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**City of Syracuse - Office of the Mayor**

November 27, 2023 · 🌐



[#DoingGood](#) with Asha Laaya, the Farm of Hope

Asha Laaya (pronounced Lay-ah) means "Farm of Hope." The name "asha" is Nepali for hope and "laaya" is Burmese for farm. Yet hope is not the only thing prospering at this farm for the hearing impaired. Mayor Walsh joined Monu Chhetri this month for a proclamation and dinner celebrating the farm during its first year:

- Growing 37,000 pounds of food
- Gaining volunteers
- Donating more than 1,000 pounds of food
- Building vendor relationships at local markets for selling food
- Formally announcing the farm's expansion from one and a half acres to more than 10 acres of farmland

Asha Laaya was established in Fall of 2022 as an initiative of Deaf New Americans Advocacy Inc. It's goal: to help them use their skills from their home countries to grow fresh produce used for home cooking and as an income source to be sold at markets in Syracuse.

Monu Chhetri, the CEO of Deaf New Americans, Inc., has brought grassroots advocacy for the deaf to national recognition. She was joined by representatives from the city, county, NYS State, alongside volunteers and supporters to celebrate a harvest of not just food but people.





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Dinesh Shrestha Proud of you Monu

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Gorakh Regmi

Many many congratulations **Monu Chhetri** and **Deaf New Americans Advocacy Inc** entire team. Bravo 🌸🌸🌸

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