



**SECOND  
HARVEST  
FOOD BANK  
OF METROLINA**

Together We CAN End Hunger

**Winter 2021**

# BLESSINGS

## Newsletter

SecondHarvestMetrolina.org |      | 704.376.1785

# Kay's Message



It's hard to believe that by the time most of you will be reading this message, we will have been enduring the reality of COVID-19 for almost a full year. For those of us at Second Harvest, our basic mission has remained the same, while virtually everything else around us has changed. We are still here to feed people every day, there are just so many more people who need our help than ever before.

Throughout this past year, keeping our staff safe and well has become one of our biggest priorities. We cannot keep feeding people unless we have staff here to take care of all of the many tasks that go into feeding those in need in our region. We have always regarded safety as a top priority but we have a renewed sense of attention every day around this issue.

One of the things I have thought the most about during COVID-19, are the people surrounding us who are truly undervalued heroes. The people in supporting roles who have helped keep all of us as safe and well as possible. And while keeping us safe and well, putting themselves at risk. That is a special kind of person.

The cleaners who help us keep our work spaces clean and disinfected to help prevent spread of the virus. Our supermarket workers who have helped keep stores open so we could purchase food and the other items we need to get by on a daily basis. Our health care professionals, the doctors, nurses, paramedics and others, who have stayed the course through unthinkable challenges. Delivery and truck drivers who have worked day and night to bring all of the items we need to our doors at home. Teachers who have returned to school and are charged with keeping our most precious resource, our children, safe every day. Restaurant workers who have made it possible for us to pick up curbside and at drive-throughs, keeping us safe while putting themselves at higher risk.

All of these people keep our staff here at the Food Bank safe and healthy, so we can keep feeding people who need our help. Many of these essential workers struggle to get by on less than a living wage. In fact, some of these workers are the very people we are feeding through our network of community partners. As we emerge from this, and we will, I hope everyone will remember these sacrifices.

We encourage everyone out there to keep the faith and know that better days are ahead. One of our nation's greatest poets and a North Carolina resident for decades, Maya Angelou, offered this: "I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on and it will be better tomorrow." Thank you all for your support of our food bank and our staff. It is truly an honor and privilege to serve our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay".

Kay Carter  
CEO

# Our Report Card

The Food Bank's most recent fiscal year ended on June 30, 2020. The chart below shows our performance in several key categories for the 2019-2020 year, and for the past 17 years.

| GOAL                         | Performance in 2019-2020 | % Increase Over Last 17 Years | Average Increase Per Year |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pounds Distributed           | 70,241,518               | 811%                          | 48%                       |
| Refrigerated Pounds*         | 41,785,598               | 451%                          | 27%                       |
| Volunteer Hours              | 289,122                  | 913%                          | 57%                       |
| Programs to End Child Hunger | 280                      | 884%**                        | 63%                       |
| Pounds from Food Drive       | 8,292,141                | 605%                          | 36%                       |
| Mobile Pantries Conducted    | 515                      | 360%                          | 22.5%                     |
| Senior Programs              | 15                       | 448%**                        | 32%                       |

\* Refrigerated pounds includes produce, meat and dairy

\*\* Represents 14 Years of Growth

# Chef's Best Goes Virtual



## Banquet Sponsor



## Main Course Sponsor



# Chef's Best Goes Virtual

For decades, Harris Teeter has been one of the Food Bank's largest food and financial donors. They have also sponsored many events including our largest fundraiser, Chef's Best. Throughout COVID-19, Harris Teeter has continued this record of support.

Our 31st Annual Chef's Best, presented by Harris Teeter, was held virtually during the week of October 5th through October 9th. Due to COVID-19, we were unable to host the event at the Charlotte Convention Center, but we were still able to hold an online auction. This year was a record breaking year for Chef's Best due to our amazing sponsors and supporters. We were able to keep our annual sponsors and also add new ones.

