

Contact: Marie Cantone (Founder and Executive Director)

info@OurChangingHands.org

631-433-0656

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Location: Sophia Garden

555 Albany Avenue Amityville, NY 11701

WORKING TOGETHER IN CELEBRATION OF EARTH DAY

April 22, 2015 11:30 AM

FOUR Long Island nonprofits (**see below**) have come together to celebrate one of the largest grass-roots efforts in history, a global initiative to plant 1,000,000,000 trees in celebration of 2015 Earth Day. All across the globe more than 146,000 volunteers have already stepped forward in this effort with the numbers growing daily.

With concern for our environment, <u>The Master Shift</u> masterminded this initiative. Their mission is to unite the world through global meditation and positive living. They chose 2015 Earth Day, as a global "give back to earth event" an "offering" for all the planet gives us. On Earth Day, The Master Shift is offering a "Live" Global Meditation Event at 9:30 PM EST in celebration of the tree plantings. This meditation is free and will be available online.

Changings Hands works collaboratively within the community to provide volunteer opportunities to individuals with special needs with the belief that every individual has the capacity to contribute to society. They invited participants from Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) Program Without Walls to pay it forward by planting a tree, one of the one-billion to be planted around the world. FREE supports groups of individuals with intellectual disability, mental illness and traumatic brain injury.

Homecoming Farm, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of St. Dominic in Amityville will be hosting the event on Earth Day. For this celebration, a fig tree will be planted; the fig is both delicious and symbolic, seen as a symbol of abundance and nourishment, as well as providing a place of rest and shade. Homecoming Farm is committed to the belief that the human and natural world is one sacred community of life. We believe that as we care for the Earth, we care for ourselves, each other and future generations, while creating sustainable communities.

The Press and members of the community are invited to show their support of our environment and the Long Island nonprofit community by attending the Earth Day celebration which is appropriate for individuals of all ages and abilities. For more information and directions, contact Marie Cantone (Founder and Executive Director) at Changing Hands at: 631-433-0656. Additional information about The Master Shift, Homecoming Farm, Changing Hands and Sophia Garden can be found at the following websites.

The Master Shift (www.themastershift.com)

Homecoming Farm (www.homecomingearth.org)

Changing Hands (www.ourchanginghands.org)

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) (www.familyres.org)

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