



Cultivating Inclusion News

Jan-Jun 2025



The biggest news this June for Cultivating Inclusion Farm is the honor of being recognized as one of five recipients that was awarded for **Outstanding Community Service** by the Western Riverside Council of Governments ([WRCOG](#)). We are so thankful to the City of Murrieta for their ongoing support. This recognition means a lot to our volunteers and supporters who have given much to make Cultivating Inclusion Farm what it is today. Thank you ALL!



(Raquel, Barbie, Mary Ann, Marty, Gloria, Teri and Brenda Dennstedt-WRCOG chairwoman)



Spring Planting

Our butterfly lane is filled with gorgeous flowers in late spring, lots of birds, bees and butterflies humming happily. Spring planting is producing an abundant of harvest...a variety of tomatoes, squashes and eggplants, strawberries, carrots, cucumber, tomatillos, long beans, onions, garlic, herbs and more.



8,375 pounds of
produce donated in
the last 6 months!!

History: Cultivation Inclusion Farm is the brainchild of four dedicated women with special needs children. With a vision of helping young adults with special needs develop practical skills in a garden setting, they started this project in Fall 2014 with the support of the City of Murrieta. The garden became a 501(c)(3) non-profit with public charity status in June of 2018.

Mission: To enhance the quality of life of special needs individuals by providing a garden space where they can connect with nature, gain agricultural experience through farming and gardening activities, and contribute to the local community by producing fresh fruits and vegetables to donate to food banks.



Compost, Bees and Barn Owls!



New additions to our farm during this period include a barn owl box in the orchard, a new bench and a little free library filled with garden related books, all donated by Eagle Scouts. Our core volunteers have also started a new composting program which is working amazingly well. The beehives now have calmer queens and subsequently, more friendly worker bees flying around the farm.

Educational and Fun Activities

Young adult groups that come to the farm this year have helped with a variety of farm chores including planting, watering, weeding, trimming dead leaves, preparing cuttings for compost, harvesting and weighing produce. In addition, our core volunteers have come together to prepare lesson plans and fun activities each week. We have had various faith-based groups (Orchard, Latter Day Saints, Sunridge) and organizations (Murrieta Rotary Club, National Charity League) volunteering their time here. Summer has also brought high school and college students to volunteer. We value teamwork and appreciate all the help we can get. It takes a community to make this farm grow!



Cultivating Inclusion farm is open weekdays from 9-11 a.m. 39775 Alta Murrieta Dr, Murrieta. For a tour or to volunteer, call Mary Ann Tams (951) 296-7756.