Chef's Best 2020 raised almost \$550,000 including sponsorships, in-kind donations, and our online auction. This event benefits our CFR (Community Food Rescue) Program, which rescues safe, edible food from restaurants, catering companies, and produce markets. The food is picked up and delivered the same day to agencies that feed on-site like soup kitchens and homeless shelters. This "Go Green" program annually saves over 11 million pounds of food.



# Save the Date!

## September 17, 2021

### at the Charlotte Convention Center

Reception • Three Course Meal • Great Music • Raffle

Visit [ChefsBestCharlotte.org](https://ChefsBestCharlotte.org) for more information!



# Santa Express



## SANTA EXPRESS!



On December 2nd, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina and Walmart kicked off our Sixth Annual “Santa Express.” Running from December 2nd to December 10th, Food Bank trucks delivered fresh fruit, socks, underwear, uniforms, school supplies, toiletries, and supplies for teachers to 23 schools in 11 counties in our service region.

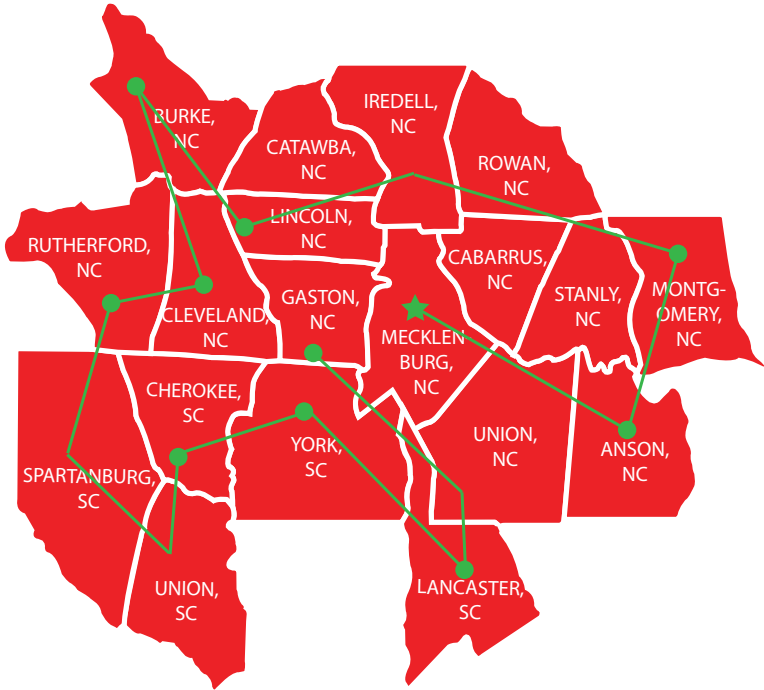
The kick-off was held at the Food Bank’s main location in Charlotte, NC, which was the beginning of the 23 stops on the Santa Express. With almost 182,000 children in our region living in poverty, the support of Walmart is critical to helping meet their basic needs. By the time Santa Express ended on December 10th, the following had been accomplished:

- Visited 11 counties in North and South Carolina
- Assisted 23 high-poverty elementary schools in our service region
- Helped provide fresh fruit, socks, underwear, uniforms, school supplies, and toiletries to over 9,000 at-risk elementary school students

### Kick-Off at Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina



# Santa Express



**Norris S. Childers Elementary**  
Lincoln County



**James Love Elementary**  
Cleveland County



**Ebenezer Avenue Elementary**  
York County



**Lawrence Orr Elementary**  
Mecklenburg County



**Luther Vaughan Elementary**  
Cherokee County



**G.E. Massey Elementary**  
Lincoln County



**Harold C. Johnson Elementary**  
York County



**Star Elementary**  
Montgomery County



**University Park Creative Arts**  
Mecklenburg County



**Clifside Elementary**  
Rutherford County



**Icard Elementary**  
Burke County



**Charlotte East Language Academy**  
Mecklenburg County



# Cornucopia



**FOOD LION  
FEEDS**



On November 24th, the NBA Charlotte Hornets partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina, Food Lion, and Coca-Cola for our Tenth Annual Cornucopia event. This year was a little different due to COVID-19. NBA Charlotte Hornets staff and Food Lion executives prepacked 1,000 food boxes at the Charlotte Convention Center, which were then distributed at a drive through event at Ovens Auditorium along with turkeys provided by Food Lion. Thank you to the NBA Charlotte Hornets, Food Lion Feeds, and Coca-Cola for your continued support in our fight to end hunger.







