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CDCG Launches The Veggie Mobile Sprout, A Second Mobile Market Designed to Increase Access to Fresh Produce in Inner-City Neighborhoods

Capital District Community Gardens' Veggie Mobile had a young'un! At a press conference held at The Lansingburgh Apartments in Rensselaer County on Wednesday, the non-profit that nourishes healthy communities throughout the region announced the launch of The Veggie Mobile Sprout, the organization's second mobile market. The Sprout is now delivering more fresh produce to our region's families.

"The expansion of the Veggie Mobile Program is good news for Troy as it will provide even greater access to the fruits and vegetables that make up a well-balanced diet," said Rensselaer County Executive Kathleen M. Jimino. "As we all know proper nutrition is vital to helping us stay healthy and even more important to the youth of our community who are establishing their eating habits that could last a lifetime."

Sharing their remarks at the conference were project champions, including Rensselaer County Executive, Kathy Jimino, Assemblyman Ron Canestrari and CDCG's Executive Director, Amy Klein.

"This is the latest example of Capital District Community Gardens at work, improving the lives of the many people they serve," said Assemblyman Ron Canestrari. "On behalf of a grateful community, I wish to congratulate and commend all involved in this worthwhile initiative."

With the support of a grant awarded by the New York State Department of Health, CDCG's Sprout is now delivering produce to six locations in Rensselaer County:

- Blooming Grove Senior Housing, 105 Blooming Grove Drive, Troy
- John P. Taylor Apartments, Front and River Street, Troy
- Martin Luther King Apartments, 1 Eddy's Lane, Troy

- Lansingburgh Apartments, 41 114th Street, Lansingburgh
- O'Neil Apartments, 2121 6th Avenue, Troy
- Griswold Heights, between Madison and Delaware Avenues in Troy

“We strive to connect as many communities as possible with fresh produce,” said CDCG’s Executive Director Amy Klein. “Generous support from community leaders continues to make it possible for us to expand our programs and work toward meeting this goal. It is very satisfying to know that now even more families in our region are getting the nutritious food they need to lead healthy lives.”

The Sprout, a Ford Transit Connect Commercial Utility Vehicle with solar powered interior features, is smaller than its box truck parent, making it possible for one staff person to make deliveries in areas with difficult traffic conditions. Though smaller, The Sprout is just as colorful and fun as The Veggie Mobile. Sprout shoppers can expect the same local produce, personable staff, colorful graphics and enthusiastic music that make Veggie Mobile shopping a fun, social experience.

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Capital District Community Gardens is a nonprofit organization that has served the Capital Region for more than 35 years. CDCG nourishes healthy communities with nearly 50 Community Gardens, The Veggie Mobile and Sprout, The Healthy Convenience Store Initiative, The Produce Project, Squash Hunger, The Taste Good Series and Street Tree Planting.

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