Daniel
- » Tina Fein Dinitz
- » Betty Drake
- » Sharon Dunbar
- » Charles Baker Duncan
- » Eileen Duncan
- » Jerry Edwards
- » Marilou Ellis
- » Rita Evans
- » Joanie Finch
- » Elizabeth Finley
- » Joanne Geggatt
- » Charlotte Getz
- » Barbara Grieco
- » Hildegard Griffin
- » Sherrin Grout
- » Julie Guagliardo
- » Karen Hagen
- » Dianne Hanzlicek
- » Margaret Hart Lewis
- » Suzie Heap
- » Ersten Imaoka
- » Rosemary Imes
- » Jessie James
- » Linda Kadubec
- » Eve Keener
- » Bader Kudsi
- » Nancy Lange
- » Terumi Leinow
- » Denise Levine
- » Hazel Lew
- » Marie Loretta
- » Nancy Lower
- » Nancy Mack
- » Suzanne Mack-Loeber
- » Judith Macomber
- » Carole Manley
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- » Dorothy Notter
- » Leanne O'Neal
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- » Prabhakar Sathe
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- » Elinor Teague
- » Marge Tobias
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- » Jean Weiss
- » Gay Wilhelm
- » Ken Williams
- » Helene Winebrenner
- » Carol Jean Wolcott
- » Sharon Wulff
- » Alice Yee
- » Darlene Young

### 20+ years

- » Joanne Abing
- » Mario Abreu
- » Cidney Barcellos
- » Isabel Barkman
- » Diane Barlow
- » Gary Bartl
- » Julie Bawden Davis
- » Juanita Bedolla
- » Heidi Behnke
- » Oma Lyn Berry
- » Sally Blackburn
- » Judy Blackman
- » Mimi Blois-Sleigh
- » David Blood
- » Marrin Borg
- » Kate Bower
- » Margaret Bradford
- » Joyce Brahms Hennessey
- » Pat Bremmer
- » Eleanor Brown
- » Barbar Bumgarner
- » Marsha Burlingame
- » Dean Burnett
- » Betsy Buxton
- » Ellen Cadwallader
- » Louisa Cardenas
- » Janice Carey
- » Judy Carroll
- » Ingrid Cebula
- » Celia Chang
- » Kat Chapman
- » Margie Chiechi
- » Sam Chien
- » James Chou
- » Jessie Ciancetti
- » Kathy Cinowalt
- » Cherie Ciotti-Roco
- » Debbie Clinite
- » Judith Cody



- » Norma Cowden
- » Carolyn Craft
- » Michael Crandall
- » Ellen Daisher
- » Erica Dedon
- » Dottie Deems
- » Gary Delk
- » Lucille Dennis
- » Dick Dentino
- » Susan Deogracias
- » Gail DeVore
- » Donna Diehl
- » Anne Ekstrom
- » Barbara Elmore
- » Joyce Erlenbach
- » Birgitt Evans
- » Tom Farrell
- » Susan Ferrari
- » Thea Fiskin
- » Janet Fletcher
- » Diane Flyr
- » Sam Foushee
- » Marge Freeman
- » Gail Fulbeck
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- » Jan Kaufman
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- » Joanna Kemper
- » Jan Kendel
- » Bruce Kennedy
- » Peggy Kennedy
- » Carole Kent
- » Michael Kent
- » Barbara Kiernan
- » Jeannie Killingsworth
- » Linda King
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- » Jean Lee
- » Sandra Leich
- » Opal Lemmer
- » Gene Lilly
- » Mary Ann Lipsig
- » Bette Lloyd
- » Edgar Lo
- » Nancy Lockwood
- » Annette Longuevan
- » Susan Lukens
- » Patricia Lynch
- » Diane Lynch
- » Andrea MacDonald
- » Herb Machleder
- » Tamara Majcherek
- » Laura Majerus
- » Jim Maley
- » Pat Malone
- » Susan Marchetti
- » Penny Martin
- » Sharon Matson
- » Barbara Mattice
- » Cynthia McCabe
- » Joanna McClure
- » Stan McClymont
- » Linda McCormick
- » Sue McDavid
- » Jessica McGee
- » John McKean
- » Candice McLaren
- » Rohana McLaughlin
- » Susan Merrill
- » Karen Metz
- » Joe Michalek
- » Rebecca Miller-Cripps
- » Margaret Mills
- » Laura Monczynski
- » JoAnn Moore
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- » Rita Perwich
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- » Rose Pipkin
- » Nancy Pollock
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- » Cynthia Stojeba
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- » Julie Strnad
- » Cathy Teague
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- » Beth Teviotdale
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- » Jill Thompson
- » Dianne Tinnes
- » Charlotte Urban
- » Sue Van Stee
- » Robin Vance
- » Bev Vierra-Pennington
- » Frank Vogt
- » Dorothy Volker
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- » Elaine Walter
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- » Nora Weiner
- » Camille White
- » Rose Wikstad
- » Cathy Williamson
- » Janice Winsby
- » Elizabeth Wise
- » Bobbie Wright
- » Larry Wuerstle
- » Yasuko Yamakawa
- » Norma Yarbrough
- » Bob Yocum
- » Jan Youngquist