Every November, Hendrick Automotive Group hosts a packing event at Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina using food that is donated by employees. The food is paired with a turkey and pie and distributed to our neighbors in need during the holidays. This year, due to COVID-19, they hosted a Virtual Thanksgiving Drive, which marked its first holiday hunger effort powered by employee financial contributions. Because of these donations, Hendrick Automotive Group was able to make a \$602,500 donation to support 27 food banks located within the company's 13 states of operation. SHFBM was the recipient of \$200,000 of these funds. Thank you Hendrick Automotive Group for your many years of dedication to feeding hungry neighbors in the communities you serve.



On November 19th and 23rd, we distributed 1,700 turkeys and food boxes at the Greenville Center and Galilee Center in Charlotte, NC. We were also able to distribute these food boxes and turkeys at seven Hendrick Automotive Group sponsored school-based mobile pantries including Albemarle Road Elementary, Berryhill Elementary, Devonshire Elementary, Governor's Village STEM Academy, Highland Renaissance Academy, Nations Ford Elementary, and Thomasboro Elementary. Thank you Hendrick Automotive Group for donating the funds to buy all of the turkeys and fixings to be packed in the food boxes.



# Turkeys, Turkeys, Turkeys



On November 25th, Sports Radio 610 WFNZ hosted their 18th Annual Street Turkeys event presented by RAM Pavement, Offit Kurman Attorneys At Law, and Piedmont Natural Gas. Turkeys, canned goods, and funds were collected all day, by drive-through only, at the Harris Teeter Dog House powered by Coca-Cola located at the corner of Mint and Morehead Streets. Special thanks to Food Lion Feeds for their generous donations of turkeys. This year's event collected \$22,585, 360 turkeys, and 11,390 pounds of food for both SHFBM and our agency partner, Loaves & Fishes.



## David Weekley Homes

On November 11th, David Weekley Homes hosted their Sixth Annual Giving Thanks, Giving Back Thanksgiving Drive. They were able to raise over 87,000 pounds of food for Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. They also donated \$12,000, which purchased three much-needed electric pallet jacks.



On November 23rd, Cargill delivered 1,900 turkeys for us to distribute to families in need. 750 of these turkeys were delivered to our partner agency Loaves & Fishes. Thank you to our friends at Harris Teeter and Cargill for making this donation possible.



# Turkeys, Turkeys, Turkeys



On November 13th, Lidl US donated 800 turkeys to help us feed families in need over the Thanksgiving holiday. These turkeys were distributed to many of our 800+ partner agencies, who provided them to neighbors in need over the holidays.



Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina was honored again in 2020 to be the official charity of the Novant Health Thanksgiving Day Parade. The Annual celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday, and one of the longest-running events in the city of Charlotte, was moved to TV in 2020 due to COVID-19. The parade was aired on Thanksgiving Day and featured “Best Of” segments from years past including floats, marching bands, balloons, and other performances. Local and regional performers are a staple of the Novant Health Thanksgiving Day Parade and they were also featured in the TV special. Second Harvest was also able to film a segment on site at the Food Bank that was included. To help us feed those in need for the holiday, Food Lion donated 500 turkeys for us to distribute to families throughout our region.



# Trucks and Equipment Keep Food Moving



**DELIVERING  
HOPE TO OUR  
NEIGHBORS**

Perdue Farms, through its Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, funded a \$100,000 grant that was used to purchase a new refrigerated van and state-of-the-art standup forklift. The Perdue gifts align with the company’s “Delivering Hope To Our Neighbors” hunger relief initiative focused on providing access to nutritious protein for people struggling with hunger and making meaningful progress toward ending hunger. In addition to this gift, they also provided a \$10,000 grant to support School-Based Mobile Pantries at Winecoff Elementary School in Cabarrus County.



