



*Connecting local farmers
with neighbors in need*

Rolling Harvest Food Rescue Farm Partner Agreement

The generosity and community spirit that you have shown has enabled Rolling Harvest Food Rescue to distribute more than five million servings so far of your locally-grown nutritious, delicious food to thousands of struggling, food-insecure families each week, many of whom suffer from diet-related health issues.

Although originally created to fill the nutritional gap affecting low-income neighbors in need, we have found that our work is also of significant benefit to our local farming community who hate to see good food plowed under or thrown away.

We have a corps of volunteers to pickup and distribute, and a rapid response gleaning team ready to harvest what you can't get to for donation. From this has also grown opportunities for Rolling Harvest to thank our partner farmers by offering teams of volunteers for projects like weeding or harvesting potatoes once or twice each season.

Please contact us if you would like to schedule a “thank you” work session during the season.

Rolling Harvest is able to operate under The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Protection Act, signed into law in 1996. The purpose is to "encourage the donation of food and grocery products to nonprofit organizations for distribution to needy individuals." The Act protects the donor from civil and criminal liability arising from food donated in good faith, except in cases of gross negligence or intentional misconduct.

- **Nutrition Education Outreach**

We have also come to realize that simply delivering your donated food is not enough to ensure that everyone benefits and that there is no waste. Either at one of our weekly on-site free farmer's markets, or during normal operating hours, the pantries we partner with are encouraged to work with our Nutrition Educators and present vegetables and fruits in appealing ways to encourage clients to try them. We offer samples, cooking tips and recipes along with your produce for families to take home and enjoy.

- **Food Quality**

It is critical that the produce donated still be fresh enough to be visually appealing and to taste good, otherwise we will defeat our educational mission of encouraging consumption of the healthy foods you so generously donate.

Please, before donating, separate out food that is too old and has no shelf live.

Through generous support, we now have a cooler for “storage” crops with a longer shelf-life at Gravity Hill Farm and a large cold storage space in Doylestown we share with Bucks County Opportunity Council, donated by the Bucks County Commissioners.

Volunteers at Rolling Harvest work hard to keep donated produce cooled and stored properly from the time it is picked up until it is delivered but we have limited capacity. Food pantries also have storage issues, especially for items needing to be refrigerated.

For greens and other vegetables with a more limited shelf-life, we try to deliver the same day to the pantry but it still might be another day before recipients take home the food.

We ask donating farms/stores to keep this time frame in mind.

Please help us be more efficient by not having our volunteers (who are not trained as well in produce quality) devote time or storage space on what is better allocated for compost, and by labeling food with name and date of harvest whenever possible.

If the appearance but not the quality of the food has been compromised, we can sometimes donate it to soup kitchens and community meals that cook for clients in need. When you call for pick up, let us know if the produce would need to be processed first so we can contact kitchens to see if they would be able to use it.

- **Compensation Opportunities—United Way BKO-Bucks Knocks out Hunger**

For the last three years, we have partnered with United Way to create a “Produce Purchase Program” that allows us to give wholesale price reimbursement to Bucks County farms for some highly desirable produce that might not otherwise be donated—especially fruit of any kind. In these cases, Rolling Harvest will contact the farmers who donate to us and inquire if they have any of the produce we are looking for and at what price they could sell them to us. We will always prioritize the farms/farmers who regularly donate while following the geographic restrictions of the United Way grant.

We are also piloting a program to buy a CSA share from farmers who have direct relationships with shelters and at-risk families. If you would like to be considered for this program, please contact us.

Donation Documentation Request

It would be extremely helpful to us if you would document the specific food type and corresponding pounds of your donation on a monthly, weekly or quarterly basis for our record keeping. This also is an invaluable tool that helps Rolling Harvest spread awareness about the work we are all doing together to combat local food inequality, and helps us procure funding to cover the costs of our programs.

We are an IRS tax-exempt 501-c-3 nonprofit organization (EIN# 27-4630639), and, as such, are pleased to provide you with receipts for any tax-deductible food and in-kind donations on a weekly, monthly, quarterly or yearly basis. Please check with your accountant about your specific eligibility regarding donations and tax deductibility.

THANK YOU for helping us help our neighbors in need. For more information about Rolling Harvest Food Rescue, please go to our website: www.RollingHarvest.com and follow us on Facebook.

_____ *Cathy Snyder* _____ Cathy Snyder, Rolling Harvest Food Rescue, Exec. Dir.
_____ for _____ Farm

PRINT NAME: _____ DATE: _____