



December 4, 2025

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«Name»

«Street 1»

«City», «State», «Postal Code»

Dear «First Name»,

Did you know that nearly one-third of the food on our tables depends on pollinators — especially bees? Yet these essential creatures continue to face enormous pressure from habitat loss, pesticides, parasites, and a rapidly changing climate.

At Help Save the Bees Foundation (HSBF), our mission is simple but urgent: **to inspire, educate, and empower our community to protect bees and the ecosystems that depend on them.**

As 2025 comes to a close — and as native bee queens across Nevada settle underground and under leaves for their long winter rest — we're reflecting on a year filled with purpose, growth, and community connection. Thanks to supporters, like you, this was one of our strongest years yet.

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## **2025 Highlights — Powered by Your Support**

### **Valley Wood Wildlife Gardens**

- Planted **over 300 new native and pollinator-friendly plants** across the gardens.
- Installed **six brand-new educational trail signs**—funded entirely by donors—teaching visitors about turfgrass alternatives and pollinator habitat.
- Hosted **three major volunteer cleanups** and **three free public tours**.
- Supported the **Reno Area Pollinator Garden Tour**, welcoming visitors from across the region.

### **Booth & Community Education**

- Earth Day at TMCC
- Jewish Nevada's Milk & Honey Festival at the McKinley Arts Center
- Bowers Mansion Bluegrass Festival
- World Bee Day celebration at Patagonia

At each bee education booth event, our volunteers engaged families, students, and community members with hands-on learning—often featuring our observation hive with live bees.

### **Kids & Bees Outreach**

This is one of the most joyful parts of our mission, and 2025 was huge:

- ABF Kids & Bees Expo – 350+ kids and adults
- Tahoe Expeditionary Academy – 25 kids
- River School Farm – 30 kids
- Great Basin Institute – 25 kids
- Urban Roots – 100 kids
- American Honey Queen school visits – 10 schools, 450 kids

Hundreds of children had their first close-up, wonder-filled introduction to the world of bees.



## Presentations, Advocacy & Special Events

- Hosted American Beekeeping Federation Conference, 1/9—1/11/2025
- Sponsored NV State Beekeeping Conference, 2/20—2/22/25
- Nevada Legislature AB 85 hearing – 2/26/25
- Bee & Garden Conference (Minden, NV) – 3/20—3/22/25, HSBF helped organize and presented multiple sessions
- “Bee Movie Night” panel – 4/23/25
- World Bee Day Festival – 5/20/25, produced by HSBF at Idlewild Park (and returning May 20, 2026!)
- Sage Ridge School – 6/3/25
- Great Basin Institute Gala – 10/3/25
- Jim Trowbridge Memorial 5K Race – 10/11/25

This work is only possible because of generous community partners and supporters.

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## Our Plans for 2026 — and Why We Need Your Support

Looking ahead, HSBF is preparing for an even more impactful year. In 2026, we plan to:

- Expand Kids & Bees outreach to more schools and youth programs
- Grow our volunteer base to support increased demand for education booths and classroom visits
- Add more native plantings and habitat enhancements at Valley Wood Wildlife Gardens
- Produce the **World Bee Day Festival on May 20, 2026**, with expanded family activities and partnerships
- Support additional pollinator-friendly garden tours and educational events across northern Nevada

We remain a **fully volunteer-run organization**—no paid staff, just a dedicated hive of passionate people working to protect a key-stone species.

**But to continue (and grow) this important work, we truly need your help.**

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## Can We Count on Your Support This Year?

Your tax-deductible gift makes a real impact:

- \$25 provides hands-on educational materials for a child
- \$50 supports new native plantings
- \$100 helps expand Kids & Bees outreach
- \$250 sponsors a trail sign or classroom presentation
- \$500+ strengthens programs across our entire community

**Please consider making a gift today** to help us continue educating, inspiring, and building pollinator-friendly spaces throughout the Reno area.

You can give online at:

<https://helpsavethebeesfoundation.org/donate>

Or mail a check to:

**Help Save the Bees Foundation**

1708 Sierra Highlands Dr.

Reno, NV 89523

Thank you for bee-ing generous this holiday season—and for helping protect the pollinators that sustain our food, our gardens, and our future.

With gratitude,



**Joseph Schmitt**  
President



**Ray Hopper**  
Treasurer

