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Capital District Community Gardens Raises \$53,000 at 7th Annual 'Autumn Evening in the Garden'

Supporting Eight Programs that Nourish 125,000 Residents with 333 Tons of Fresh Produce Each Year

TROY – Capital District Community Gardens raised \$53,000 at their 7th Annual 'Autumn Evening in the Garden' gala, which was held at the Franklin Plaza Ballroom on September 26th. The local non-profit organization hosted 300 guests, including Assemblyman John T. McDonald III, Rensselaer County Executive Kathy Jimino, Troy Mayor Lou Rosamilia, Altamont Mayor James Gaughan and Troy Councilmembers Bob Doherty, Kevin McGrath, Nina Nichols and Rodney Wiltshire. Sixteen of our region's top chefs prepared culinary samples, which featured fresh meat, produce and dairy that was donated by 40 local farms. CDCG's Veggie Mobile and Sprout were open for business during the event and many guests enjoyed seeing the produce varieties that the traveling markets make available to inner-city residents on a daily basis.

The \$53,000 marks a 19% increase from the amount raised at last year's fundraiser. Dollars will be used to fund 49 Community Gardens, The Veggie Mobile, The Produce Project, The Healthy Convenience Store Initiative, Squash Hunger and the non-profit's other programs, all of which increase access to fresh, affordable food in our region's underserved neighborhoods.

"This event celebrates the local flavors that are nourishing thousands of residents throughout our region," said CDCG's Executive Director, Amy Klein. "Our annual gala provides an opportunity for our supporters, the farmers we partner with, our staff and the students we involve in our work to shake hands with one another. It is wonderful to show our appreciation for our partners and supporters and to see our guests bring home even more enthusiasm for fresh, local food."

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Capital District Community Gardens is a 38-year-old nonprofit organization that nourishes healthy communities with nearly 50 Community Gardens, The Veggie Mobile, The Healthy Convenience Store Initiative, The Produce Project, Squash Hunger and more.

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