1. The new medical office building sits on a generous thirteen-acre site. Parking on the east side opened up land for sculptural gardens and wind mitigation along the remaining frontages of the three story structure. An internal courtyard provides a sheltered heart to the garden and allows access to natural daylight and green throughout the building.

2. The arrival experience resets expectations about what a visit or stay in a medical facility is all about. Playful graphics, architectural elements, and a green wall are cues to new ways of delivering healthcare. That sense of evolution/revolution drove our thinking throughout the design of the gardens.

3. The enclosed courtyard with a balance of patio, plantings, and reflective water is meant to be a joyful space allowing for families and friends to find respite amidst the hospital setting. Tall trees for shade, wood, water, stone, and plants for nature merge in this sheltered court.

4. This early diagram illustrated the myriad sustainable practices folded into the landscape design. The use of local materials, wind and sun mitigation, rainwater harnessing and the distribution of all of those concepts across the site is portrayed.

5. One local material, decomposed granite, was used extensively throughout as flooring for garden spaces as well as walkways and the fire lane that weaves through the gardens. This photo also illustrates one of the berms that were constructed to shelter the garden.

6. Nature...specifically the natural context of the region...was highlighted in key moments. Quotes by naturalists such as John Muir and butterflies which go hand in hand with the California poppy meadows are sandblasted into paving. Small details that hopefully cause visitors to take pause and connect with the healing aspects of nature.
7. We developed a language for our work on this garden that speaks to “Body, Mind, and Spirit” and broke down the programming elements accordingly. This diagram illustrates that thinking along with how water and topography unite to give form and flow through the site.

8. A natural play area incorporates flowing forms, sand play, d.g., boulders and raised platforms in an adventurous and sculptural composition.

9. The THRIVE walk consists of a series of connected loops around the building and site that promotes health and wellness for users, staff, and the greater Antelope Valley community. Large trees for shade have been placed throughout.

10. The gardens and building come together to create a fresh and inviting campus that goes far beyond the delivery of healthcare. Healthy living and designing with nature illustrate a broader vision of the role landscape architects can play in “living well”.