

Restoration and

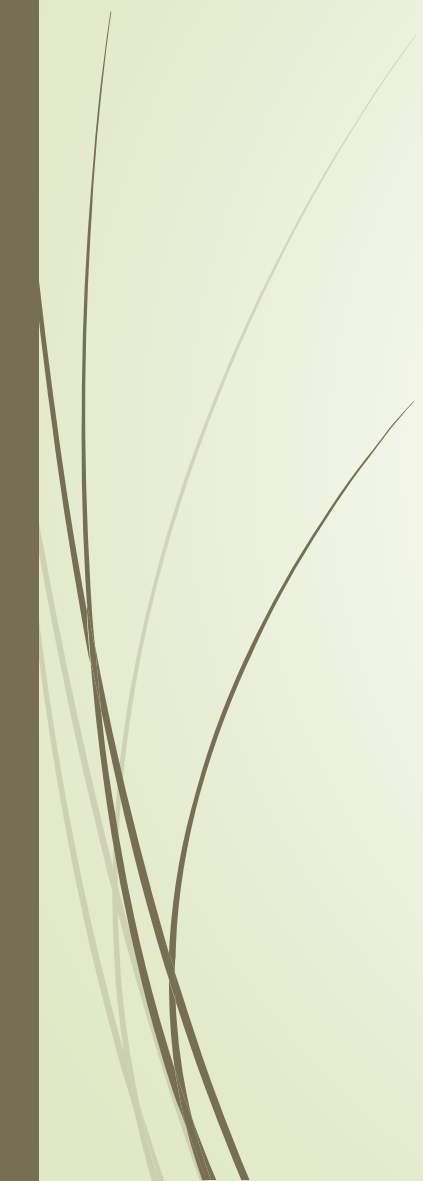
Renewal: The intersection of environmental, economic, and physical health



First Choice Community Healthcare
South Valley Health Commons



History of the South Valley

- Home of ancient Puebloan peoples
 - Historic migration routes
 - Spanish land grants
 - From territorial governors to statehood
 - Deeply rooted agricultural practices
 - Economic and political disenfranchisement
- 



Current Conditions



- Heavy industry left lasting impacts in residential areas
- Lack of infrastructure improvements
- Costly water rights
- Haphazard development
- High poverty and unemployment
- Low educational attainment
- High rates of chronic disease



First Choice Community Healthcare

- Federally qualified health clinic
- 20,000 distinct patients yearly, 50,000 separate appointments plus dental care
- Owned 10 acres in two separate parcels across the street from the clinic
- Surrounded by a Headstart facility, elementary school, middle school, and 75 units of low-income housing for elderly and mobility impaired
- Community charette in 2015 was heavily focused on the built environment



Priority Issues



- Shifting healthcare from treatment to prevention
 - Food scarcity
 - Lack of open space
 - Unsafe walking routes
 - Unhealthy lifestyles
- Creating economic opportunity
- Creating education opportunity
- Restoring self-determination

The site

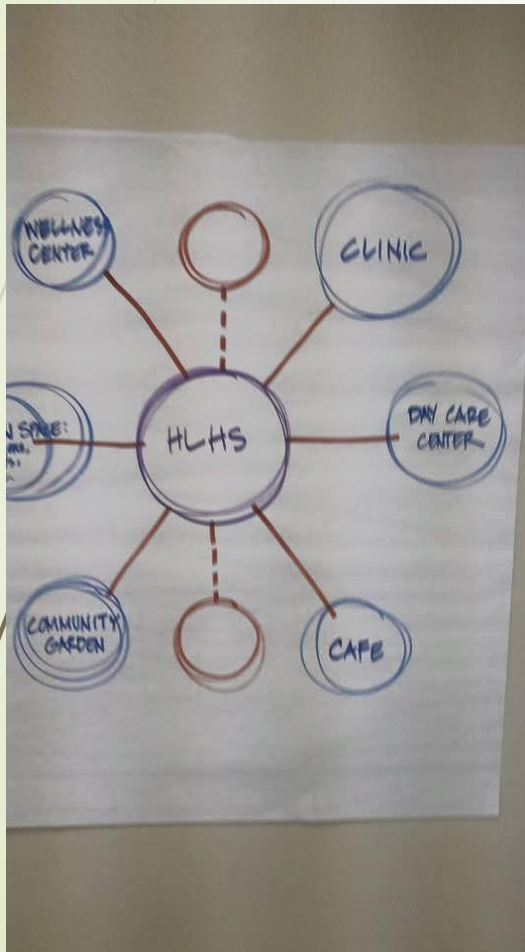


The solution

Returning the land to its most beneficial use!
Converting vacant land into a farm, food hub,
community open space, and health leadership high
school.



It's all connected!



The development is designed to meet the needs of the **CURRENT** community, not a future gentrified community.



Community at the core



Crew members from Valle de Oro Youth Conservation Corps helped cleaning the site and plant the first pollinator garden.



Walking for health

Walking trails
created with support
from the National
Park Service
Prescription Trails
program



Safe, walkable
community
and clinicians
actively
promoting
walking for
health

McEwen Pond “Oasis”

County drainage facility adjacent to the farm will be transformed into a mini-refuge with trails, edible landscaping, and reflective spaces



The Work Continues



A grant from EDA helped fund the costs of engineering, infrastructure and prep for the greenhouses. But first LOTS more cleaning up to do!

Grow the food, then cook the food

A small kitchen in the clinic is used for healthy cooking classes. The new facility will have a commercial kitchen as well as teaching spaces.



Engaging community at every level



The clinic hosted a Health and Wellness Circus and a Children's Walk (on stilts) to bring health and entertainment together. A mobile farmers market brings food to families.

The latest...



Two hoop houses and one commercial greenhouse building are nearly complete and will go into production next year.



Food is culture



Teaching people of all ages about traditional methods for growing and preparing food



Next steps

- ▶ Starting food production in the greenhouses
- ▶ Planting McEwan Pond
- ▶ Fund development for the food hub building
 - ▶ 12,000 square feet, 10,000 on the first floor
- ▶ Construction of the Health Leadership High School

- ▶ Economic impact estimated at \$135 million over 10 years
- ▶ 181 long-term jobs, 350+ construction jobs



It takes a village...

- Bernalillo County
- Agricultura Network/La Cosecha CSA
- Valle de Oro NWR
- US EDA
- National Park Service
- USGS
- PNM
- Wells Fargo
- Presbyterian Health Care
- CDC/Health Here
- EPA Urban Waters Partnership
- South Valley Academy
- Albuquerque Public Schools
- Central New Mexico CC
- ABQ Volunteers
- ABQ Involved
- New Mexico YCC
- New Mexico State Forestry
- Rocky Mountain Youth Corps