**15,000+ hours**

- » Michael Kent

**10,000–14,999 hours**

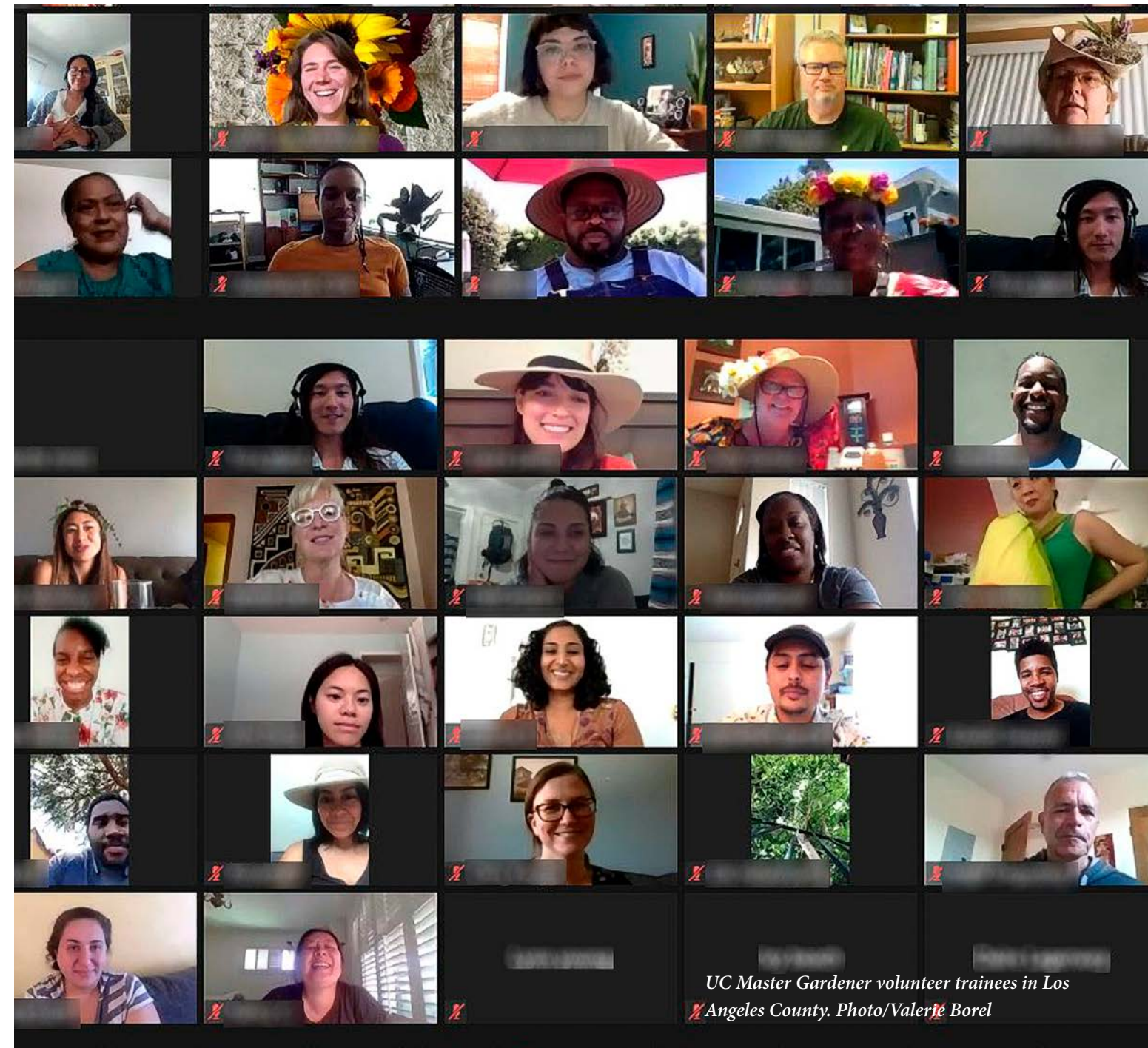
- » Sharon McCray
- » Rose Pipkin

**7,500–9,999 hours**

- » Leta Bender
- » Jane Cohen
- » Gail Cole
- » Fred Hoffman
- » Bette Lloyd
- » Ann Platzer
- » Dolores Ransom
- » Gail Pothour
- » Candace Simpson
- » Karen Schaffer
- » Bev Vierra-Pennington
- » Elizabeth Wise
- » Milli Wright

**5,000–7,499 hours**

- » Ed Andrade
- » Isabel Barkman
- » Otillia Bier
- » Bonnie Bradt
- » Allen Buchinski
- » Merry Campbell
- » Mindy Cecchetti
- » Laura Cerles-Rogers
- » Mary Collins
- » Emma Connery
- » Cathy Coulter
- » Judy Crall
- » DJ DeProspero
- » Rita Evans
- » Tamara Fine
- » Charlotte Getz
- » Carol Graham
- » Hope Henninger
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- » Alice Schwegman
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- » Beth Teviotdale
- » Marge Tobias
- » Cheryl Turner
- » Deb Turpin
- » Phyllis Turrill
- » Bonnie Wagner
- » Leimone Waite
- » Anne-Marie Walker
- » Jan Youngquist
- » Gretchen Zane



