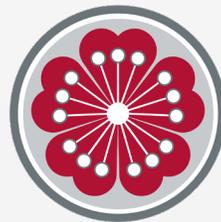




WSU Extension Master Gardener Program

Program, Foundation and the relationship that binds





Program/Foundation Relations

Agenda

Purpose:

- Offer best practices for a mutually beneficial Program and Foundation partnership.

Strategies for Success:

- Hand-in-glove, differences/similarities, structures, revenues, support, branding

Reflection with Group Work

- Mutually beneficial relationship

Case Studies



Partnerships are key



Our purpose

Mission

Engaging university-trained volunteers to empower and sustain diverse communities with relevant, unbiased, research-based horticulture and environmental stewardship education.



Our direction

Vision

Highly recognized, diverse and fully supported, WSU Master Gardener volunteers are the go-to resource for communities seeking research-based, innovative solutions for their ever-changing horticulture and environmental stewardship needs.



Cohesive Statewide Program

Highly trained, competent
and engage volunteers

- Know and understand our program's purpose
- Know, understand and can explain how what they do supports the educational mission of WSU, Extension, and the Master Gardener program.
- Support the telling of a compelling and impactful story.
- Are a household name and a go to resource.
- Are empowered to develop, implement & evaluate mission and vision achieving programming.



Program/Foundation Relations

- History: Program and Foundation definitions
- Struggles and Successes
- Strategies: minimize the struggles, maximize the successes.
- Impact: the difference we can make





DEFINITIONS

ORGANIZATIONAL

WSU Extension Master Gardener Program

Engaging university-trained volunteers to empower and sustain diverse communities with relevant, unbiased, research-based horticulture and environmental stewardship education.

Master Gardener Foundations

Non-profit 501(c) 3 organizations that typically donates funds to support the goals of another organization.

Foundations support their local programs by funding outreach activities, demo gardens, program promotion, and other deliverables as agreed upon between Extension and the MG Foundation in the MOA



DEFINITIONS

VOLUNTEERS

WSU Extension Master Gardener volunteers

- Trained by WSU to be community educators
- Certified to teach horticulture and environmental stewardship
- Represent WSU Extension
- Fulfill the Land-Grant mission

Master Gardener Foundation volunteers

- EMG's who agree to be members of the local Foundation
- Volunteer their time to acquire assets to support the program
- Fund program mission efforts like plant clinic resources, demo gardens, farmers' markets



THE

RELATIONSHIP

Successes-the pros

- Easy access to funds
- Empowers volunteers
- Volunteer recognition
- County specific support
- County specific programming

Struggles-the unintended cons

- Easy access to funds
- Empowers volunteers
- Foundation holds the purse-strings, so
- Foundation drives the direction of the program



