



Sustainable farming, building community and reconnecting people to the land

January 30, 2024

Friends Foundation for Aging
Susan W. Hoskins LCSW, Executive Director
PO Box 1081
Langhorne, PA 19047
info@friendsfoundationaging.org

Dear Ms. Hoskins and Honored Trustees:

We wanted to share an update on the successful completion of your 2023 grant used to grow and distribute healthy produce to food insecure seniors.



I talked with Tonya Grant, our contact at the Trenton Housing Authority (THA), and she offered the following feedback about this year's project:

Receiving and distributing organic veggies from Snipes Farm was worked by the seniors themselves. They were excited about the project and had energy to organize things. As we delivered bags from our truck, they set up the bags for pick up and arranged for veggies to be delivered to the apartments of people who weren't mobile enough to come to the first floor. One woman who no longer lived in THA housing, was so dedicated to people getting their veggies that she returned at each delivery as a volunteer to help hand out the bags.

Tonya related that one senior, Ms. Linda Benson, was excited to receive winter squash in her bag. When Tonya asked her about it, Ms. Benson said she was going to make a pie with the squash! Ms. Benson also enjoyed explaining to others what was in their bags, asking if they were unfamiliar with the veggies, and then sharing recipes for their use.

Tonya suggested that staff from Snipes Farm offer cooking demonstrations during the project in 2024, and provide related recipes. Everyone enjoys learning new ways to cook, and the residents all have kitchens in their apartments.

We are looking to possibly partner with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education Program (SNAP-ED) to offer nutrition education along with our veggies. This may put extra resources into our mutual food project.

890 W. Bridge Street · Morrisville, PA 19067 · 215-295-1139 · www.snipesfarm.org

*Per IRS regulations, we hereby state that no goods or services were received in exchange for this donation.
Snipes Farm and Education Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. Federal Tax ID #26-1338481*



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Tonya says that the public housing seniors are asking when Snipes Farm and veggies will return. The program was a big hit! My favorite personal story is when I was delivering veggies and a voice called "Yoo hoo!" I looked up several floors of the THA apartment building to see a lady leaning over her balcony railing. She said, "Thank you for the veggies!" I asked her what she would be making, and she said with excitement, "Soup!" That's the best recommendation for the program I could dream of.

Funds received: \$20,000.00 FFA
 \$ 3,335.00 NJM
 \$ 665.00 Wawa hunger grant (to augment the NJM shortfall)
 \$24,000.00 Total

- Deliveries to THA senior apartments 6-21-23 to 7-26-23
- 150 shares per week = 1,200 shares in total
- Bags contained 2.8 lbs. in each for a total of 3,309 lbs. of organic produce.

Trenton Housing Authority (Senior & Disabled) Public Housing	Number of shares* delivered weekly	Times 8 weeks equals	Cost per share, including chilled produce delivery = \$20
Josephson Apts. 237 Oakland St, Trenton, NJ 08618	50	400	400 x \$20 = \$8,000
Abbott Apt. 490 Hoffman Ave, Trenton, NJ	50	400	400 x \$20 = \$8,000
French Towers 630 West State St, Trenton, NJ	50	400	400 x \$20 = \$8,000
Project Total	150	1,200	\$24,000

Organic veggies in shares: lettuce, onion, squash, tomato, cucumber, peppers, carrots, cabbage, potatoes, radishes.



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And here are some additional Snipes Farm updates: We are processing the many steps involved in the Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) which will help us with a grant to cover half of the cost to construct a \$1.3M community learning center. This project will create classrooms with indoor and outdoor teaching kitchens on the farm. We recently completed an outdoor pavilion project. It is now in use serving the educational needs of area children and the community at large.

Thank you again for your valued partnership that helps feed many food-insecure seniors and families in Trenton. If you have questions, please call me at (215) 880-1231 or email at gayleb@snipesfarm.org.

Best regards to each of you for a beautiful Spring season ahead!

Jonathan Snipes
Executive Director