UC Master Gardener volunteer trainees in Los Angeles County. Photo/Valerie Borel

## 2,500–4,999 hours

- » Cindy Andrade
- » Ingrid Angelini
- » Judy Ascherman
- » Ruth (Rusty) Avery
- » Dawn Avery
- » Marco Baldi
- » Sidney Barcellos
- » Karen Basso
- » Karena Beasley
- » Irene Beebe
- » Peggy Beltramo
- » Peggy Black
- » Joe Boldt
- » Pamela Bone
- » Jackie Bradley
- » Alanna Brady
- » Barbara Brown-Neville
- » Cindy Bruecks
- » Stan Bunce
- » Sheri Burke
- » Ann Burrell
- » Betsy Buxton
- » Pat Caffrey
- » Cathy Calef
- » Elizabeth Calhoon
- » Jane Callier
- » Louisa Cardenas
- » Susan Carter
- » Cie Cary
- » Don Chapman
- » Carole Chavin
- » James Chou
- » Fran Clarke
- » Anita Clevenger
- » Joan Cloutier
- » Judith Cody
- » Debra Corbin-Euston
- » Mary Jo Corby
- » Mike Corby
- » Nancy Creveling
- » Ellen Daisher
- » Electra de Peyster
- » Pat Decker
- » Mary Perez Dong
- » Jennifer Dornbush
- » Dorothy Downing
- » Chris Drees
- » Nora Dvosin
- » Bonnie Dwyer
- » Jerry Edwards
- » Kathy Eisele
- » Helen Erickson
- » Birgitt Evans
- » Elizabeth Evans
- » Linda Ewing
- » Tom Farrell
- » Anne Fenkner
- » Jan Fetler
- » Elizabeth Fischer
- » Kathleen Fitzgerald-Orr
- » Sam Foushee
- » Jim Fowler
- » Terry Freeto
- » Doug Freier
- » Meredith French
- » Jill Fugaro
- » Gail Fulbeck
- » Joyce Gemmell
- » Linda Genis
- » Karen Gideon
- » Nancy Giffin
- » Rose Gong
- » "D" Graner
- » Kelle Green
- » Don Grime
- » Karen Hagen
- » Gerry Hanford
- » Stephanie Hargrave
- » Michael Harman
- » Pauline Haro
- » Caroline Hathaway
- » Teresa Hawkes
- » Chris Hays
- » Nancy Helt
- » Carol Henrie
- » Lucy Heyming
- » Debbie Hillel
- » Phil Hinderberger
- » Joyce Hirano
- » Barry Hoffman
- » Deyana Hopkins
- » Julian Hoyle
- » Paula Jaffe
- » Jessie James
- » Sheila James
- » Virginia Janovitch
- » Rebecca Jepsen
- » Elizabeth Johnson
- » James Johnson
- » Vicki Joslin
- » Peggy Katz
- » Jan Keahey
- » Eve Keener
- » Joanna Kemper
- » Melody Kendall
- » Barbara Kiernan
- » Linda Kilfeather
- » John Kincade
- » Linda King
- » Paul Knowles
- » Bader Kudsi
- » Mark LaMorte
- » Sharon Lampton
- » Nicolai Laquaglia
- » Barbara Lashbrook
- » Kris Lauritson
- » Meredith Lavene
- » Mary Lou Ledgerwood
- » Phyllis Lee
- » Harry Lee
- » Joe Lees
- » Opal Lemmer
- » Lane Leonard
- » Terry Lippert
- » Julie Lorenzen
