



### Program Year 2020-21 4Rs Grants Program: List of Grant Recipients and Projects

The San Mateo County Office of Sustainability (OOS) opened the 4Rs Grants Program cycle for the 2020-21 Program Year in early 2020. The program offers two tiers of funding: (1) Mini Grant (\$2,000 to \$5,000) and (2) Mega Grant (up to \$25,000). A total of 47 applications were received: 18 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, the OOS has awarded 18 grantees – 6 grantees for the Mega Grant and 12 grantees for the Mini Grant – for a combined total grant amount of \$199,615 to be disbursed starting in fall 2020 into fall 2021. Below is a summary of the new 4Rs Grants recipients.

**Total Program Year 2020-21 Grant Funding Allocation      \$199,615**

#### 4Rs Mega Grant (Up to \$25,000)

#	Grantee	Project Name	Project Summary	Grant Funding
1	The HEAL Project (THP)	THP Compost Education Program	The THP is continuing to expand their current compost education program with Mega Grant funds. THP is reaching out to additional grade levels by creating and sharing compost videos and other supplemental compost educational material (curricula) to educators who teach second through fifth grade. THP is facilitating compost education lessons to student visitors who visit The Farm (THP educational farm located near Half Moon Bay) with parents or guardians while school field trips are on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This program is also providing additional options for classes to participate in the THP Compost Education program in the form of Farm2School visits. Farm2School visits entail THP staff conducting in-class visits (either in-person or virtual) in lieu of class field trips by students to The	\$25,000

			Farm. During these visits, THP staff will facilitate composting lessons and activities.	
2	Fresh Approach	Activating a Network of Community Composting Hubs in San Mateo County	Fresh Approach is continuing to implement a replicable model for a Community Composting Hub to be maintained by a group of volunteers through its Community Compost Volunteer Program. Mega Grant funds are being used for continued support of the establishment of the first Composting Hub and Compost Volunteer Program at the Collective Roots Community Garden in East Palo Alto. Fresh Approach will expand the program and establish two affiliate composting hubs in school/community-based organization gardens in the county. This project educates, equips, and empowers 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 is updating its Best Practices Guide from the results of the project, sharing this guide with community gardens at schools/community-based organizations county-wide, and providing technical assistance to interested community garden operators.	\$25,000
3	San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE)	SMELC Zero Waste Teacher Fellowship	The SMCOE is using the 4Rs Grants Program funds to facilitate a semester-long professional learning – program for teachers from all over the county, 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 is 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 attend a summer institute, develop and implement their unit, and share their completed units and reflections at a capstone event at the completion of the semester.	\$25,000
4	Strategic Energy Innovations (SEI)	Climate Corps Education Outside	SEI is continuing the Climate Corps Education Outside program in five elementary schools in San Mateo County. The program offers instructional	\$25,000

			resources, training, and professional support to Climate Corps members, enabling them to become effective instructors of ecoliteracy and composting/waste curriculum. Along with deepening their support at the five schools, SEI is significantly broadening their impact by providing waste resources and curriculum to at least 20 additional teachers and administrators at schools across the county. SEI aims to increase teacher’s knowledge and comfort with waste topics, while empowering students across the county to be informed zero waste leaders at school and at home.	
5	Daly City Peninsula Partnership Collaborative (DCPPC)	Pat's Closet - Gently Used Clothing & Home Goods	DCPPC is continuing to be a resource for gently used clothing and home goods for those in need at its “Pat’s Closet” location in Daly City. The program primarily serves low-income families, seniors on fixed incomes, youth and the homeless. Pat’s Closet differs from other clothing recycling stores, such as Salvation Army and Goodwill, by providing items totally free of charge. No profit is made from recycling. In addition, the staff and volunteers distribute toiletries, cleaning products, and paper goods donated by Target and Costco, which due to damaged packaging, might otherwise go into the garbage. 4Rs Grants Program funds are used to expand the hours of operation and staff supervision, provide a traveling “mobile closet” to local school campuses, schedule quarterly weekend open house dates, and develop marketing materials and a social media campaign that will better advertise their clothing and home goods recycling service throughout San Mateo County.	\$25,000
6	San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD)	Mission Circularity; Redesigning Policy, Process, and Practice	While continuing to engage students, staff, and faculty through campus as a Living Lab, SMCCCD’s program is shifting toward a focus on circularity, with a strong emphasis on reducing and reusing materials. The 4Rs Grants Program funds are being used to hire a new AmeriCorps fellow to further develop the 4Rs education and outreach programs to reach a diversion rate of 80% district-wide. This project is also focusing on updating the SMCCCD Zero Waste Program Guide and sharing the updated plan with other community colleges, educational organizations, and community partners. Additionally,	\$25,000

