



**News for Immediate Release**

**Aug. 9, 2013**

**SCI Huntingdon Donates Prison-Grown Produce to Local Food Banks**

**Huntingdon** – The State Correctional Institution at Huntingdon recently donated 5,000 ears of corn, planted on prison ground, to local food banks.

The project is part of the Harvest Now program, founded by Brooks Sumberg, that works with churches, temples, and prisons to grow and donate fresh food for local food banks.

“SCI Huntingdon staff and inmates are proud to be a part of providing food for local food banks,” said Superintendent Tab Bickell. The prison is discussing possible ways to expand the collaboration further for annual donations of fresh produce, meat and bread.

Last summer, Bickell had the idea to grow corn for the institution. With the help of Allen Walker, maintenance manager, that idea turned into three acres of sweet corn this summer. It was a simple decision for SCI Huntingdon staff to harvest and donate the corn to community food banks.

Plans for next summer are to increase the corn crop, plus add peppers and tomatoes. The increased production will enable SCI Huntingdon to make larger donations to Harvest Now while providing fresh produce for staff and inmates.

“We are dedicated to supporting our community and take great pride in knowing that we are ‘paying it forward,’ ” Deputy Superintendent James Eckard said.

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**Source:** State Correctional Institution at Huntingdon

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