



Program Year 2019-2020 4R's Grants Program: Final List of Grantees and Projects

The San Mateo County Office of Sustainability (OOS) opened the 4R's Grants Program cycle for the 2019-2020 Program Year in January 2019. The program offers two tiers of funding: (1) Mini Grant (\$1,000 to \$5,000) and (2) Mega Grant (up to \$25,000). A total of 53 applications were submitted: 24 applications for the Mega Grant and 29 applications for the Mini Grant. An evaluation committee reviewed and scored the applications. Based on the results of the evaluation, OOS has awarded 26 grantees – 11 grantees for the Mega Grant and 15 grantees for the Mini Grant – for a combined total grant amount of \$302,038 to be disbursed starting in summer 2019 into summer 2020. Below is a summary of the new 4R's Grants recipients:

Total Program Year 2019-20 Grant Funding Allocation \$302,038

4R's Mega Grant (Up to \$25,000)

#	Grantee	Project Name	Project Summary	Approved Grant Funding
1	Fresh Approach	Growing soil, food, and community through Community Composting Hubs	Fresh Approach will develop a replicable model for a Community Composting Hub to be maintained by a group of volunteers through its Community Compost Volunteer Program. Grant funds will support the establishment of a Composting Hub and Compost Volunteer Program at the Collective Roots Community Garden in East Palo Alto. This project will educate, equip, and empower underserved communities in San Mateo County to create new habits around food waste reduction by expanding access to high-quality compost for local food growing. Fresh Approach will develop a Best Practices Guide from the results of this project, share this guide with community gardens county-wide and provide technical assistance to interested community gardens.	\$25,000
2	Sea Hugger	Microplastic Removal and Education Program	The Sea Hugger will educate San Mateo County schoolchildren and the general public about the dangers of microplastic and show them how to reduce their plastic waste through hands-on education. The project will place a SeaBin (a recycling bin in the ocean) in Pillar Point Harbor to clean up large pieces of plastic in the water and sort it for recycling. A special	\$25,000

			trommel screen will be used to remove microplastics at San Mateo County beaches. Sea Hugger will provide workshops to a selection of bayside and coastside schools on plastic pollution generation and its effects on the ocean, watersheds and stormwater.	
3	San Mateo County Office of Education	The Organic Garden/Sustainable Living Center Renovation and Expansion Project	San Mateo County Office of Education will use this grant for the San Mateo Outdoor Education program, a residential environmental education program, to enhance students' experiential learning of the 4R's at their Organic/Sustainability Living Center. Grant funds will be used to build garden beds using reclaimed lumber and install interpretative signs to educate students about the importance of reuse and composting. Grant funds will also be used to purchase vermicomposting bins that will be placed in the Organic/Sustainability Living Center.	\$9,000
4	Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center	Pacific Islander 4R Project	Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center (PCRC) will collaborate with the Pacific Islander Community Ambassadors Program to implement three to four 4R Ambassador Training workshops to Pacific Islander community members and youth in San Mateo County. The PCRC will provide presentations that will increase awareness among the 4R's (with a focus on waste reduction and recycling), connect the greater Pacific Islander community with waste reduction resources, and build a strong connection between faith leadership and environmental stewardship to inspire action. After the training, the Pacific Islander 4R Ambassadors will provide at least 15 Tongan and Samoan translated education workshops to approximately 200 Pacific Islander community members, participate in multiple outreach events (e.g., Pacific Islander cultural/dance groups, youth programs, non-profits, kava clubs, faith community), and help train five Tongan Latter-Day Saints Congregation church leaders to install recycling bins and to provide waste reduction education.	\$25,000
5	The HEAL Project	SMC Compost	The HEAL project (THP) will support a compost education program, SMC Compost. Grant funds will be used for classroom bus transportation fees for 3 rd to 5 th grade students to visit THP's San Mateo County Farm near Half Moon Bay and to fund environmental educators at THP to teach students about composting and project manager to run this compost education program. Additionally, funds will be used to help pay for the outreach materials and curricula and tools to support this program, including classroom worm bins.	\$25,000
6	Strategic Energy Innovations	Climate Corps Education Outside	Strategic Energy Innovations (SEI) will lead the Climate Corps Education Outside (CCEO) program in elementary schools in San Mateo County, bringing interactive and fun on outdoor science lessons to urban elementary school students. The program places AmeriCorps fellows at seven school sites to lead hands-on, science and ecoliteracy focused lessons in the school garden and on campus. SEI will offer instructional resources and training to participating	\$25,000

