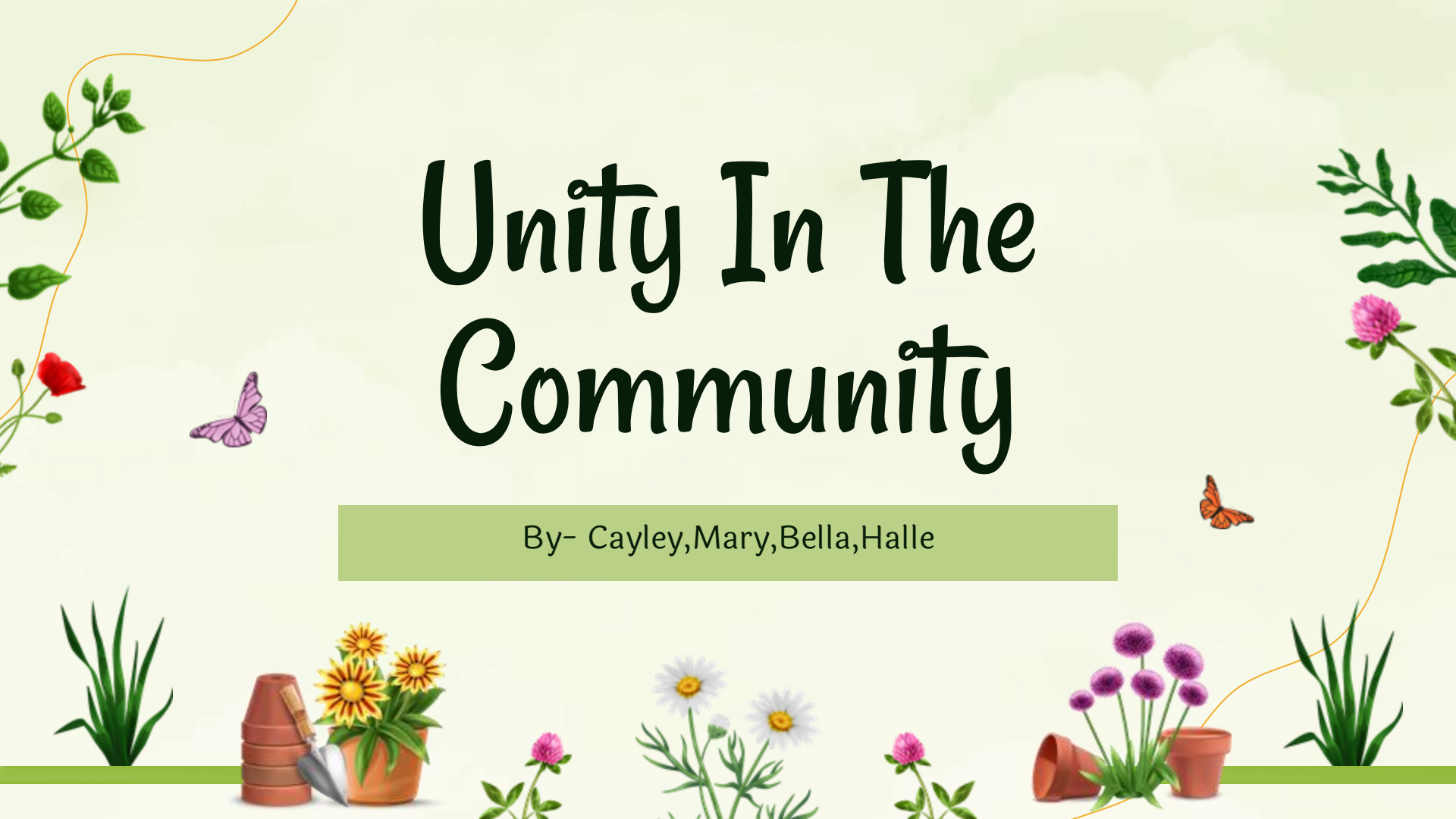


Unity In The Community

By- Cayley, Mary, Bella, Halle







01



What Is Unity Gardens?