**TIMKEN FOUNDATION** *of Canton*

Timken Foundation awarded Second Harvest a \$100,000 grant, which we were able to use to purchase a new truck for our Spartanburg Branch. Thanks to their generous donation, we are able to feed more people in Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union Counties.





# Trucks and Equipment Keep Food Moving



Publix has supported Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina since they expanded into the Charlotte region several years ago. They have helped us purchase several trucks during this time and recently awarded the Food Bank \$135,000 to purchase a new 24 foot refrigerated box truck for our Anderson Branch which serves the upstate counties of Abbeville, Anderson, Greenwood, Oconee, and Pickens. Since 2014, Publix has assisted us with the purchase of five trucks and a van.



As the pandemic escalated last March, the need for us to provide more food to the counties we serve also increased. Warehouse equipment is essential to our work, yet can be difficult to fund. Equipment helps us get nutritious food to our 800+ partner agencies faster, allowing us to feed more people throughout our service area. We cannot do the work of feeding individuals and families in our 24 county service region without equipment and transportation. The availability of additional warehouse equipment, like electric pallet jacks, forklifts, and trucks, is a much needed asset that directly impacts our mission of ending hunger in the Metrolina region.

Are you looking for a unique way to help Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina? Consider providing a grant or donation to help us with one of these equipment needs. Your donation will help us distribute more food to the over 553,000 people living in poverty, including over 250,000 children and seniors. If you would like to hear more about our warehouse needs, please contact Kay Carter, CEO, at [kcarter@secondharvest.org](mailto:kcarter@secondharvest.org).



# Serving Our Communities



For several years, the staff at Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina have adopted children at the Bethlehem Center Head Start at Oaklawn. Each Christmas we provide hats, gloves, a book, a toy, and a backpack full of school supplies to these children for the holidays. Special thanks to Adams Outdoor Advertising for donating toys for all of the children this year. Due to COVID-19, this year we were not able to visit with the children in person, but were able to provide Chick-fil-A lunches to everyone. We've included some photos provided by the center.



Throughout October, Food Lion hosted their Great Pantry Makeovers at Lake Norman Food Mission (Catawba County), Common Heart (Union, NC), West Stanly Christian Ministries (Stanly County), HOPE in Lancaster (Lancaster County), PATH (York County) and Washburn Community OutReach Center (Rutherford County). Each year we look forward to this event, and this year was no exception. At every makeover, Food Lion helped restock the pantry's supply of food. Thank you, Food Lion, for helping stock the pantries that feed our hungry neighbors!





# Serving Our Communities



On December 8th, the Carolina Panthers, Charlotte Motor Speedway, Coca-Cola Consolidated and Harris Teeter teamed up with Second Harvest Food Bank to bring “Joy to the Carolinas.” The event included several holiday themed stops along the speedway infield and ended with a box filled with food for a holiday meal, a box of fresh produce and a turkey. Huge thank you to Harris Teeter for donating the food and turkeys provided to the families.



# Serving Our Communities



Alianza de Futbol, the largest and most prestigious soccer program in the US has been supporting Hispanic soccer communities for 16 years by providing free and low-cost soccer events for youth and adults. Despite the 2020 tour being sidelined by COVID-19, Alianza de Futbol continued its dedication to the Hispanic community by launching Alianza Contigo in Charlotte, NC. Alianza Contigo was a touchless experience allowing families to drive-through and receive free food and household items in a safe environment. Food was provided by the Allstate Sueño Alianza Food Pantry in partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. We distributed 1,500 nutritional food boxes to our neighbors in need.





# We ♥ Kids

With over 553,000 people living in poverty in our 24 county service region, including almost 182,000 children, the School-Based Mobile Pantry Program supplements our backpack program at high-poverty rate elementary schools. Each pantry provides on-site food including produce, meat, and dairy for families in need. Since COVID-19, our team has continued our work, serving over 36,000 families from March 19, 2020 to January 31, 2021 at school mobiles.

