

News Release



The AmpleHarvest.org Campaign
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AMPLEHARVEST.ORG SITE NOW HELPS THE HUNGRY FIND UNITED WAY 2-1-1 RESOURCES

Connecting The Hungry With Local Food Assistance And Other Resources.

West Milford, NJ – (December 3, 2009) – The AmpleHarvest.org^(SM) Campaign announces that it now provides free guidance on its web site (www.AmpleHarvest.org) for individuals in search of food assistance.

The AmpleHarvest.org campaign was created in May of 2009 to help millions of backyard gardeners across the country find local food pantries eager for their excess garden bounty. Since that time, more than 1,180 food pantries have registered on the free site.

Due to the growing number of families seeking food assistance, and as a result of its prominence on the Internet, AmpleHarvest.org has also been attracting an increasing number of people in need of food aid in recent months.

To address the urgent needs of these individuals, and at the recommendation of United Way, AmpleHarvest.org now provides a nationwide listing of United Way's 2-1-1 web resources on a state by state basis. The United Way 2-1-1 network provides free and confidential information to anyone in need of state or local health and human services, including food, shelter, health care and counseling assistance.

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AmpleHarvest.org 2-1-1

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The AmpleHarvest.org Campaign was created because many backyard gardeners who grow more vegetables, fruit and herbs than they need wanted to share their bounty with the hungry in their community, but often could not find local a food pantry. This excess food was instead left to rot in the garden, composted or simply thrown away.

According to AmpleHarvest.org founder Gary Oppenheimer, “The AmpleHarvest.org Campaign is working to diminish hunger in America by enabling millions of backyard gardeners to donate their excess garden bounty to local food pantries. At the same time, nearly 500 people a week were coming to the web site in hope that they might receive some of the help they so desperately need. Although AmpleHarvest.org is not able to provide anyone with food assistance, it certainly can point these individuals to the resources that can best help them in their own communities, and that is what this enhancement to the AmpleHarvest.org web site does. They get the help they need and we can remain focused on the bigger picture”.

AmpleHarvest.org is an outgrowth of Sustainable West Milford, a 503(c)(1) sustainability organization and has received support from many groups including the USDA, Google, Inc., National Gardening Association, the Garden Writers of America, Rotary International, VFW, and numerous faith groups. The AmpleHarvest.org Campaign is a grassroots effort to diminish hunger in America by enabling backyard gardeners to easily find a local food pantry eager for their donations. Nearly 1,200 food pantries nationwide participate. For more information on the campaign, visit www.AmpleHarvest.org or call AMPLE-6-9880 (267-536-9880).

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