



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kim Turner
(302) 444-8074
kturner@fbd.org

Produce shares available for Food Bank of Delaware Community Supported Agriculture program

Newark, Del. (February 25, 2013) – The Food Bank of Delaware announced today that it's making shares of produce available to the community this growing season through its new Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program.

The program, funded by the United States Department of Agriculture, Delaware Department of Agriculture and Syngenta, will allow Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients to purchase low-cost shares of produce using their SNAP benefits. Community members not eligible for SNAP benefits may purchase full or half-shares for \$500 and \$250 respectively. The purchased share cost includes a tax-deductible donation to the Food Bank of Delaware to help fund shares for participants with lower incomes.

The new program helps to bridge the gap between SNAP recipients and local farmers and provides low-income households access to affordable fresh fruits and vegetables. Produce for the program is provided by Highland Orchards in Wilmington, Del. and SIW Vegetables in Chadds Ford, Penn.

"We are excited to be able to offer this new program to our community," said Food Bank of Delaware President and CEO Patricia Beebe. "We are committed to ensuring that everyone has access to fresh, affordable, local produce regardless of income level. This new program will allow us to bring our local farmers closer to the community."

Community Supported Agriculture has become a popular way for consumers to buy local, seasonal food. Traditionally, CSA members purchase their produce during the winter and collect their shares weekly in the summer.

Produce shares will be available for weekly pick up (18 weeks total) at the Wilmington Farmers' Market at Cool Springs Park and the Food Bank of Delaware's Newark facility (14 Garfield Way) starting in June. (Newark pick-up location is available for non-SNAP participants only). Participants will receive a variety of produce each week.

To sign up to participate (either SNAP recipient or community share), please contact Barbara Brkovich, CSA Program Coordinator, at (302) 292-1305 ext 204 or bbrkovich@fbd.org. More information is also available at www.fbd.org/program/csa.

###

About the Food Bank of Delaware: The Food Bank of Delaware distributes million pounds of food and grocery products each year its network of 508 hunger-relief program partners throughout the state and also provides thousands of meals a month for children through the After-School Feeding Program, the Summer Food Service Program and the Backpack Program. The Food Bank's hunger-relief programs directly provide for 241,600 Delawareans at risk of going without meals each year. For more information about the Food Bank of Delaware, visit www.fbd.org or call (302) 292-1305.