Since COVID-19 started, Second Harvest has hosted between four and eight mobiles weekly. These mobiles are made possible by generous donors including Hendrick, Assistance League, Pineville Neighbors Place and Atrium.



# Special Gifts From Special Friends



From November 16th to November 21st, Charlotte-area Chick-fil-A locations donated 10% of each mobile order placed in the drive-thru to Second Harvest. At the conclusion of the promotion, \$50,000 was donated to the Food Bank. Chick-fil-A also awarded the Food Bank a grant of \$25,000 to support two of our Backpack Program sites.



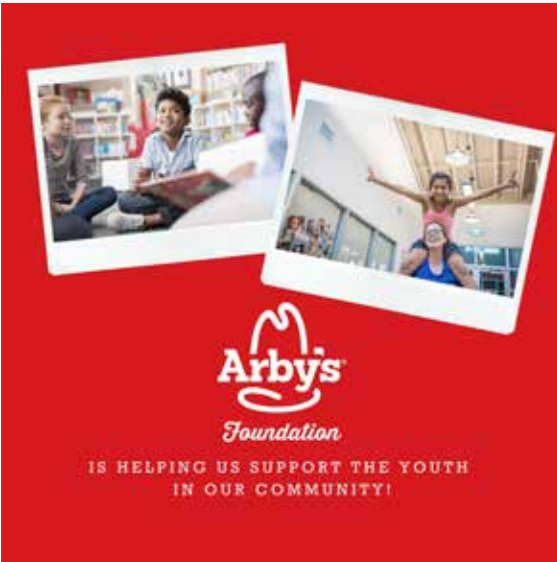
Thank you to our friends at Total Wine & More for selecting Second Harvest as their Charlotte-area non-profit for the "Points with a Purpose" promotion. With the help of their wonderful customers, they donated \$38,780 to the Food Bank that will help us distribute 271,460 pounds of nutritious food to those in need.



# Special Gifts From Special Friends



McCall Farms, Inc., donated a million servings of canned vegetables to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina and MANNA Food Bank in Asheville in September 2020. Thank you, McCall Farms, for this amazing gift. This donation fed so many hungry children, seniors and families across a large part of North and South Carolina.



Arby's Foundation works hard to make a difference in the communities they serve by impacting the issue of childhood hunger. Thank you, Arby's, for providing SHFBM with a \$51,800 grant to support our School-Based Mobile Pantry Programs.



# Special Gifts From Special Friends



Thanks so much to our wonderful friends Edwin Gil and Kate Carlson for creating this spectacular piece as part of Edwin's "Faces of Diversity" project. The mural incorporates children, families, veterans, seniors, and pets - those that we serve through our 800+ partner agencies in 24 counties. Each small square in the mural features the thumbprint of a child we have served through our Kids Cafe Program. What a fitting focal point for our Child Hunger Center.







# Update on Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina's COVID-19 Response

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated to the Food Bank during this extremely challenging time. We wanted to share what your donations have made possible the last ten months.

From March 19, 2020 - January 31, 2021 we accomplished the following thanks to each of you:

- **Distributed over 20 million more pounds of food** than last year during this same timeframe
- **Served over 36,000 families** at our school-based mobile pantries
- **Provided over 450,000 nutritionally balanced food boxes** throughout our 24 county region (14 counties in NC and 10 counties in SC)
- **Distributed 16.5 million more pounds of fresh produce, meat, and dairy products** than last year during this same timeframe

Please remember that COVID-19 is still here. Unemployment rates are extremely high, children are still missing school meals and many seniors are still quarantined.

We need everyone to continue supporting us over the next several months. This is a marathon, not a sprint. Please help us keep our neighbors fed.



# Granting Help to our Neighbors in Need



Thank you to Dabo Swinney's "All In Foundation" for their \$5,000 donation, which helped purchase food boxes for those in need in Pickens County and Anderson County.



