Dear Friends,

In 2022, The 607 CSA and Star Route Farm teams created Catskills Agrarian Alliance, a new non-profit expanding our capacity to foster an equitable, just, and ecologically sound food system for the Catskills and NYC foodshed.

At CAA, our focus is food sovereignty, which means a community in control of their food system. We are building regional pathways and practices that address stewardship of the land, climate change, food access, and the livelihoods of our farmers.

This is certainly an ambitious undertaking, but we have found that a holistic approach to food system work is the logical and efficient way to solve multiple problems at once. It’s helpful to know that we do this work with the support of some amazing partners in our alliance, including:

- 39 farmers and producers in the Catskills
- 29 organizations serving food-insecure communities up and downstate
- a CSA membership of more than 700 households
- 30 schools and universities—large-scale institutions that are responsible for feeding thousands of New Yorkers everyday.

As we begin 2023, we are excited to continue to build and serve this community. We’re proud of our team, our work, our partners, our practices, and the food we grow. Join us!

In solidarity and in community,
The Team at Catskills Agrarian Alliance

Catskills Agrarian Alliance (CAA) is a comprehensive food sovereignty project built from the ground up by farmers in Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties. We fundraise to provide mutual aid to historically under-resourced communities; grow and source food from local farms; facilitate regional land-access work; and operate a regional value-chain, collaborating with and serving a variety of partners, including schools, businesses, households, and mutual aid groups.
Some Highlights from 2022

Catskills Agrarian Alliance, Inc. Established!
- The 607 CSA transitioned from LLC to our current non-profit Catskills Agrarian Alliance, Inc. Articles of Incorporation filed May 24th, 2022. 501(c)(3) status pending

Star Route Farm:
- Donated 17,583 pounds of nutrient-dense food from our four-acre fields
- Farmed alongside a majority BIPOC crew for the first time
- Grew black beans, garlic, and potatoes on our new fields
- Held an inspiring mutual aid retreat for 30 of our downstate partners to strengthen community, build new connections, and give our thanks

Farm to Institution / Wholesale:
- Awarded over 30,000 lbs of food through bid process, NY Thursdays, and grant products
- As a part of an ongoing project for the 2022-2023 school year, we processed 11,500 lbs. of local tomatoes grown by the Amish community, with SUNY Delhi
- Partnered with two school districts across 27 local K-12 schools and three colleges
- Approximately 42,000 students served

607 CSA:
- With 747 members, 39 participating farms/suppliers, 34 community pick-up locations, 16 wholesale customers
- First year implementing sliding-scale payment option, in addition to cost-adjusted and fully subsidized shares made available for anyone requesting food
- Developed a prescription box program with the Rural Health Network and sent produce every other week to 19 program participants in Delaware County

Land Access:
- Currently developing a local (c)2 for the Greater Northern Catskills Agrarian Commons alongside American Farmland Trust and Agrarian Trust, preserving 300 acres of prime farmland in Delaware county for the next generation of farmers
- Supported a trio of new/beginning farmers from the Bronx, The Iridescent Earth Collective, in their transition to farming and living in the Catskills

Mutual Aid:
- Supported multiple organizations’ consistent food distributions across the year — reaching an average of over 3,000 people weekly - with fresh produce and labor
- Began formation of mutual aid and farmer advisory boards to give stakeholders ingress into our processes and how we can develop best practices
- Partnerships with 14 mutual aid organizations
- Serving 15 upstate food pantries

catskillsagrarianalliance.org  instagram.com/catskillsagrarianalliance