			AmeriCorps fellows to facilitate composting lessons in the school garden and on campus. Students will educate their peers and surrounding community on the principles of zero waste and composting by leading action projects on their campus.	
7	Sweet Farm Foundation	Sweet Farm Composting Program	Sweet Farm Foundation will upgrade their existing composting system to a multi-bay, aerated static pile (ASP) array and build a demonstration scale ASP composting unit and stacked tray vermicomposting set up. The objective of the project is for Sweet Farm to function as a demonstration site of high-efficiency composting practices for interested community members throughout San Mateo County, while also diverting the organization's own waste stream from the landfill. The project will educate and empower local residents, businesses and youth to adopt and utilize high-efficiency composting techniques in their homes, offices and school gardens. In so doing, these community participants can take direct action to divert their organic waste streams from the landfill and turn it into valuable garden resource.	\$12,225
8	San Mateo County Office of Education	Zero Waste Teacher Fellowship - Cohort 2	The San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) will use the grant funds to facilitate a semester-long professional learning teacher program for teachers, referred to as the "Zero Waste Teacher Fellowship". The program supports teachers at each grade band level (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12) to develop and implement comprehensive, standards-aligned, project-based learning units that focus on the environmental, social, and economic impacts of waste. Each unit will be grounded in developing student awareness of the problems and issues associated with the waste system and will culminate with students engaging in civic action. Teachers will be provided a \$500 stipend for attending a summer institute, developing and implementing their unit, and sharing their completed units and reflections at a capstone event at the completion of the semester.	\$15,000
9	Pacific Beach Coalition	Plastic Free Pacifica	The Pacific Beach Coalition (PBC) will help businesses understand and comply with the City of Pacifica's recently adopted ordinance banning single-use plastic straws, stirrers, and cutlery and distribute the education and outreach best practices to the broader community in San Mateo County. PBC will provide outreach to a minimum of 120 food and beverage businesses in Pacifica, bringing a minimum of 80% into compliance with the City's ordinance by the end of the program. PBC will also establish an educational web portal and social media campaign to raise public awareness about the environmental impacts of single-use plastics and the purpose of the ban. In collaboration with Sea Hugger, PBC will also educate and engage the San Mateo County community around plastic pollution at four different community events throughout the county (San Mateo County Fair, Pacifica's Ecofest, Pacifica Fog Fest, and Half Moon Bay's Earth Day event).	\$25,000

10	Daly City Peninsula Partnership Collaborative	"Pats' Closet"	Daly City Peninsula Partnership Collaborative will be expanding Pats' Closet Program (Program) that currently offers gently used clothing and home goods to those in needs (e.g., low-income families, seniors on fixed incomes, youth, homeless) at no cost. The program has helped over 590 individuals over the past two years and through this grant the Program will expand hours of operation (open for business on selected evenings and weekends) to reach a larger audience, to increase accessibility, and to collect and distribute more second-handed items to the community members. Using funding from the 4R's Grants Program, the Program will focus on increasing and updating its social media and marketing strategy to reach a broader audience, conduct at least eight "Open Houses" on the weekends, recruit and train volunteer staff to increase hours of operations to at least twelve to sixteen hours, and plan twelve outreach events (e.g., October costume recycling event, Christmas décor recycling event). The Program will also provide a traveling "mobile closet" to local school campuses, especially during PTA events and Second Harvest Food Bank food distributions.	\$25,000
11	San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD)	Expanding and Improving SMCCCD Model Zero Waste Program	San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD) will expand and improve the Zero Waste Program (Program) by collaborating with an existing applied learning program called Campus as Living Lab (CaaLL) to engage and empower community members to participate in zero waste efforts. First, the Program will hire a Zero Waste Program Associate to expand existing 4R's education K-12 lesson plans to collegiate/advanced level learners, enlist student interns to assist with Green Office Program, outreach and 4R's events (e.g., waste audits, sorting games), and partner with other agencies in promoting 4R's actions. Secondly, the program will implement SMCCCD Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (EP3), which will focus on identifying opportunities that apply the theory of Circular Economy (e.g., refuse, reduce, reuse items), benchmark existing practices (e.g., fair labor, ethical origin, materiality analyses), conduct life cycle assessment of commonly used goods and materials, reassess waste streams to better measure diversion, and reduce total waste by 10% district wide.	\$24,300
Total 4R's Mega Grant				\$235,525

4R's Mini Grant (Up to \$5,000)

