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20 ORGANIZATIONS WILL GROW PLANTS IN 150 BOXES IN GROW BROOME PROGRAM

BINGHAMTON, NY—This summer 20 local organizations will grow plants in 150 containers and donate at least half of the produce to feed the hungry in Broome County through the Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse (CHOW) program of the Broome County Council of Churches. This will all be accomplished through the GROW BROOME program sponsored by United Way of Broome County.

Begun in 2006 to extend the popular Day of Caring program beyond a single day, GROW BROOME began with 100 highly effective growing containers called EarthBoxes at 16 not-for-profit organizations. Donating half the food to CHOW has been part of the program every year.

-more-

20 Organizations Will Grow Plants
Page two

The participating organizations in the GROW BROOME program this year are:

- African Road Elementary School (new this year)
- American Civic Association
- Boys & Girls Club of Binghamton's Camp Sertoma
- Broome County Council of Churches (new this year)
- Broome-Tioga Achieve
- Broome-Tioga BOCES
- Catholic Charities of Broome County Food Pantry (new this year)
- Children's Home
- Discovery Center of the Southern Tier
- Fairview Recovery Services
- Good Shepherd-Fairview Home
- Ideal Nursing Center
- Johnson City Senior Center
- Susquehanna Nursing Center
- United Methodist Homes/Elizabeth Church Campus
- United Methodist Homes/Hilltop Campus
- United Way of Broome County
- Vestal Nursing Center
- Waterman Conservation Center
- WSKG Public Broadcasting (new this year)

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20 Organizations Will Grow Plants
Page three

Six EarthBoxes will be at the front entrance to the Council of Churches this year. The vegetables raised will help provide fresh produce for the recipients of the CHOW program.

Children participating in a summer program will be raising the vegetables in the EarthBoxes at the Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

Begun two years ago, the program at several senior living facilities continues to grow.

Vegetables grown in the local EarthBoxes this year will include tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, broccoli, squash, cucumbers, green beans, zucchini, and corn.

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