			this project will implement the SMCCCD Sustainable Procurement Policy and continue the development of the Sustainable Procurement Program.	
<b>Total 4Rs Mega Grant</b>				<b>\$150,000</b>

**Mini Grant (\$2,000-\$5,000)**

#	Grantee	Project Name	Project Summary	Grant Funding
1	Sequoia Union High School District (on behalf of Woodside High School)	Increase number of 3-bin stations at Woodside High School	Woodside High School is using Mini Grant funds to replace ten garbage bins with 3-bin sorting systems (recycle, compost, and landfill) to enable students and school staff to compost and decrease the amount of waste sent to the landfill. Mini Grant funds are helping to speed the process for reaching the school's goal of having a compost sorting option at every waste collection area on campus. The new 3-bin sorting systems will be promoted through various methods including school video announcements, etc.	\$4,841
2	Millbrae School District (on behalf of Taylor Middle School)	Reduce, Reuse, REFILL, Recycle	Taylor Middle School is using Mini Grant funds to install a water bottle filling station at its main campus. The school has water bottle filling stations in the main gym and Caroline Shea Center, but many students find it difficult to get to these locations during passing periods between classes. Having a water bottle filling station in the main building would serve more students and encourage the use of refillable water bottles. Installing a water bottle filling station on the main campus also increases awareness and reminds students to be active stewards of the one planet we have.	\$2,738
3	Burlingame School District (on behalf of Burlingame)	Rot On! Keeping it Going	Rot On! Keeping it Going project is expanding the waste collection and sorting footprint at Burlingame Intermediate School, as well as upgrading the school's onsite composting program. Mini Grant funds are being used to facilitate the building of a new tri-compartment composting bin system in the school's garden area. To ensure the composting system remains	\$4,500

	Intermediate School)		efficient, new composting bins are needed, as well as tools to process compost effectively. The school is continuing the student-led California Redemption Value (CRV) collection program that has proven to be one of the successful programs of the 2019/20 program year Mini Grant project.	
4	Design Tech High School	d.sustainability	Design Tech High School is using the Mini Grant funds to support the school's efforts to transform its campus into a "zero waste" campus. Grant funds are being used for making waste reduction signage on school grounds, garbage bins and lids so they can be easily placed next to recycling and compost bins to create tri-bin stations on campus. Vermicomposting bin will also be purchased and installed and curriculum developed to promote worm composting on campus. Additionally, grant funds are being used for implementing a reusable school banner program.	\$4,010
5	The HEAL Project (THP)	Intensive Garden Program 4Rs Education Program	THP staff are updating the current 4Rs curricula for their Intensive Garden Program with Mini Grant funds. THP is expanding their environmental lessons to include additional video lessons focusing on the 4Rs subjects of reduce, reuse, recycle, and rot. All lessons will be developed with the intention of diverting waste from landfills. Additionally, grant funds are being used to support the installation of a new 3-bin compost system at Hatch Elementary School in Half Moon Bay.	\$5,000
6	Burlingame School District (on behalf of Washington Elementary)	Quit the Cutlery	Washington Elementary School is switching to reusable utensils to reduce plastic waste. The school will distribute to every student (400+) a reusable utensil kit to use at school and wash at home, similar to what most of their students already do with a reusable water bottle. The Mini Grant is also being used to purchase a back-up supply of reusable utensils on-site as well to account for students that may forget to bring their utensils. These are collected in a bin during waste sorting and brought with their lunch service provider to be washed and returned each day as needed. The school's Green Team is helping to improve and monitor waste stations during lunch.	\$3,855