- » Marie Loretta
- » Sue Lovelace
- » Judy MacKenzie
- » Jim Maley
- » Susan Marchetti
- » Virginia Martin
- » Joan Martin
- » Gail Mason
- » Betty Massey
- » Peggy Mathers
- » Kathy Matonak
- » Sharon Matson
- » Sandra McCormick
- » Rosemary McCreary
- » Sharon McDonnell
- » Tony Mekisich
- » Janet Miller
- » Roberta Miller
- » Nancy Mills
- » Laura Monczynski
- » JoAnn Moore
- » Henry Morales II
- » Odile Morrison
- » Marie Narlock
- » Gayle Nelson
- » Florence Nishida
- » Adrienne O'Brien
- » Carol O'Donnell
- » Gwen Oliver
- » Monika Olsen
- » John Otto
- » Lisa Page
- » Linda Parsons
- » Beverly Pastore
- » Penny Pawl
- » Kim Pearson
- » Theresa Pecoraro
- » Kay Perkins
- » Dave Peterson
- » Kortne Phillips
- » Ginny Piazza
- » Jennifer Pilfold
- » Carol Sue Piros
- » Barbara Poff
- » Sally Potts
- » Sonya Prestridge
- » Mo Price
- » Martha Proctor
- » Sarah Sally Pyle
- » Judy Quan
- » Sharon Radish
- » Stephen Rae
- » Gregory Rager
- » Pat Randolph
- » Carole Reek
- » Sherry Richards
- » Sharon Rico
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- » Marcia Rosenberg
- » Liz Rottger
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- » Nancie Ryan
- » Pauline Sakai
- » Jon Schara
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- » Robin Stanley
- » Laura Starr
- » Mary Steele
- » Tami Stolte
- » Julie Strnad
- » Connie Suddath
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- » Ann Swanson
- » Terri Takusagawa
- » Bonnie Thalken
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- » Marilyn Wieland
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- » Helen Willoughby-Peck
- » Kim Wilson
- » Patricia Wolfe
- » Lyn Woodall
- » Stephanie Wrightson
- » Norma Yarbrough
- » Corinne Yoshihara
- » Cindy Young



Photo/Elëna Zhukova

# DONORS HELP US GROW

Despite everyday life being impacted by COVID-19, the UC Master Gardener Program experienced steady growth in philanthropic giving. Donors across the state provided support as we adapted to new challenges and changes in the way we delivered programming. We are so fortunate to have the support of our remarkable donors. You are essential in helping us succeed in our mission. Thank you all!

For more information on ways to give to the UC Master Gardener Program, please visit [mg.ucanr.edu/support](http://mg.ucanr.edu/support).