RELATIONSHIP

Struggles

WSU Extension Master Gardener Perspective

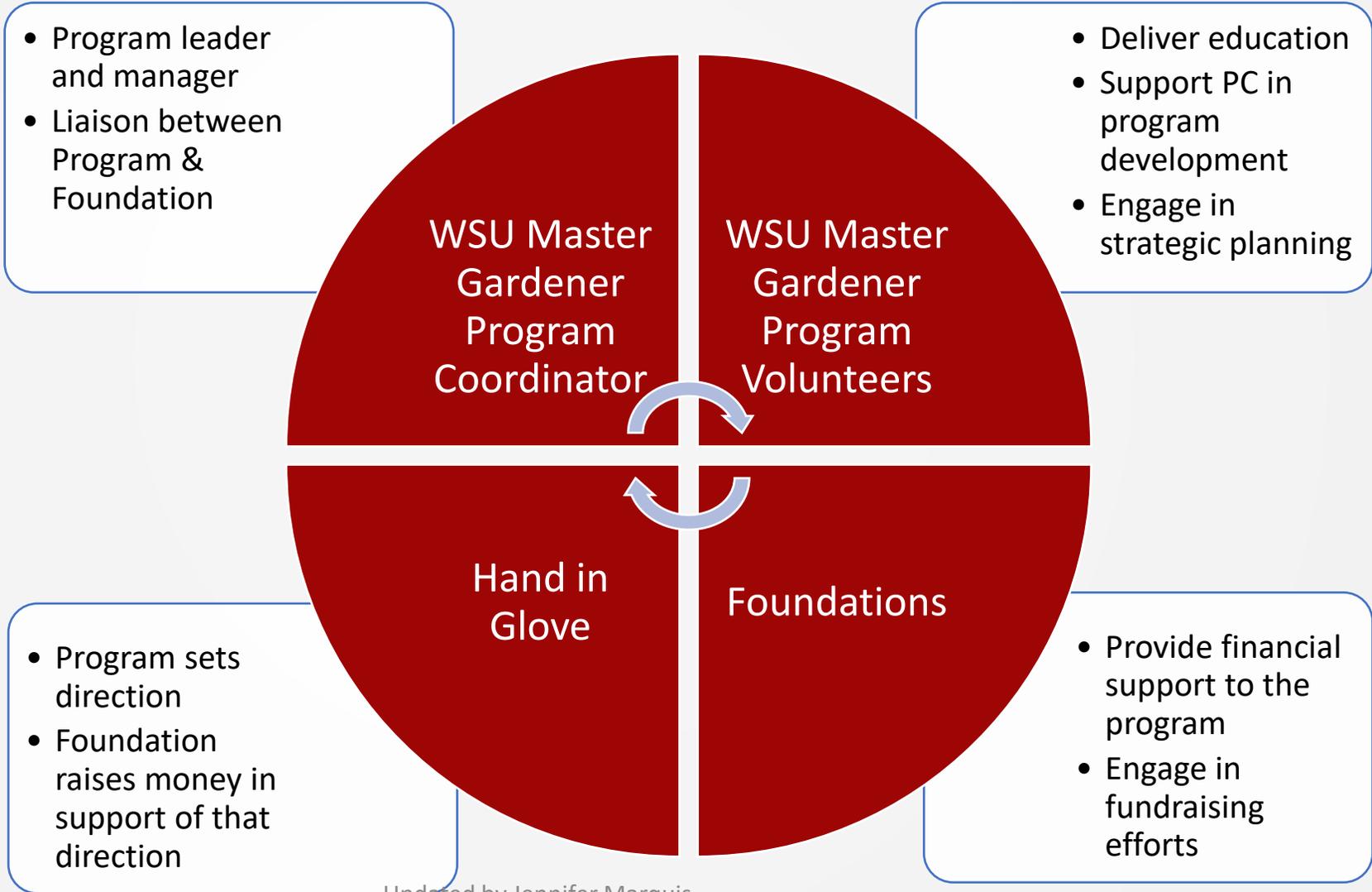
- Foundations tie funds to the direction *they* want to go.
- Lack of alignment and coordination between Program and Foundation.
- Leads volunteers to ‘What does WSU do for us?’
- Lack of acknowledgement of the value WSU provides.

Master Gardener Foundation Perspective

- State and county facilities, staffing and funding often do not provide sufficient support.
- Program planning process, using the Advisory Committee, does not work in all counties.
- Lack of cognition around foundation by-laws, policies and procedures, MOA’s.
- Lack of acknowledgement of the value the Foundations provide.



HAND-IN-GLOVE





Differences and Similarities



WSU Extension Volunteer

Basic/intern training

Planning for and
delivering educational
outreach.

When serving on
Program advisory
committees and/or
leadership teams, and
when doing strategic
planning

Foundation Volunteer

Planning for and
delivering fundraising
events-plant sales,
garden tours

When serving on the
Foundation board, when
representing the
Foundation on a Program
committee

