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PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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America's Grow-a-Row, 150 Pittstown Road, Pittstown, New Jersey 08867

### **Farm to Fork Fundraiser to Support America's Grow-a-Row**

America's Grow-a-Row (AGAR) has presented nutrition and hunger awareness programs for students within the school community. America's Grow-a-Row is a non-profit organization that grows and gleans fresh, healthy fruits and vegetables that are donated to those suffering from hunger and those living in "food deserts," or areas that lack access to fresh, affordable produce, throughout the state of New Jersey. AGAR began in 2002 when Chip Paillex delivered 120 pounds of homegrown produce to the Flemington Area Food Pantry. Today AGAR has become New Jersey's leading service organization dedicated to growing, gleaning, and donating fresh produce to those in need throughout the state. Last year alone, thanks to the help of more than 3,000 volunteers, AGAR donated over 840,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables throughout New Jersey. Since their beginning, AGAR has donated over 2.5 million pounds – or 10 million servings – of food to our neighbors in need.

AGAR's mission is to positively impact as many lives as possible through a volunteer effort of planting, picking, rescuing, and delivering free fresh produce. At AGAR, we:

- Provide fresh produce to those in need
- Educate people of all generations about hunger and ways to help
- Introduce our youth to farming and healthy eating
- Cultivate in tomorrow's leaders the habit of giving back
- Contribute to the sustainability of agriculture

AGAR is hosting their Farm to Fork event on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at Life Camp in Pottersville, New Jersey and is delighted to have Jerry Walker of Team Walker in Jersey City as their honoree. Farm to Fork is a fundraising event benefiting AGAR and features local food artisans, a farm fresh dinner and fine auctions. The goal of this event is to raise money and make a solid investment in the future of AGAR. Your support will help AGAR reach their 2014 goals of donating over 1 million pounds of farm-fresh food to various hunger relief agencies in New Jersey while at the same time educating people of all ages about hunger, the importance of agriculture, and healthy eating. This past summer AGAR hosted over 750 young people at their farm through their inner-city youth programs and they plan to expand this program to reach even more youth in 2014. In 2013, AGAR expanded the Free Farm Market program to include additional distributions in Newark, Camden, East Orange and Jersey City. Moving forward AGAR will expand and solidify the full-circle approach of educational presentations, Grow-Your-Row demonstrations, Free Farm Markets, Inner-City Youth Days and Recipient Volunteering. The Farm to Fork fundraiser is dedicated to celebrating the important work done by AGAR as they sow the seeds of hope, gratitude and progress for the future.

To order tickets or make a tax-deductible contribution, please visit [www.americasgrowarow.org/farm-to-fork/](http://www.americasgrowarow.org/farm-to-fork/) For more information, contact Heather Mulvey (heather@americasgrowarow.org/973-886-6318) or Juls Palmer (juls@americasgrowarow.org/908-507-5282)