



Late summer 2017

2017 Farmers Market Season in Full Swing

The height of harvest is upon us and our farmers markets now have an abundance of produce of all types, so be sure to stop by and shop for some of the tastes of the season.

- **Canton** - Village Park, Tues. & Fri., 9 to 2
- **Gouverneur** - Village Park, Thurs., 9 to 2
- **Hammond** - Hammond Museum, Wed., 3 to 6
- **Massena** - Danforth Place, Sun., 10 to 2 and Thurs., 11 to 6
- **Potsdam** - Ives Park, Sat., 9 to 2

Did you know that volunteers are the heart of the success of our farmers markets in St. Lawrence County? Here's what one volunteer says about his experience.

"I volunteer with GardenShare because United Helpers is a people business and we set out to please our customers, which are the people here at the farmers market," said Curtis Legault a United Helpers employee and volunteer at the Canton Farmers Market.

"The vendors here at the market are working hard every week to make a living, so just volunteering here for a couple hours a week trying to better the lives of people feels good."

"What I would say to people thinking about volunteering with GardenShare at the market is that it's a little tough at first wrapping your head around the equipment, but it gets easier every time!" Curtis continued, "I think I come back to volunteer because there is something new in season every time I am back at the market, and you get to meet the people that grew your vegetables. That's pretty special."



Are you interested in volunteering? Call us at 315-261-8054!



Third Annual Fight Hunger 5K

Walk, run, skip, or even just stroll—please consider joining us on Sunday, September 17, 2017, at the Remington Trail in Canton to raise money to support GardenShare!

Registration starts at 12:30 and walkers leave at 1:00, with runners following at 1:30.

It's not too early to ask friends, family or co-workers to sponsor you for this important event.

And you don't have to go it alone! Organize a team from work, church, or school!

Prizes for the top fundraisers!

Full details included in this newsletter or on gardenshare.org

Sowing Solutions

Early in my time at GardenShare, I often heard the organization described as getting a lot done on a shoestring.

That's important to me, as I know it is to you. In addition to being paid staff at a nonprofit, I am also a donor and a community volunteer. Just like you, I want to see the resources the community donates to GardenShare put to the very best use to further our mission.

When you read this brief newsletter, you'll see how we stretch those resources, especially with community volunteers and with full-time volunteers from AmeriCorps!

Solving challenges like hunger and building a strong and vibrant local food system is work that will take everything our communities have

to offer—volunteers, donations of goods and services, and yes, money!

You have been an important part of that work. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure are making a huge difference.

For that, I thank you!

And I hope we can continue to count on your support in this important work.

Hope to see you at the Fight Hunger 5K on Sunday, September 17!



Gloria McAdam



AmeriCorps VISTA's at GardenShare

Through Hunger Free America's Anti-Hunger Opportunity Corps, GardenShare has been able to engage two AmeriCorps VISTA's (Volunteers in Service to America).

These volunteers are charged with building GardenShare's capacity through recruiting volunteers, supporting our farmers markets, and promoting the use of SNAP benefits at the farmers markets, among other tasks.

The volunteers make a one-year, full-time commitment to this work and receive a small living stipend from AmeriCorps.

Brianna Blackburn has been with GardenShare since last November. Brianna is a recent Clarkson graduate with a Bachelor's degree in political science and minors in business and law. In addition to her general VISTA responsibilities, Brianna is using her schooling and internship background to do some business analysis and recommend best practices for our farmers markets.

Maggie Smith will be joining us at about the time you receive this newsletter. She is a recent graduate of Hamilton College and a native of Long Lake with deep family ties in the North Country.



GardenShare's mission is to solve the problem of hunger in St. Lawrence County through policy advocacy work and by strengthening the food system to benefit all County residents.

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GardenShare
PO Box 516
Canton, NY 13617
(315) 261-8054

GardenShare.org

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