2019	2020
\$265,445	\$267,492
895 donors	2121 donors

## \$10,000+

- » Master Gardener Assn. of Fresno
- » Michael Harbert
- » Shanna Thompson

## \$5,000+

- » Anonymous gifts (2)
- » Fair Oaks Blvd Nursery
- » Linda Millar
- » Carolyn Singer

## \$2,500+

- » Jackson Family Wines, Inc.
- » Monterey Bay Master Gardeners
- » Occidental College Ridge Road Garden Center
- » Clio Tarazi
- » Cathy Williamson
- » Wendy Kennedy
- » Carol A. Moss

## \$1,000+

- » Anonymous gifts (3)
- » Barceloux-Tibessart Foundation
- » Katharine Barnes
- » Robert Buelteman
- » California Urban Forests Council
- » Ellen Callaway
- » Carney Heritage Benevolent Fund
- » Susan Carter
- » Anita Clevenger
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- » Margaret Donaldson Inc.
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- » Susan Fritz
- » Garibaldi Company
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- » Harmony Farm Supply
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- » Devon Jackson
- » Kellogg Supply Inc.
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- » Ron Raddigan
- » Daniela Roveda
- » Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- » Sarah Sheehan
- » Siemens Capital Company
- » Lynette Smith
- » Sutter-Yuba Community Foundation
- » Trece, Inc.
- » Jennifer Upson
- » Anne-Marie Walker
- » Margaret Warren
- » Whole Kids Foundation
- » Kirby Wilcox

## \$500+

- » Albion Environmental, Inc.
- » Barbara H. Allen-Diaz
- » Annie's Annuals & Perennials
- » Arden Hills Resort & Spa
- » Atherton Garden Guild
- » Belinda Beckett
- » Sylvia L. Bender
- » Anne Bettencourt
- » Robert Bronte
- » Gerald K. Cahill
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- » Laura Dawson
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- » Trece, Inc.
- » Jennifer Upson
- » Anne-Marie Walker
- » Margaret Warren
- » Whole Kids Foundation
- » Kirby Wilcox

## \$250+

- » Anonymous gifts (7)
- » Admiralty Land Lovers Garden Club
- » Emmett Aepli
- » Edward Andrade
- » Victoria Applegate
- » Louis Astbury
- » Margaret Bahan
- » Terry Ball
- » Jolie Baron
- » Gina Barrett
- » Karen Basso
- » Rebecca Bednar
- » Irene Beebe
- » Mark Bell
- » Katherine Bower
- » Lynne L. Brewer
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- » Rita Burgess
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- » James Ferrell
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- » Karen Fleisher
- » Bill Floyd
- » Teruko Follette
- » Catherine Fraser
- » William E. Frost
- » Rowland Gaal
- » Melissa Gable
- » Anita Galeana
- » Aixa Gannon
- » Garden Centers Club - Laguna Woods
- » Garden Club of Laguna Woods
- » Gregory Gibbs
- » Elizabeth Gibbs
- » Anne Haddix
- » Linda A. Hahn
- » Debbie Handal
- » Hanford Garden Club
- » Audrey E. Hargis
- » Sally Harmsworth
- » Alyssa Harris
- » Leah Haynes
- » Nicola Helm
- » Joyce Hirano
- » Rainer Hoenicke
- » Janet Holland
- » Candis Hong
- » Peter J. Horton
- » Glenda Humiston
- » Barbara B. Johnson
- » Bonnie Jones-Lee
- » Hugh Kelly
- » Annie R. Kempees
- » William Klausung
- » Eliza Koch
- » Caroline Koss
- » Maria A. Krenek
- » Cindy Monroe Kuo
- » Lake Forest Garden Club
- » Robin Larzelere
- » Kristine Lauritson
- » Vincent F. Lazaneo
- » BJ Ledyard
- » Martha Lee
- » Candice Lenney
- » Barbara Linder
- » Maria G. Lopez
- » Christine Lovell
- » Marin Child Care Council
- » Susan Marini
- » Fay Mark
- » Renee Marler
- » Kathleen J. Martin
- » David Martinez
- » Amy Masor
- » Robert Mauceli
- » Amy Mayfield
- » Patricia McAleer
- » Susan McCorry
- » Kimberly McCue
- » Frank H. McPherson
- » Deborah Meiswinkel
- » Susan B. Merrill
- » Angie Miller
- » Phyllis A. Molnar
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- » Julie Montanari
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- » Dana Morgan
- » Morningsun Herb Farm
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- » Robert C. Nagel
- » Laurel Nagle
- » Steven Nation
- » Cynthia Nations
- » Mary Nesel
- » Kimberly Nielsen-Glynn
- » Oakmont Garden Club
- » Laurinda Ochoa
- » Carol M. O'Donnell
- » Elsie Oliveira
- » William Owen
- » Pleasant Hill Garden Study Club
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- » Sharon P. Wentz
- » Dianne Weyna
- » Kim Wilson
- » Muriel F. Wilson
- » Angela S. Wilson
- » William Winkelman
- » Margaret K. Wong
- » Marjorie Wray
- » Norma D. Yarbrough
- » Rhoda Yare
- » Mary Yausy
- » Betty Yee
- » Darlene Young
- » Jan Youngquist
- » Ellen Zaslansky
- » Sharon Zornes

