

# Fresh Focus Quarterly Report



## What is Fresh Focus?

Fresh Focus is a program based on the 23-acre Student Farm at University of California, Davis. The UC Davis Student Farm provides a space where students can learn, practice, and model an ecologically, socially, and economically, sustainable agriculture and food system. The Student Farm welcomes all students to build a more equitable and just farm and food system by cultivating student initiative, leadership, and experiential learning. In 2014, two Student Farmers created the Fresh Focus program to glean surplus produce from the student farm to donate to the ASUCD student-run food pantry. This initiative expanded into the Fresh Focus program. The goal of Fresh Focus is to reduce food loss while supporting student access to fresh produce.



## A Special Thank You

to our funders, Aggie Compass and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences!

## Spring Highlights:



- Distributed produce at Whole Earth Festival
- Received cherries from the Plant Sciences department
- Supported new partnership with the Mobile Pantry
- Sent out 218 bins to campus partners

# Meet our Team!



## 4 Lead Student Farmers...

- Wendy Martinez, 4th year Food Science major and our Internal Partner Coordinator
- Adriana Galarza, 2nd year Environmental Policy Master's student and our External Partner Coordinator
- Laila Menendez Diaz, 4th year Plant Sciences major and our Intern Coordinator
- Zoe Tanner, 5th year Clinical Nutrition major and our Data and Communications Coordinator

## 6 Incredible Interns

- Nathan Lee, 3rd year Environmental Policy major
- Ruben Gonzalez, 2nd year Environmental Science and Management major
- Lana Dao, 2nd year Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior major and a Sacramento Valley College Corps Fellow
- Ruby Bal, 1st year Community and Regional Development Master's student
- Jackeline Limon, 1st year Plant Sciences major
- Chiara De Quay, 2nd year Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems major

## ... And 7 Supportive Student Farm Staff

Thank you to our Student Farm Director Colin Dixon, Fresh Focus Coordinator Judy Jun, Market Garden Manager Emma Torbert, Ecological Garden Manager Julia Schreiber, SCOPE Manager Laura Roser, Market Garden Farmer Ken Earl, and Field Operations Manager Jim Muck.

## Quotes from our Spring team...

*"Interning with Fresh Focus while working at a center that we partner with has been incredibly fulfilling for me, as I've been able to see the fresh produce that we harvest and pack arrive to students in need. The diverse variety of fruits and vegetables that Fresh Focus provides is important to making sure that marginalized students on campus have easy access to healthy food."* - Nathan

*"I appreciate working alongside such passionate teammates and having the opportunity to engage in important discussions regarding food justice and sustainability. The work we do is important and it's inspiring to see our impact in shaping a more sustainable community-driven food system."* - Ruben

*"Working for Fresh Focus for my undergrad was a humbling and insightful experience. I am overjoyed looking back at the amount produce we were able to harvest. All thanks to our hard working interns, LSFs, and coordinator, Judy."* - Wendy





# A Word from Our Partners

PRODUCE DONATION  
PARTNER SPOTLIGHT:  
ECOLOGICAL GARDEN



The Eco Garden is a half-acre garden of flowers, vegetables, culinary and medicinal herbs, fruit trees, vines, and insectary plants where you can learn how to garden as well as grow and cut flowers through the Flower Project. Flowers are sold to campus partners and through a flower CSA. It is also home to the Kids in the Garden program which offers garden-based learning to children.

Here's a little more about the significance of the space and what motivates the Eco Garden team:

*"Within the unique intersection of agroecology, gardening, and farming we are able to create a magical space for people and wildlife. We can also produce a lot of food and flowers! Some of our specialty crops might not always be appropriate to grow at a large farm scale, but are still important culturally and emotionally for our students and visitors.*

*Being able to share produce and flowers with Fresh Focus expands our learning experience and helps motivate us to try new things! Lead Student Farmers and interns are always happy to share the abundance of fruit, vegetables, and flowers that bring us so much joy and learning."* from Marika Brown, Eco Garden Lead Student Farmer



Looking for an internship?

Want to learn more about the Student Farm?

Visit: [asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/sf](http://asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/sf). You can also follow the Fresh Focus Instagram at [@ucdfreshfocus](https://www.instagram.com/ucdfreshfocus)



## QUOTES FROM OUR PARTNERS

*"Our distributions are always a hit because of the delicious fruits, vegetables, herbs, and beans that you allow us to provide. Thank you for supporting our mission of providing nutritious, delicious, and free produce to students and the community to help combat food insecurity!"* from Fruit & Veggie Up! at Aggie Compass

*"Fresh Focus is a great way for the students who visit our center to get fresh fruits and vegetables for no cost! The service is greatly appreciated."* from the LGBTQIA Resource Center

*"The deliveries are the highlight of our week! Supplementing our non-perishable donations with fresh fruits and produce has greatly enhanced our ability to provide nutritious offerings to our graduate students."* from the Graduate Student Association Pantry