



CORNERSTONE
CONSTRUCTION GROUP, INC.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cornerstone/Sharefest Partnership Blooms with San Pedro High School Victory Garden

Los Angeles, May 2012--Cornerstone Construction and its community partner Sharefest, inc. have collaborated again at San Pedro High School, as part of the non-profit Sharefest's eighth annual Workday project. This time, the firm was contracted by Sharefest to work with Living Color Landscape Architects to transform an unused passageway next to one of the campus classroom buildings into a victory garden and virtual "edible classroom".

Kaiser hospital is partnering with the high school to bring in programs that will inspire youth to work in the nutrition, health and dietary fields. So, a garden where the kids could plant, cultivate and enjoy their own fresh produce was a natural fit.



In collaboration with the designer, Cornerstone rolled up their sleeves to excavate and grade out the long, narrow passageway, building a series of planters with brick walkways winding around each planter. Cornerstone installed a complete irrigation system, outdoor lighting consisting of blue plexi-glass sails on each side of the planters, and a fanciful wrought iron gateway; and they prepared a large wall for an outdoor artwork. The garden was finished with mosaic tiles inset by students into the pavers and planters

The garden will provide fresh, organic fruits and vegetables for the school as well as to the community in partnership with local food banks and meal programs. It will demonstrate the diversity and potential of urban food practices. Each planting area will feature heritage plants suited to the Harbor area's micro climates and that reflect the rich traditions of San Pedro's Mediterranean, Latino, African American cultures, Asian and South Sea Island cultures.

Karen Collins of Living Color, who designed the garden, said their vision is "to capture an artistic yet practical garden that will enrich the lives of students and faculty, but also those in the surrounding community. It will be a symbol of the strength, unity and pride of San Pedro."

Said Sharefest Executive Director Chad Mayer, "The Victory Garden will weave people and plants together – a garden for and of communities. We know that our combined efforts will benefit students and families for generations."

ABOUT CORNERSTONE CONSTRUCTION GROUP

Started 28 years ago in Redondo Beach by Vic Braden and his wife, Linda, The Cornerstone Construction Group is a family owned and operated construction business. The management team was completed when their daughter, Stella, joined them in 1999. The family is also guided by a strong desire to invest in the continued development of Redondo Beach and over the years, they have spent their spare time and company resources helping their local community.