## 2019/2020 COUNTY PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

The impact made by the program in counties across the state would not be possible without our incredible network of program coordinators, advisors, county directors, and volunteer leaders (*listed in alphabetical order by county*).

### Alameda & Contra Costa



Dawn Kooyumjian

### Amador & El Dorado



Tracy Celio

### Butte



Karina Hathorn

### Calaveras & Tuolumne



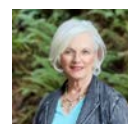
Debbie Powell

### Colusa



Gerry Hernandez

### Del Norte & Humboldt



Sherida Phibbs

### Fresno & Madera



Denise Cuendett

### Glenn



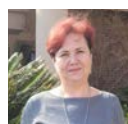
Betsy Karle

### Inyo & Mono



Dustin Blakey

### Kings & Tulare



Aliya Bayless

### Lake



Louise Pagone

### Lake Tahoe Basin



Megan Suarez-Brand

### Lassen, Plumas, & Sierra



David Life

### Los Angeles



Valerie Borel

### Marin



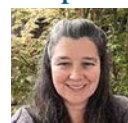
Vicki Crase

### Marin



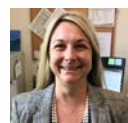
Rebecca Ryan

### Mariposa



Sheri Mace

### Mendocino



Michelle Stout

### Merced



Maxwell Norton

### Monterey & Santa Cruz



Maria de la Fuente

### Napa



Yvonne Rasmussen

### Placer & Nevada



Kevin Marini

### Orange



Randy Musser

### Riverside



Rosa Olaiz

### Sacramento



Judy McClure

### San Bernardino



Maggie O'Neill

### San Diego



Scott Parker

### San Joaquin



Marcy Sousa

### San Luis Obispo



Maria Murrietta

### San Francisco & San Mateo



Kali Burke

### Santa Barbara



Danica Taber

### Santa Clara



Katherine Uhde

### Shasta



Leimone Waite

### Solano & Yolo



Jennifer Baumbach

### Sonoma



Mimi Enright

### Stanislaus



Anne Schellman

### Sutter & Yuba



Julie Bowen

### Sutter & Yuba



Janine Hasey

### Trinity



Larry Forero

### Ventura



Alexa Hendricks

## Statewide support



**Missy Gable**  
Statewide Director



**Marisa Coyne**  
Volunteer Engagement Coordinator



**Lauren Snowden**  
Training Coordinator



**Tamekia Wilkins, Ph.D.**  
Evaluation Coordinator



**Melissa Womack**  
Marketing Coordinator



**Kelly Scott**  
Major Gifts Officer

## Advisory committee

**Ann Daniel**  
Volunteer,  
Yolo County

**Janet Hartin**  
Environmental Horticulture  
Advisor & County Director

**Judy McClure**  
Program Coordinator,  
Sacramento County

**Lorence Oki, Ph.D.**  
Specialist,  
Landscape Horticulture

**Marcy Sousa**  
Program Coordinator,  
San Joaquin County

**Candace Simpson**  
Volunteer,  
Santa Clara County

**Andrew Sutherland, Ph.D.**  
UC Integrated Pest  
Management Advisor

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