#	Grantee	Project Name	Project Summary	Approved Grant Funding
1	Djerassi Resident Artists Program	Djerassi Compost and Food Waste Reduction Program	Using grant funds from the 4R's Grants Program, the Djerassi Resident Artists Program (Program) will acquire two Earth Cubes in-vessel composting units with aeration systems to use and manage as an alternative to their current trench composting. Additionally, the Program will organize on-site set up, installation, and training of the Earth Cubes for Program staff. Training will entail integration of at least one of the 4R's (composting) into all artist-in-residence orientations, hike docent trainings, and Program public events (e.g., Open House). Finished compost will be offered to neighbors at La Honda Elementary School Community Garden.	\$5,000
2	Half Moon Bay High School	4Rs at HMBHS - "Taking care of our campus"	Half Moon Bay High School will support its initial 4R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot-Compost) campaign by decreasing the amount of recycling that is misplaced in the trash bins and by increasing the awareness and knowledge of the benefits of recycling on campus. Grant funds will be used for purchasing classroom and outdoor recycling containers and lids. Additionally, funds will be used for instructional signage to be placed on recycling and garbage bins throughout the school's campus.	\$5,000
3	San Mateo Police Activities League	Sustainable Living and Conservation Series	San Mateo Police Activities League (PAL) will launch the Sustainable Living and Conservation Series (Series) where youth (aged 5-18) will learn about the fundamentals of sustainable living. Students will go to Marine Mammal Center to learn about the impacts of plastic pollution and the 4R's solutions; hike the Baylands trail with environmental volunteers and pledge to practice the 4R's that preserve an aspect of nature; explore the Changing California exhibit at the Oakland Museum to visualize land impacts as a result of human behavior; and partake in three more 4R's-focused field trips. For each field trip, there will be a hands-on activity where the youth reflect on ways they can commit to waste prevention practices, reuse materials, relearn the recycling guidelines, and make more environmentally conscious decisions every day. The Series also prepares and inspires students to conduct a final student action project to capture how they are changing their behavior and helps them embrace their personal interpretation of how the 4R's protects our environment.	\$3,935
4	Loved Twice	15,000 reused baby clothes to homeless	Loved Twice will distribute approximately 100 "wardrobes-in-a-box" that contains a year's worth of gently-used clothing for at-risk newborns and disadvantaged populations within a community. This project will host two sorting parties in which volunteers' sort, fold, package, and deliver the	\$5,000

		babies in San Mateo County	“wardrobes-in-a-box”. In addition, the project will collect evaluation data (e.g., number of babies served, amount of donated clothing, anecdotal feedback from partners and clients) and calculate the weight of garments diverted from going into the landfill. Lastly, the project will conduct quarterly outreach and publicity to community through local parenting groups and newsletters to encourage donations of baby clothing and to recruit volunteers.	
5	The Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve	The 4Rs at Work in a Sustainable Native Garden	The Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve will install a new garden path with interpretive signage for the Native Garden at the Bill and Jean Lane Education Center located near the main entrance of the Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve. The path will be made from permeable, sustainable and reclaimed materials. The signs will tell the story of how sustainable gardening has led to healthier soils, natural habitat for wildlife and beneficial insects, and ideal native plant conditions. The goal is to create public awareness of these sustainable practices and the beauty of our local natural environment through new interpretive materials in the garden and the education center.	\$5,000
6	LifeMoves	The Maple Street Bike Project	The Maple Street Shelter Bike Project will restore a minimum of 10 abandoned bikes and give them back to communities in need. The bikes will be donated by the Redwood City Police Department’s Abatement Program. A day-long repair workshop will be held for student volunteers from the Menlo School and a bike mechanic with the Repair Café to repair and refurbish the bikes. The grant funds will be used to purchase the bike supplies needed to make the repairs. Once the repairs are complete, the bikes will then be delivered to the Maple Street Shelter for distribution to homeless adults at that site who are in need of bikes. Reusing bikes will not only serve as a sustainable option for transportation; it will raise awareness about the importance of reuse to student volunteers at the workshop and the needs of the homeless individuals in our community.	\$2,140
7	Woodside Elementary School District	Wildcats Composting Club	Woodside Elementary School will collect food waste generated during school lunch and compost the collected materials for use at the school garden. The program will be led by a group of 7th graders, who will also be guiding groups of younger students in their school throughout the year on how to compost. Grant funds will be used to purchase a compost bin and composting supplies for the school garden. Reusable water bottles will also be purchased and distributed to the 7th graders at the school to encourage the use of the school's bottle filling station.	\$1,472
8	The HEAL Project	SMC Upcycle Garden	The HEAL Project will support the Upcycle Garden at the HEAL Project San Mateo County farm. The Upcycle Garden will be a hands-on garden where students will be able to directly experience reuse. Variety of materials in the garden ranging from repurposed wood and pallets, to	\$5,000

