

For Immediate Release

Calabogie Family Farm Launches Community Blossoms Flower Share Program to Provide Organic Food to Area Food Banks

Calabogie – With the knowledge that the pandemic is putting stress on the community and more and more people are turning to food banks for the first time, Calabogie Family Farm stepped up to the plate. Community Blossoms is a new flower share program developed by Johnny Slack and his wife Emma, members of Calabogie Family Farm. The purpose of Community Blossoms is to lift the community's spirits with flowers and use 100% of flower share profits to provide food for the hungry. The goal is to grow over \$5000 worth of fresh organic produce for area food banks all summer long through the sale of about 50 full flower shares. Calabogie Family Farm strongly believes that all people deserve to eat fresh, nutritious food and feed their children with the healthiest food as well.

For each flower share purchased people receive a bouquet of fresh-picked flowers every week (full share \$150) or every two weeks (half share \$75) between late June and the end of September. It's uplifting to look forward to flowers to keep or give to others during the pandemic while helping to feed the hungry and help the bees. Even better, each bouquet will come with an inspiring message about community.

Calabogie Family Farm is working to partner with the Calabogie and Area Food Bank and the Renfrew and District Food Bank for food distribution and is developing a list of sponsors, some of whom have offered to be flower pickup sites. Farm gate pickup will be available once a week beginning in late June. To purchase a flower share visit <https://calabogiefarm.com/communityblossoms/>

Calabogie Family Farm will update all members by email and on social media with informative and calming videos showing life on the family farm as they prepare the soil, plant, nurture, and harvest flowers and produce. They are hoping Community Blossoms will be a program that can be replicated everywhere.

They are looking for volunteers who would enjoy being outdoors on a family farm this summer to help make this possible. Sue Lebrun volunteered last year and says, "I volunteered last Spring and Summer on your family farm as a way to escape a lot of stress from this pandemic and to give back. I thought I'd go a couple of times but soon wanted to go couple of times a week and for the most part helped weed and plant weekly for over six weeks. I realized how wonderful it was to be around this family of organic farmers who in turn taught me more about gardening than I'd learned in my entire life. Johnny, his wife Emma and their adorable daughter are deeply involved in making a contribution to our local community. I invite everyone to get to know them and their entire family. Great citizens of Calabogie and area."

Calabogie Family Farm would like to thank the sponsors we have on board so far for their support in launching Community Blossoms: The Madawaska Highlander, Calabogie Lodge Resort, From the Ground Up Culinary, Ottawa Valley Coffee, Calabogie Brewing Company, Four & Twenty Shop, and Otterburn Maple Farm.

#CommunityBlossoms

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For more information, please contact: Johnny Slack, Calabogie Family Farm, 93 Windle Road, Renfrew ON, K7V 3Z9 (Ashdad)
www.Calabogiefarm.com info@calabogiefarm.com <https://www.facebook.com/calabogiefarm> 343-998-8654 ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT available here: <https://calabogiefarm.com/epk/>