

Domain 4: Childcare and Preschool Providers

“Shaping a Healthy Future” Award- Quail Botanical Gardens

The Quail Botanical Garden’s Seeds of Wonder Garden became the West Coast’s first interactive children’s garden when it opened to the public in April 2003. Designed by a carefully recruited team of talented professionals, this one of a kind garden serves as a place for children to be active and learn about healthy food choices.

Quail Botanical Gardens is helping to prevent childhood obesity by providing opportunities for children to engage in active outdoor play through weekly programs featuring unstructured garden play, nature walks, nature-related story and song times, arts and crafts, science activities, and the opportunity to pot a plant to take home. Under the leadership of Julian Duval, President and CEO, Quail Botanical Gardens has experienced record-breaking membership growth since the opening of Seeds of Wonder. Families have shared that they visit the gardens on a weekly basis because of the unique connection to nature they are able to experience. Thanks to Julian and his team, children are able to understand, appreciate and enjoy learning about nature and its link to health and nutrition.