

Snipes Farm shares bounty

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The farm works with charities to provide fresh vegetables to the needy.

A local farm is giving out a different kind of green as opposed to the usual monetary charitable donations.

The Bucks County American Red Cross homeless shelter and the Bucks County Housing Group - an organization that assists families transitioning out of homelessness - received a steady supply of fresh vegetables in 2009, thanks to the Snipes Farm in Falls.

The Snipes Farm and Education Center - a 501c3 non-profit established about 18 months ago - took donations from individuals, businesses and associations and used those funds to distribute \$5,500 worth of fresh veggies to the two charities.

After totaling all the money donated to Snipes Farm in 2009, Susan Snipes said it was enough to put together nine "shares" of produce that were distributed among the organizations over 25 weeks.

"The shares come from our Community Supportive Agricultural Program," said Snipes, adding that individuals can purchase shares for themselves at \$625 apiece. One share works out to about one bushel of veggies each week for 25 weeks.

The Snipes family hopes to assist these organizations again in 2010, Susan Snipes said.

Danielle Webb, spokeswoman for the homeless shelter, said the organization looks forward to any help it can get from Snipes Farm.

"Our shares were purchased for us by the Harry Chapin Foundation," she added. "We went over there every week in the spring and summer to pick up whatever they happened to be growing. I think any time that you have a chance to put locally grown produce in children's stomachs it is always a good thing."

For more information about this program, visit www.snipesfarm.org or call 215-295-1139.