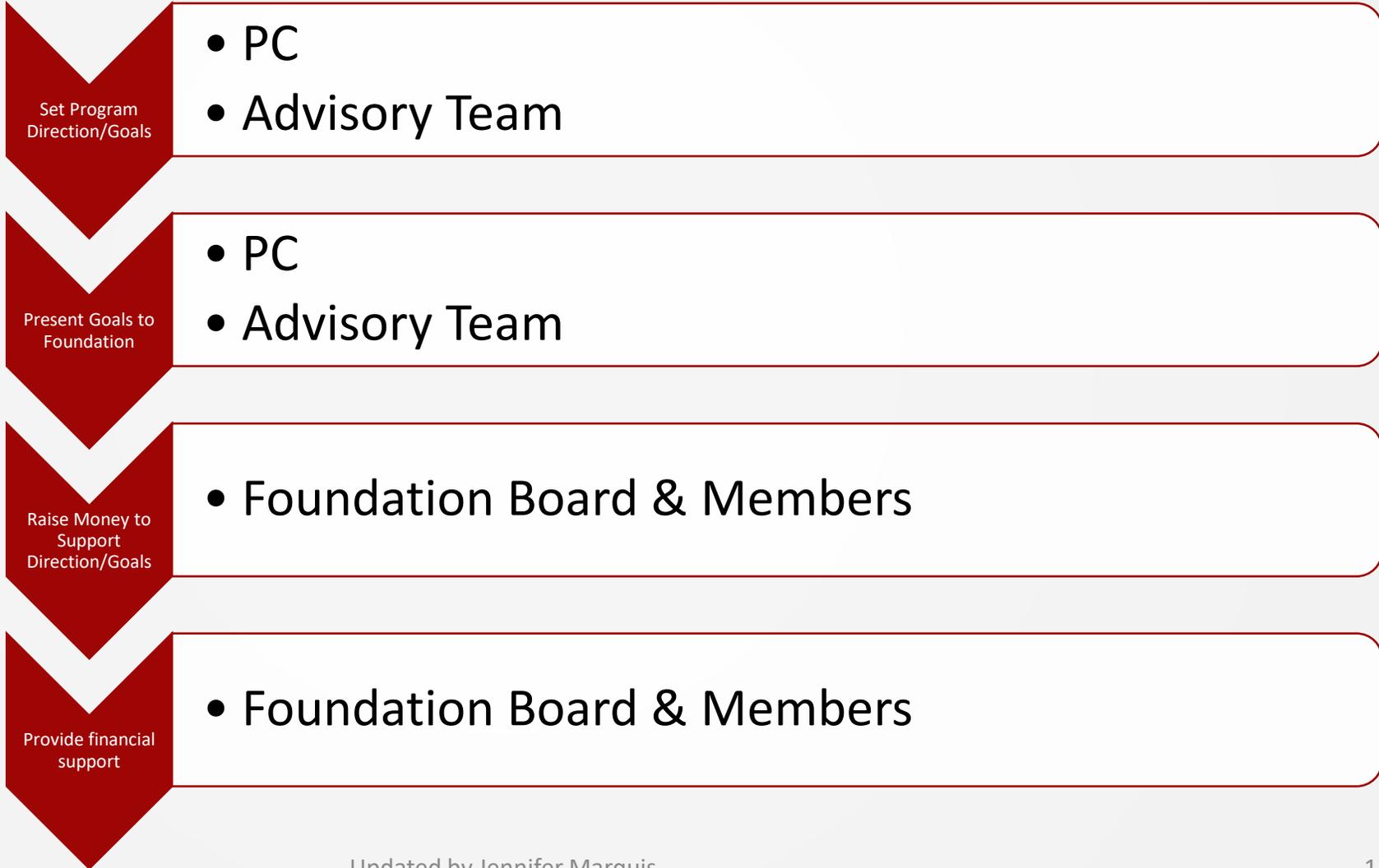
Blurred Spaces

Planning for and
delivering an educational
event that is also
fundraising

Foundation structure
used to plan an activity



Supporting Structures





REVENUE-DEPOSIT ACCORDINLY



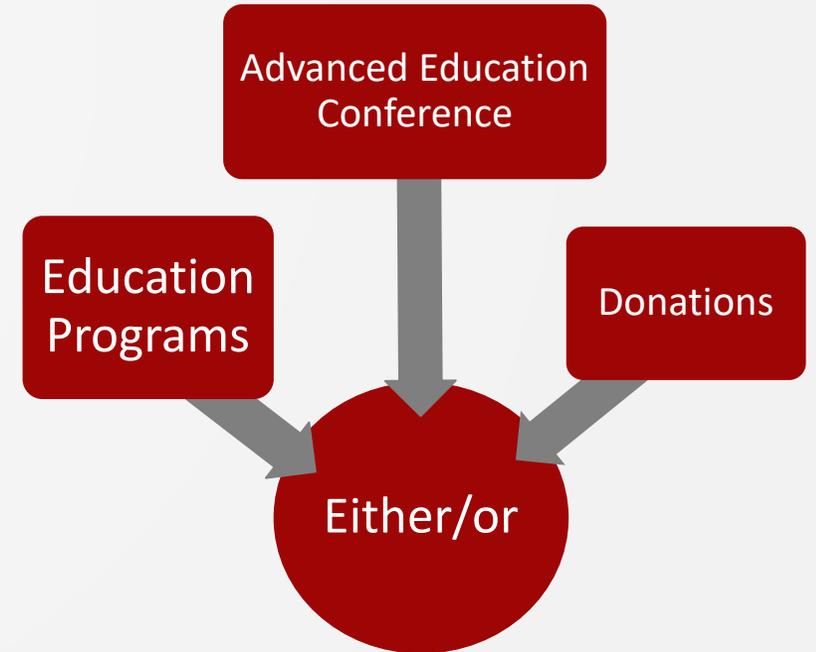
Revenue generated from WSU delivered programs



Revenue generated from Fdn delivered events



Examples of blurred areas

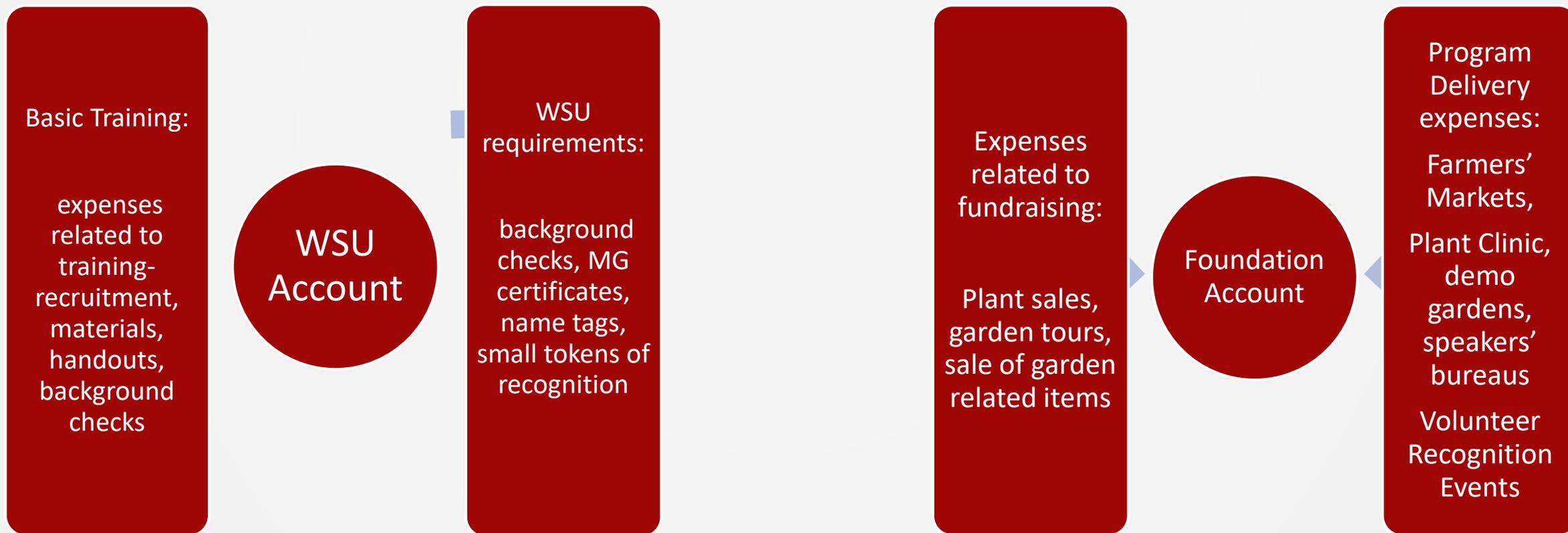




Supporting Volunteers

WSU Accounts Pay for:

Foundation Accounts pay for:





Branding-hosting, sponsoring

WSU Extension Branded

Basic Training

Educational
Outreach

Co-Branded

Planning,
implementing and
delivering fundraising
events

When serving on the
board, when
representing the
Foundation on a
Program committee

Foundation Branded

Planning
implementing and
delivering an
educational event
that is also
fundraising

Foundation structure
used to plan an
activity

Determining Brand

- Does the activity serve the Program mission?
- Is the activity WSU EMG Coordinator approved?
- Do volunteers enter time in GivePulse?



