Manna operates Farm to Food Bank in partnership with the Office of Agriculture, the Montgomery County Food Council, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Fresh from the Fields

A FARM TO FOODBANK NEWSLETTER

Metrics
- 1,550 lbs. purchased from 11 MoCo farms
- Supported 16 Food Assistance Providers (FAPs)
- 8 of those FAPs were schools
- Most purchased item: 203 dozen eggs

Event Highlight
The first of five farm visits in the Food Systems Leadership Network Activation Grant series was held at Amaranth Acres on March 15th. Indhu and Vijay hosted MoCo Food Assistance Providers and other food system stakeholders to learn about the culturally considerate crops they are growing. She prepared a delicious chili with beans she harvested, as well as an Indian tomato pickle made with tomatoes. Check out Upcoming Events for the next site visit.

Farmer Tax Credits
I wanted to take a moment to highlight the MD Food Donation Program. As of July 1, 2023, farmers are able to claim 100 percent wholesale credit to all food—certified organic or otherwise, thanks to the Farmers Feeding Families Act of 2022. This is for donated food only. The tax credit is capped at $5,000 per year per farm. Exceptions may be made by the Maryland Secretary of Agriculture, allowing the tax credit to be increased from $5,000 per farm to $10,000 per farm.

Click this link for USDA Weekly Pricing.
For more information or questions on the application process, contact Mark Powell at (410) 841-5775 or mark.powell@maryland.gov.

Upcoming Events
- April 1st - April 7th: National Food Waste Prevention Week (FWPW): Check out the DMV Food Recovery Week website for event registration.
- Wednesday, April 3rd: MoCo Food Council Happy for FWPW at 7 Locks Brewing 4pm to 6pm.
- Monday, April 22nd: 2nd FSLN Activation Grant Farm Visit at Chicken of the Woods Permaculture Farm.

Seeking
We are looking to host at least 4 gleans before the end of June 2024. If you are interested in hosting, please reach out to tricia@mannafood.org.