Unity Gardens



- Mission to improve community health
- Increased accessibility to fruits and vegetables
- Provides education on nutrition and food preparation



Unity Gardens

- Provides increased social capital for people coming together, and opportunities to overcome challenges
- Economically developed sustainable local food, recapturing local food waste, and creates new jobs



Unity Gardens Story



- Multiple network of community gardens
- Originated to increase availability for everyone, awareness, and accessibility of healthy local food
- Surrounded by community gardens with resources to ensure success while growing food



Unity Gardens Story



- Diverse people coming together to grow food
- Gardens provide food for anyone
- Gardens develop partnerships with businesses, governments, Universities, and more





02

Our Experience



Halloween Haunted Trail



- Our group volunteered at Unity Gardens Haunted trail event.
- They had us stationed at the fire pit where we were directed the groups to go in the trails.
- I met so many wonderful volunteers as well as kids, and adults attending the event. Many of the children, and adults went out of their way to have a conversation with me, and everyone was very welcoming.
- A few children even invited me to join them on the haunted trail!





Halloween Haunted Trail





- The haunted trail was executed very well, and I felt fulfilled making people laugh, and giving back to my community.
 - The other more permanent volunteers made sure that we got to take breaks, and got water, and food to keep us sustained throughout the event.
 - One factor that made the event especially fun was most of the volunteers were around our age, and it made it easy to relate, and ask questions.
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Volunteer Day #1





- It was exciting to meet, and talk to new people especially your own age while also helping the community.
 - It was challenging to work with unfamiliar people, but it helps improve teamwork, and social skills.
 - They were also having an event and offered us all pancakes and hotdogs.
 - This further proves the hospitality of Unity Gardens, and why they are a great place for young adults to volunteer, and You can't miss out on free food!
- 
- 



Volunteer day #1



- My group began this volunteer session with pulling the weeds, raking leaves over the dirt, and finally mulch over the dirt.
 - It was satisfying to see the completely covered, and finished garden.
 - Our group was one of a few groups volunteering at Unity gardens.
 - There was another group from the Honors program as well as a group from Notre Dame.
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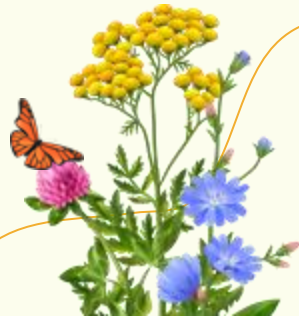
Volunteer day #2

- During volunteer day number two we volunteered at a different garden called the Field of Dreams.
- This garden was smaller, and more secluded, and it was located in Holy Cross's old softball field.
- We met up with one of the volunteers from that neighborhood, and learned about that specific satellite garden.
- It has only been in order for one year after they had to move, and they also get volunteers from colleges as well.



Volunteer day #2

- This garden is good for those who like to connect with nature as a smaller group, and in a quieter more laid back setting.
- We helped to plant garlic, and flowers for the honey bees, and We about the different vegetables grown in the garden
- She even let us choose plants to pick, and take home, and A few of my personal choices were carrots, lettuce, onions, cilantro, chives, and radishes.







03

How Young Adults Can Get Involved






Internship




Opportunities are endless!

Past interns have majored in:

- Agriculture, Environmental Science, Political Science, Education, Social Justice/Outreach, Journalism, Art and Photography, Civil Engineering, Anthropology, Ecology, Public Health, Marketing, Communication, and much more
- 


Where?

- work throughout Saint Joseph County, primarily at the LaSalle Square Unity Garden
- 

When?

- During the summer

Pay?

- \$9.00 an hour (may subject to change)
- 

Job Description

- Interns can help manage the 1+ acre vegetable garden, native plant garden, herbal garden, food forest and mushroom cultivation
- Interns can lead:
 - volunteer groups, tour visitors through the garden, take pictures for social media, develop garden signage, design and carry out environmental research projects, create art in the garden, and connect with the other neighborhood Unity Gardens.
- Fund raising, event planning and grant writing are other opportunities!