			bathroom sinks, to coffee cans will be used to create unique planting spaces. Grant funds will be used to support staff designing and building the UpCycle Garden and supporting lesson plans. Additionally, funds will be used to develop signage, so students and teachers will be able to take self-guided tours of the garden.	
9	St Francis Center of Redwood City	Environmental Education and Outreach for The Nature Club at Siena Youth Center	The Siena Youth Center (SYC) of St. Francis Center will provide environmental education and outreach opportunities in the after-school programming for middle school students in North Fair Oaks community. This project will provide field trip experiences to a local materials recovery facility, a nature preserve or park, the Art of Recology exhibit, and a climate change rally or march. Students will also get a chance to hear approximately six guest speakers working on waste reduction related projects. The project will provide hands-on activities, such as creating recycling signs, upcycling, and creating personal compost bins.	\$5,000
10	Burlingame Elementary School District	Youth Powered Waste Reduction	Burlingame Elementary School District will improve the efficiency and reach of the District's current waste reduction program and engage students in peer-to-peer media development aimed at influencing student waste reduction efforts. The project will create an adult green team and student green teams from all school sites at the district, and the green teams will identify waste issues unique to their peers. Each school site will identify one special material and act as the depository for the district and ensure those materials are properly recycled. Students will be guided to consider solutions related to effective signage, student waste sorting, student training videos, and other social media platforms to effectively change student and adult waste reduction behaviors. The project will also coordinate both student and adult green teams to provide recommendations on waste reduction and sustainability policy updates. In addition, the project will also distribute worm bins to each school's student green teams.	\$4,870
11	San Mateo Union High School District	Effective Implementation of Green Compost Bin Program at Aragon High School	San Mateo Union High School District will implement green bin composting at Aragon High School through campus education and the purchase of 10 three-stream bin systems for compost, recycling and landfill. Grant funds will be used to purchase the three-stream bin system, as a way to standardize the school's waste collection system. Currently, there is no standardization of collection bins, and single bins for various types of waste (e.g., recycling, compost and landfill) are haphazardly placed around campus without clear signage. A three-stream bin system supported by campus-wide education, with leadership provided by students and the environmental club, will help reduce waste sending to landfill.	\$4,742
12	Portola Valley School District	Zero Waste	Portola Valley School District will support Ormondale Elementary School's efforts to transform its campus into a "zero waste" campus. Grant funds will be used to replace all current waste-only	\$4,399.5

			and mismatched bins with a color-coded tri-bin system for recycling, composting, and garbage (landfill). Additionally, grant funds will be used to purchase in-garden and worm composting bins and materials and compensate teachers for work time spent to plan and facilitate this program.	
13	City of Daly City	City Hall Container Modernization and Standardization	City of Daly City will purchase and install three, three-stream stations that contain a receptacle for organics, mixed recyclables, and landfill at three high-foot traffic areas in their high-profile City Hall. Training will be provided to City Hall custodians on proper servicing of the three-stream stations. Educational signage in Chinese, Tagalog and Spanish will be installed to accompany the three-stream stations. Workshop trainings on proper sorting of waste using the new bins will also be provided to all City staff in City Hall, in partnership with Republic Services.	\$5,000
14	The Regents of the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources	UC Master Gardener Program Community Composting Education	The Master Gardeners will develop and offer at least six composting workshops at the UC Master Gardener Gardening Education Center in San Mateo. Instruction will include practical hands-on demonstration by experts, as well as a discussion of the underlying horticultural concepts and science. In addition, the Master Gardeners will follow up with all attendees who express interest to troubleshoot issues and to determine success metrics. Grant funds will be used to purchase instructional supplies for developing and offering the six composting workshops.	\$5,000
15	San Carlos Charter Learning Center	SCC Zero is Everything Campaign	San Carlos Charter (SCC) Learning Center will support its “SCC Zero is Everything” campaign to reduce paper consumption, increase the use of reusable water bottles, and expand and improve the recycling, composting and waste reduction program, including vermicomposting, on campus. Grant funds will be used to purchase items such as hand dryers, a water bottle filling station, proper recycling and composting bins, and interpretive signs to teach the 4R's.	\$4,954
Total 4R's Mini Grant				\$66,513