



Albany Store Partnership Helps Boost Community Health Through Gardens



Agnes Kerley | Albany Store Albany, NY

Agnes, a Produce Team Member, has been with Whole Foods Market for five years and works to **stay true to the company's core values**—like caring for and supporting her community. By securing a second Community First Grant for Capital Roots, Agnes is **advancing** the Albany store's **ongoing relationship** with the local nonprofit. She has volunteered at a community garden that Capital Roots operates and is interested in **engaging more Team Member volunteers** for additional food access programs like the nonprofit's mobile market, Veggie Mobile. "Many of us realize that options are restricted for people who have limited access to transportation. People in those situations often purchase foods that are not healthy because those are the items they can buy easily at local convenience stores."

Capital Roots capitalroots.org

Since 1975, Capital Roots has been helping underserved, low-income, minority and senior residents in the Capital Region **improve their neighborhoods, individual health and wellbeing** through community gardening, healthy food access and urban greening. Thanks to innovative food access and education programs, Capital Roots provides **many avenues to fresh, affordable produce** regardless of their population's mobility or economic ability. Community **gardens are at the core** of their work and serve more than 4,000 area residents annually. As the demand for community garden space continues to increase, the 2019 Community First Grant will supply what the nonprofit's participating gardeners need most: infrastructure repairs and expanded educational programming. Whole Cities Foundation believes partnerships like the one with Capital Roots **help nourish neighborhoods**.



Whole Foods Market Team Members can nominate a local nonprofit increasing access to fresh, healthy food or nutrition education for a \$5,000 grant.

WholeCitiesFoundation.org