

On being able to count...

Just how many people have volunteered at Mesa Harmony Garden? Maybe we should have kept better count, but we've all been busy pitching in. So much has been achieved towards our vision of growing lots of healthy, fresh produce for the Foodbank – and for all the people who depend on that fine organization to put food on the table.

At a guess, I would imagine that in the fifteen months that since we started, as many as 100 people have turned up and made a practical contribution to the effort. So it's not just fruit trees that we've been growing up here; a whole new community has been growing as well.



Kids of all ages get together to dig holes, throw mulch around, and take delight in the never-ending wonder of watching things grow. "I planted that" you say to yourself as the months go by and a beautiful tree emerges from the bare stick you once stuck in the ground.



If we hadn't been so busy digging holes, making gopher baskets, planting trees and spreading mulch, we might have kept a better count of all our wonderful volunteers. But we did learn very early on that we could count on people to keep on coming, and to keep on putting in the hard work that was needed to make all this possible.

We have been doing some counting: how much is it going to cost to keep developing the site? There's our contribution to a new fence to separate the garden from the play area. There's the rainwater harvesting systems that will relieve the Holy Cross church of having to pay our water bill. And there's always the few things we need to buy despite the many generous gifts in kind we've had bestowed upon us.

We need to raise \$3000 to meet these costs. If you can, please send a check to the address below. Can we count on you to help us meet our target?

Next volunteer day: Workshop with tree grafting expert Bruce Van Dyke
Saturday, January 7th, 9am – 12:30.
Corner of Meigs Road and Dolores Drive.

For more information about the garden, and to join our email list, visit:
www.mesaharmonygarden.org

Please support our work by volunteering, or by sending donations (we're a 501(c)3 nonprofit) to:
Mesa Harmony Garden, c/o Holy Cross Church, 1740 Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93109

