

Instructional Scenario

Community Garden Revitalization Day



Course/Duty Area: Cadet Leadership / Serving the Community

Scenario: A group of juniors and seniors at Lincoln Heights High School has decided to partner with the local parks and recreation department to revitalize an underused community garden near the school. The garden was once a neighborhood gathering space where families grew vegetables and flowers, but it has become overgrown and neglected. The goal of the project is to clean, restore, and organize the community garden so residents can begin using it again. The student leadership team is responsible for planning the entire event. To do so, they must develop a logistics plan that includes the following components:

1. **Scheduling** - The project must be completed within a single Saturday event. Students must determine
 - the ideal date (consider school events, weather, and community availability)
 - start and end times
 - the timeline for specific tasks (weeding, soil turning, planting, building raised beds, painting signs)
 - volunteer shifts so students and adult helpers know when to arrive and where to report.
2. **Budgeting** - The students have secured a maximum of \$500 from the school's service-learning fund. They must decide what can be purchased, what can be donated, and what they can borrow. They must budget for
 - tools (shovels, gloves, rakes, bags, wheelbarrows)
 - soil, mulch, compost, and starter plants
 - materials for raised beds (wood planks, nails, paint)
 - snacks and water for volunteers
 - emergency or miscellaneous costs.
3. **Resource Allocation** - The students must plan
 - how many volunteers are needed for each task
 - how to divide students into work teams (clean-up team, building team, planting team, supplies team, registration/welcome team)
 - which partners or adults will supervise different tasks
 - how to ensure everyone has the necessary tools at the right time
 - who will coordinate with stakeholders, including the local gardening club willing to provide expertise, the parks and recreation department that will haul away debris, and nearby hardware stores that may donate supplies.

Big Question: How can time and resources be adequately managed to revitalize the community garden?

Focused Questions:

- When should the event be held?
- Where and how should the materials and provisions be sourced?
- How can the responsibilities and tasks be divided effectively among the team members?

Student Project or Outcome: The students must produce a written project proposal for approval by the school principal, the parks and recreation department, and the service-learning advisor/instructor. The proposal should include objectives, a timeline, budget, partner roles, safety considerations, and expected outcomes for the community.