7	San Mateo-Foster City Elementary School District (on behalf of Baywood Elementary School)	Zero Waste in Our Classrooms	Baywood Elementary School is using the Mini Grant funds to support the purchase of party packs for all classrooms. Instead of using single-use plates, utensils, and cups, students, parents, and teachers are using reusable alternatives for classroom parties. Additionally, grant funds are being used to purchase green classroom compost bins and counter top bins to increase collection of compostables in classrooms throughout the school year.	\$2,028
8	Jefferson Elementary School District (on behalf of Woodrow Wilson Elementary)	Putting inspiration and knowledge from Elkus Ranch into practice: encouraging conservation all year long at Woodrow Wilson Elementary	Woodrow Wilson Elementary is supporting third to fifth grade students to visit UC Agriculture and Natural Resources's Elkus Ranch Environmental Education Center. After their field trip, students are working to improve their school garden and lead an environmental education campaign. Students are designing and implementing changes to the garden. At the end of the project, third to fifth grade student leaders will be speaking about improvements to the garden made after their trip to Elkus Ranch and how cafeteria food waste was utilized. Other students are creating posters to encourage all students to compost, reduce waste, and care for their garden and overall environment.	\$5,000
9	City of Daly City	City of Daly City Community Container Modernization and Standardization	Through its Community Container Modernization and Standardization project, the City of Daly City (City) is using Mini Grant funds to purchase three new standardized three-stream receptacles (recycling, compost, and landfill) at two City parks. This project helps to reduce confusion from mismatched bins and increase awareness around how to divert trash from the landfill by offering recycling and composting at city parks. Educational infographic signage in multiple languages are installed along with the three-stream stations. Training is provided to the City Park custodians and recreation staff on the proper servicing of the three-stream stations and awareness building.	\$5,000
10	Ravenswood School District (on	Costano/ Brentwood School	Costano School is using Mini Grant funds to expand their recycling program and add bins/cans to all classrooms, offices, and other spaces. The school is	\$2,695

	behalf of Costano/Brentwood School)		also implementing a compost program in order to divert the food waste that is generated in their cafeteria. The student green team members are actively providing the leadership to educate and inspire the whole school in the endeavor to reduce waste and begin to compost. The student green team is setting examples for younger students, serving as monitors for teaching waste sorting skills in the cafeteria, promoting the program by providing signage, encouraging recycling in their homes and neighborhoods, and continuing to find new ways to show they care about the planet and diverting waste from landfills. The final part of the project is to hold a campus cleanup day where the students can become active stewards and learn about the importance of recycling and respect for the environment.	
11	The Regents of University of California	The ABI Manure Spreader to use ranch manure to fortify the surrounding pastures.	Elkus Ranch program participants are increasing awareness and understanding of the 4Rs, with a focus on Rot. Mini Grant funds are being used to purchase a new manure spreader, which expands the use of compost and its application as a soil amendment in their gardens and pasture. Elkus Ranch's accompanying educational curriculum highlights best practices in soil health and compost management and demonstrate how to become environmental stewards of our lands, thereby inspiring school visitors to do the same.	\$4,948
12	City of Burlingame	Public Hydration Station	City of Burlingame (City) has installed five water bottle refillable hydration stations over the last three years and has a need for eight more in city parks. The City is using Mini Grant funds to purchase an additional hydration station at one of Burlingame's popular parks with high sports activity. City staff is also conducting outreach on social media in collaboration with the City's Parks and Recreation Department to educate users about waste reduction and the benefits of using hydration stations.	\$5,000
<b>Total Mini Grant</b>				<b>\$49,615</b>