

Teresia M. Hazen, MEd, HTR, QMHP, is coordinator of Legacy Therapeutic Gardens and Horticulture Therapy. Legacy Health promotes gardens in health care to create supportive environments of care for patients, families, visitors, staff and neighbors.

Hazen, who has been with Legacy Health since 1991, pioneered the horticultural therapy program and therapeutic gardens for Legacy's long-term care and skilled nursing patients. Today, she oversees 10 therapeutic gardens and horticultural therapy work through the Legacy Rehabilitation Institute of Oregon, Randall Children's Hospital at Legacy Emanuel and the Legacy Oregon Burn Center. The Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital Stenzel Healing Garden was recognized by the American Horticultural Therapy Association Therapeutic Garden Award in 1998. Randall Children's Hospital Garden received the same honor in 2000 and the Legacy Oregon Burn Center Garden in 2006.

In addition to being a Registered Horticultural Therapist, Hazen holds a master of education degree (M.Ed.) and a K–12 administrative credential. She is a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP). The focus of her training has been pediatrics, gerontology, addictions counseling, special education, horticulture and curriculum design.

Hazen calls upon her extensive, broad-based background to facilitate interdisciplinary garden design teams and to develop therapeutic programs in health care gardens. She is also responsible for aspects of fund development, marketing, public relations and volunteer services to sustain the garden programs.

Hazen served on the American Horticultural Therapy Association Board of Directors from 1995–1999. In 2003, the Horticultural Association recognized her leadership by honoring her with the Rhea McCandliss Professional Service Award. In 2007, the American Horticultural Society awarded Hazen the annual HT award for national leadership. In 2012, the Portland Garden Club recognized her with its "Outstanding Achievement Award."

For 10 years, she has served as an instructor for the Chicago Botanic Garden Healthcare Garden Design Certificate program and for six years teaching at the University of Washington Certificate in Therapeutic/Healing Gardens program. She has taught, lectured and consulted regarding gardens in health care, horticultural therapy for a wide variety of populations, benefits of gardening, benefits of nearby nature, therapeutic garden design, participatory design process and gardens in senior living communities in the U.S., Japan, Korea, China, Canada, France and Britain.

