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## Capital District Community Gardens Elects New Officers and Board Members

New officers and members were elected to serve on Capital District Community Gardens' Board of Directors. The 22-member board is responsible for developing innovative programs that are implemented by the 39-year-old non-profit that connects more than 170,000 residents in four counties with access to fresh, affordable produce.

**Ellen Flink** joins CDCG's board. Recently retired, the former Director of Policy for the Office of Health IT Transformation within the Department of Health worked for New York State for more than 30 years and acquired 15 years of senior management experience. Flink developed health policies and communication and education strategies.

**Linda Passaretti** joins CDCG's board. The Director of Development for the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation has acquired more than a decade of fundraising experience after retiring in the field of law. A Capital Region native and current Rensselaer County home owner, Passaretti is passionate about building a livable, sustainable community where her neighbors have access to healthy food.

**Rachel Hye Youn Rupright** joins CDCG's board. The Grant Writer for the City School District of Albany has nearly six years of program development experience. Previously, Rupright served as the Director of Community Impact at United Way of the Greater Capital Region and as Child Nutrition Program Specialist at Hunger Solutions New York.

**Michael Whiteman** of Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna, LLP was re-elected to his third term as President of the Board. **Kim Hickok** of Web Instinct was elected Executive Vice President, **Raymond Smith** of Albany Medical College was elected Vice President and **John Carl** of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, LLC was elected Ad Hoc Executive Committee member.

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*Capital District Community Gardens is a 39-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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