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Bethlehem Students Donate 750 Pounds of Produce to Capital District Community Gardens' Squash Hunger Program

In celebration of our region's 5th Annual 'Farm to You Fest,' students from the Bethlehem Central School District collected nearly 750 pounds of fresh produce last week and donated it to Capital District Community Gardens' Squash Hunger program. Volunteers distributed the produce to Capital City Rescue Mission and Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless.

Squash Hunger is a fresh food donation initiative, through which CDCG distributes more than 11 tons of fresh produce to dozens of pantries and shelters throughout the region each year. CDCG relies on farmers, gardeners and supermarket shoppers to donate produce to collection bins that are conveniently located in grocery stores and markets throughout the region, and organizes volunteers to deliver donations to nearby shelters and pantries.

'Farm to You Fest' is a statewide celebration of local food and agriculture during 'New York Harvest for New York Kids Week.' In our region, the event is organized by the Bethlehem Healthy Kids Committee, who cooperates with Bethlehem's district administration, students, families and larger community to improve the health, physical activity, environmental health and overall wellness of all students in the Bethlehem Central School District.

With the help of Bethlehem Central School District's 'Farm to You Fest,' local farms and many other community members, CDCG has already collected more than 20,000 pounds of produce since this year's season began in June. The organization anticipates another 8,000 pounds from local farm gleanings before the end of November.

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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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