Case Study

Educational Workshop

Butch T Cougar County Master Gardener **Foundation** hosts an educational workshop series each year. Hundreds of people purchase tickets to attend generating nearly \$10K. The series is entirely educational. Volunteers use the structure of the Foundation to plan the event and the Foundation receives the revenue generated. The event is billed and branded with Foundation marks only.

Follow-up surveys indicate attendees were satisfied with the event, learned new things and plan to put new techniques into practice in their gardens.

Event evaluation found that better planning and coordination between the **Program** and Foundation would result in a stronger event.

- Is this a Foundation event or a Program event? Why?
- How might the way this event is billed and branded change?
- How might the Program be involved in the planning and implementation of event?
- What is the Foundation's role in planning and implementing this event?



Case Study

Strategic Planning

WSU Butch T Cougar County Extension Master Gardener **Program** recently worked to update their mission and vision, then create a strategic plan. They held meetings in their service area with community partners, local elected officials, and other experts who serve the horticulture community. The questions they asked were simple: how do you view our organization; what do you believe to be our greatest successes, services, and assets; and how can we further improve the delivery of our mission?

They received excellent feedback and collected important information during their process. They now need to identify next steps, including how this work influences and guides the **Foundation** that provides their financial support.

- What are the three next steps you would recommend to the Program?
- In what ways should the Foundation be involved in the process?
- How might the information collected change Program processes?
- In what way might Foundation practices change?



Strategies for Success

1. Understand the Hand-in-Glove
2. Differentiate the HAT you're wearing when
3. Implement supporting structures.
4. Receive and deposit revenue into appropriate account
5. Support volunteers with WSU accounts
6. Brand and co-brand as appropriate





How might implementation of strategies improve the Program and Foundation Relationship?



How would the relationship be improved?

Implementation of Strategies

How would our relationships be improved if:

- everyone exhibited the best hand-in-glove practices?
- everyone could easily differentiate the volunteer roles played in the Program and the Foundation?
- our revenue streams and how they're to be used were clearly documented?
- volunteers felt supported by WSU Extension?
- everyone understood how to brand our activities and all of our projects were branded appropriately?
- there were documented and easily understood structures and processes in place that support a mutually beneficial relationship?



IMPLEMENTATION IMPACT

STRATEGIES WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE



HAND IN GLOVE

- PC's, volunteers and staff will have a better understanding of the puzzle
- Structures and processes in place to support a healthy hand in glove relationship and succession plans

October 3, 2022



VOLUNTEER HATS

- Volunteers will learn to and slowly understand the different roles they serve
- Volunteers will have an understanding for all the WSU does for them

Updated by Jennifer Marquis



REVENUE STREAMS

- Provide funding to serve MG volunteers
- Mitigate the 'what does WSU do for me' mantra



IMPLEMENTATION IMPACT

STRATEGIES WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE



BRANDING

- Provide much needed exposure for the WSU Extension Master Gardener Program
- Align volunteers with WSU Extension
- Accurately depict the Program/Foundation partnership



STRUCTURES

- Advisory team will engage volunteers in program planning
- Program will lead educational outreach events and activities
- Foundation will lead fundraising activities
- Program and Foundation work hand-in-glove.



COMBINATION

- Will send a consistent message that WSU Extension is fully supportive
- Volunteers will see WSU as an institution that provides them with what they need.
- A positive, healthy culture is the ultimate impact.



Summary

- History
- Relationships
- Shared missions
- Shared passions
- The whole is greater than the sum of its parts!
- Cultivating Plants, People and Communities since 1973!





THANK YOU ALL!

QUESTIONS?

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