

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

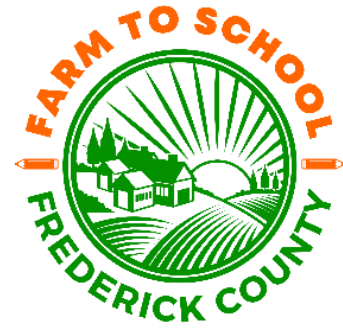
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Farm to School Frederick RECEIVED TAX EXEMPT

STATUS AS A 501(C)3 NON-PROFIT AND JUST IN TIME FOR THE GIVING SEASON! DONORS CAN DEDUCT ALL CONTRIBUTIONS!

Farm to School Frederick is on a mission to make locally grown, highly nutritious fruits and vegetables available to all Frederick residents. We accomplish this good work through a network of community members, organizations, farmers, businesses, and institutions with a common goal of improving the health and well-being of all people and our planet.

Frederick | November 29, 2022. After 4 successful years of increasing the availability of locally grown, highly nutritious fruits and vegetables served as part of the FCPS [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program](#), Farm to School (F2S) Frederick has expanded our scope to have an even greater impact serving families and students in Frederick County by establishing new partnerships with the [FCPS Judy Centers](#), the [FCPS SUCCESS Program](#) and the [FCPS Culinary Arts Program](#).

When Farm to School Frederick serves as the intermediary between Frederick growers and community organizations, businesses, and schools, we help create new markets for our Frederick farmers to sustain Frederick's position in Maryland as an agriculture leader. In the 2021 – 2022 school year, F2S Frederick assisted FCPS Food and Nutrition Services department to scale up local purchasing of fruits and vegetables to \$81,109.00. This past summer, F2S Frederick organized and facilitated the distribution of over 2,000 pounds of fresh local produce to the Frederick Rescue Mission, the City of Frederick Food Bank, and FCPS Market Days. Literally, one ton of produce was delivered to students and families facing food insecurity that would have otherwise gone to waste.

F2S programs have far reaching impacts on a number of critical issues surrounding food production and distribution.

Critical Issues	F2S Impact
Food Insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fostering partnerships with FCPS, local non-profit organizations and other institutions to distribute food and educate consumers
Food Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating pathways to collect and donate produce that would otherwise go to waste
Environmental degradation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decreasing CO2 emissions through reduced transportation and storage energy costs
Public health/Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing fresh, nutritious unprocessed foods and educating students and parents about their preparation
Lack of markets for local farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connecting farmers with local institutional food purchasers, educating consumers
Competition with national food distributors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helping County plan infrastructure such as cold storage, processing, and packaging facilities to enable aggregation of multiple farms to supply large quantities of produce to local institutions

With financial support from Frederick businesses and corporations as well as individual donations and volunteerism, Farm to School Frederick's impact could be even greater! To support our mission, sponsor our organization, donate and/or volunteer, please visit our website: www.f2sfrederick.org.