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The CSA Innovation Network Announces CSA Week: February 20 - 26, 2022

The CSA Innovation Network, a national network for local CSA farms, is excited to announce CSA Week, taking place from February 20th through February 26th to promote CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). CSA is a farm membership system that allows consumers to sign up to receive farm products (veggies, eggs, meat, etc) every week. Along with getting to enjoy fresh, delicious, and local food, being a CSA member is an excellent way to support and get to know your local farmers. During this special week, farmers, farmer support organizations, and CSA enthusiasts across the country will be working together to raise awareness of CSA and promote CSA signups.

Join us in promoting CSA Week as we celebrate our relationship with local agriculture and lift up local CSA farmers who work hard to produce the season's best food. Historically, this event has been called "CSA Day" and it was started by Simon Huntley and Small Farm Central years ago. Last year, the CSA Innovation Network extended it to last an entire week so that more people hear about the event and have the ability to connect with their local CSA farms during this time.

"There has never been a better time to connect with fresh local food while helping to make our local farmers and communities more resilient," said Carrie Sedlak of the CSA Innovation Network.

The CSA Innovation Network is providing a free packet of digital tools to help farmers promote their CSA during this special week, which is available to people who sign up for CSA Week on the Network's website. And the CSA Week Participant map, also located on the Network's website, will provide a visual of all the participating farmers and farm support organizations across the country.

You can play an important role in CSA Week by highlighting your local CSA farmers and spreading the word that this is the most popular time to sign up for a CSA share. Folks won't want to wait long to sign up, as shares sell out quite quickly! CSA is more than food - it's about directly impacting your local food system and bridging community relationships, and we hope you will join us.

No More Empty Pots is a local nonprofit organization in Omaha focused on improving the self-sufficiency, regional food security and economic resilience of urban and rural communities. The Community Harvest weekly CSA, offered by No More Empty Pots, is one example of a year-round and subscription-based CSA. Community Harvest procures diverse food products aggregated from a network of over 40 local farmers and producers in Iowa and Nebraska. Visit https://nmepomaha.org/community-harvest/ to learn more or subscribe to the Community Harvest CSA in Greater Omaha.

About the CSA Innovation Network: The <u>CSA Innovation Network</u> is a national community of practice led by farmers and farmer support organizations who are dedicated to unifying and strengthening the CSA movement. Our mission is to serve as a resource base of programs and tools

that facilitate idea-sharing and promote the value of CSA in order to support stronger local food systems across the country. *Learn more at <u>https://www.csainnovationnetwork.org/</u>*

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About No More Empty Pots: No More Empty Pots (NMEP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to connect individuals and groups to improve self-sufficiency, regional food security and economic resilience of urban and rural communities through advocacy and action. NMEP's vision is to support communities in becoming self-sufficient, and food secure through collaboration and adherence to our core values of education, stewardship, and sustainability. NMEP serves youth to seniors providing educational, hands-on and experiential learning. Learn more at www.nmepomaha.org or email info@nmepomaha.org.