

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **New Jersey Farm to School Network announces Winter Conference**

### ***It Takes a Village: Collaborations in Good Food and School Gardens”***

Mays Landing, NJ, January 30, 2011 —The New Jersey Farm to School Network will host their Winter Conference, “It Takes a Village: Collaborations in Good Food and School Gardens,” February 24 and 25, 2012 at Atlantic Cape Community College, 5100 Black Horse Pike, Mays Landing in Walter E. Edge Hall. With support from the AtlantiCare Foundation, the conference will highlight collaborations in southern New Jersey among higher education, not-for-profit organizations, K-12 schools and community organizers who are bringing good food and nutrition education solutions to the region. The conference will be of interest to educators, healthcare providers, agricultural professionals, philanthropists, and students seeking degrees in education, healthcare, social sciences, agriculture and/or the culinary arts.

Registration each day will open at 9 a.m.

The conference agenda on Friday will feature Farm to School projects including the introduction of newly developed food products made from New Jersey-grown produce developed through the Rutgers Food Innovation Center. Organizers will also share results from a statewide Farm to School survey the Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Division of Family and Community Health Sciences conducted.

The afternoon session will highlight the Campus Kitchen at Atlantic City program, a collaboration of the Atlantic Cape Community College Academy of Culinary Arts; Atlantic City High School; The Boys and Girls Club of Atlantic City; Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and Sodexo, Inc.

Saturday’s conference agenda will showcase school and community garden programs in Atlantic, Camden and Gloucester counties. They include gardens supported by the AtlantiCare Foundation’s Growing Green Initiative in Atlantic City, The New Jersey Agricultural Society’s Learning Through Gardening program in Margate and Ventnor; Rutgers Cooperative Extension Division of Family and Community Health Sciences in Gloucester County and The Center for Environmental Transformation in Camden.

The New Jersey Farm to School Network was founded in 2008 to provide a statewide resource for farm to school programs. The Network works with schools, farmers, advocates, food service professionals, state agencies and others in New Jersey to improve school lunches and promote school garden programs.

Registration fee is \$40 for both days and \$25 for one day. Inaugural membership dues to become a member of the New Jersey Farm to School Network for one year will be available during registration for \$10.

For more information, call 609-577-5113 or visit [www.njfarmtoschool.org](http://www.njfarmtoschool.org).

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