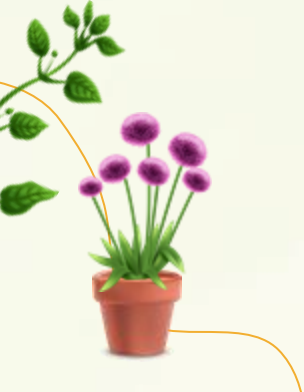




Job Opportunities





Garden Guide

- Greet garden visitors
 - Help visitors find food
 - Share and gather recipes
 - Collect quantitative and quantitative data for research
 - Help design activities
- 

Market Garden

- Manage 4 hoop houses and outdoor raised beds
- Manage pests
- Harvest for farmers market
- Develop marketing material
- Sell produce/ products at South Bend Farmers Market 3-4 days/week

Kids Discovery Garden

- Engage children in free play through tasting plants
 - Exploring nature
 - Handling chickens
 - Using activity stations
- 
- 

Extended

Free-Pick Garden

- Use permaculture and ecosystem principles to care for vegetables, perennials, and animals
- Welcome and help visitors find food to pick
- Share recipes
- Lead volunteer groups through the garden

Neighborhood Unity Gardens

- There are options to work at a variety of gardens and on-site at the Welcome Center

Expectation



- Interns will treat all garden contacts with respect and courtesy in a non-discriminatory manner





Educational Opportunities



- Each new project requires research and ongoing learning
 - Teaching opportunities abound:
 - whether it is demonstrating how to pick peppers for visitors, leading a volunteer or school group, hosting a cooking demo, or presenting a garden lecture to a class
- 
- 



Volunteering

Where?

- LaSalle Square Garden-
Main location
 - Every Tuesday
- Field of Dreams
 - Every Saturday
 - Every Tuesday

How to Prepare?

- Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty, closed-toes shoes, and any sun/bug protection you may need
 - Also, bring a water bottle to stay hydrated
- gardening gloves and all of the tools and equipment are supplied!



What to Expect?

- tasks range from starting seeds in pots, weeding in the garden, mulching paths, painting signs, and everything in between!

When

- Volunteer times change throughout the season!
 - Check for available times on the website
 - Email Katie or Danny if you have any questions!
- 
- 



Extended





Do you want to volunteer regularly?

Join Groupme!

Get updates and weather cancellations

https://groupme.com/join_group/66332476/TpF29nnM







04

Get Connected

Meet The Team



Sarah L. Stewart

Executive Director, Board President

Sarah saw the need for fresh barrier-free food and had the idea to make a garden. She has set the standard ever since, allowing opportunity for connection, resources for those in need, and life-long relationships. This great idea has spread to many other communities as well



Mitch Yaciw

Special Projects

The “Idea Guy” and walking encyclopedia of gardening know-how started his volunteering in 2009 working his way up to help shape a Unity Gardens that engages with their community. This includes educational events, public events, and product marketing.



Meet The Team



Katie Lane

Director of Operations

Katie, originally from NY, came to Unity in 2021 as an intern. She has been gardening since she can remember and after graduating from Notre Dame with a political science and sustainability degree, she decided to stay with Unity. Katie is a great asset to the garden by organizing volunteers, helping with the internship program, maintaining the open garden, and so much more.



Emily Mann

Farm Manager

Emily started with Unity in 2015. They lead the garden at IUSB and have been working on organic farms since. Emily uses non-profit program management, sustainability, organic production farming, and uses their unique experience of Southern Oregon gardens that supplied area food banks. All of this helps further the Unity mission.



Who? Where? What Time?



Lasalle Square Garden- Main
Lasalle Square 3701 Prast Blvd.
South Bend, Indiana 46628



Field Of Dreams Garden
Corner Of Angela and 933
South of the running track, South Bend IN

Hours:

Garden : Always
Welcome Center

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri : 9-5

Wed : 9-7

Sat : 9-4

Sun: 1-5

Contact: katie@theunitygardens.org

Hours:

Volunteering

Saturday : 9:30-12:30

Tuesday: 4-6:30 pm

Contact: Barb (574)-315-3843



Want To Get Involved?

Contact Danny If You're Interested!

volunteering@theunitygardens.org

Or Katie For Any Questions You May Have!

katie@theunitygardens.org





Thanks!

Do you have any questions?

Contact Mjapa@iu.edu with questions about these slides!

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