

## 2015 Annual Report of KORA Committees, Subcommittees, Service, Special Interest Groups and Support Groups

Name of Group: HORTICULTURE STANDING COMMITTEE 2015

Chair: Melissa Reed      Chair since 2015

1. Former mission statement: To help provide for the horticultural beautification of the Kendal property. To assist residents with their garden planning and planting. To provide education of the entire community in matters horticultural. To care for plants in interior public and courtyard and herb gardens. To oversee the community (vegetable) gardens and help with planning, planting and watering in the public gardens.

2. New mission statement approved in April 2015: The Horticulture Committee, working in cooperation with Kendal's Grounds Division, seeks to enhance the natural beauty of the Kendal campus and to promote good stewardship of the environment by educating the community through publications and presentations; by planning and caring for plantings in the Care Center courtyard, Center Island, the Buttonbush Bridge area, and other parts of the campus; by assisting residents in their cottage garden and planting plans; by maintaining year-around displays of plants and cut-flower arrangements in interior public areas; by sponsoring an annual sale of plants and garden seedlings; and by overseeing a dedicated space for plant propagation and a community garden open to all.

3. Summary of activities and accomplishments: We began using the new horticulture room to propagate and care for plants and planted the exterior gardens on the south and west sides. Other work included maintenance and improvements in Center Pond north shore and island gardens, the courtyard garden, the Buttonbush Bridge shade garden, and wildflower hill. We held the most successful spring plant sale to date. Our community garden enrolled 16 participants who cultivated 27 plots, including plots dedicated to herbs for the kitchen, flowers for cut-flower arrangements in public spaces, and special grasses used in American Indian ceremonies. We built a new enclosure for compost available to all residents. A newly-conceived campus-wide arboretum became a subcommittee.

4. Problems? Needs? Planning for continuation in the future of projects listed under #3.

5. Plans for 2016 and future: Sponsoring a presentation to residents and the public by a representative of a significant botanical resource such as the Cleveland Botanic Garden.

6. Committee members, special assignments. The thirty residents who attend meetings include Melissa Reed, moderator of meetings and community garden coordinator; Vera Cooke, secretary; Nina Love, treasurer. The following members contributed their expertise and time as follows: Don Parker, landscaping; Bill Schreiner, courtyard garden, spring sale plants preparation; Betty Weinstock, Wildflower Hill; May Zitani, wildflower garden at Buttonbush Bridge, spring sale plant preparation and sale oversight; Don Reeves, Horticulture Room layout and logistics, carpentry projects, cultivation and care of Center Island plants; Joy Walworth, herb cultivation for Kendal kitchen; Grace Tompos and Kathy Reichard, plant care in parking lot 11 areas.