Thank you to Cabarrus County Community Foundation for their \$10,000 grant, which supported our Backpack Programs at G.W. Carver Elementary and Winecoff Elementary in Cabarrus County. In addition, they also awarded us a \$5,045 grant to help with our COVID-19 hunger relief efforts.



Thank you to Campbell's Soup Foundation for their \$20,000 grant, which was used towards purchasing a new truck.



Thank you to Carrier for their \$5,407.81 grant, which was used for general operating. In November 2020, Carrier partnered with local food banks on food drives. Their employees across multiple Carrier sites hosted local food drives and dropped off what they collected before Thanksgiving.



Thank you to the Community Foundation of Gaston County for their \$20,000 grant to support the purchase of two large outdoor coolers for two agencies in Gaston County. They are now able to store more refrigerated foods such as meat, dairy and produce.



Thank you to Disney for their \$15,000 grant, which was used towards paying for shipping fresh produce to the Food Bank.



Thank you to EMC Insurance Foundation for their \$8,581.78 grant, which helped support our Child Hunger programs.

# Granting Help to our Neighbors in Need



Thank you to General Motors for their \$10,000 grant, which was used for COVID-19 hunger relief efforts. In addition, they also awarded us a \$15,000 grant to support our Backpack Program distributions during the summer.

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## Morgan Stanley

Thank you to Morgan Stanley for their \$100,000 grant, which is being used to support our Backpack Program in Anson County and Cleveland County.



Thank you to Myers Park United Methodist Church for their \$10,000 grant, which supported our School-Based Mobile Pantry Program and Backpack Program at Lawrence Orr Elementary School in Mecklenburg County.



Thank you to Vanguard for their \$40,000 grant, which was used for general operating.



Thank you to Norfolk Southern Corporation for their continued support. Recently, they donated a \$5,000 grant, which was used to provide general operating support.



Thank you to the Abney Foundation for their \$8,000 donation to support operations at our Williamston, SC Branch. This branch serves Abbeville, Anderson, Greenwood, Oconee, and Pickens Counties.



Thank you to Food Lion for their \$10,000 grant for our Backpack Programs in Cabarrus County for the 2020-2021 school year.



# COVID-19 Response Continues



Thank you to our friends at Charlotte Pipe and Foundry for hosting a 'virtual' version of their golf tournament, which their Cast Iron Division and Plastics Division holds annually. The Cast Iron Division raised over \$8,300 and the Plastics Division raised over \$44,000 to help us feed our neighbors in need. Each year, in addition to their golfing events, Charlotte Pipe and Foundry team members donate through their Employee Giving program. They were also sponsors of our 2020 Sort-A-Rama. They have donated almost \$500,000 over the years and we are so appreciative of their continued efforts to help us end hunger.



Thank you to our friends at Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation for their continued support to help feed our neighbors in need. In 2020, they donated \$50,000 as part of their company-wide initiative, Fill Your Tank, to address food insecurity. Since 2016, Enterprise has donated over \$341,000 to help us feed those we serve in a 24 county service region.



Giving back is core to the culture at Salesforce, and ending food insecurity is a goal they share with Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. In April 2020, their BAM/BOLDFORCE team held a food relief box fundraiser on our peer-to-peer platform and exceeded their goal by raising \$4,210. Their employees also participate in the Salesforce employee-giving program, that has raised over \$144,000 to help feed thousands of children, families, seniors, and veterans struggling with food insecurity.



The impact of COVID-19 has been felt everywhere including South Carolina, where 1 in 6 people face hunger. Huge thanks to our friends at Walmart for their donation of \$50,000, during Hunger Action Month, and for continuing their commitment to feeding those in need in Pickens and Anderson Counties.



# Partner Profiles



For many years, the Hendrick team has sponsored both backpack and school mobile pantry programs that feed children in Title 1 schools. They not only fund throughout the school year, but are huge supporters of our Summer Feeding programs when children are out of school and not receiving healthy meals. They currently sponsor school-based mobile pantries at 13 Charlotte-Mecklenburg School locations. For children at these schools, the backpacks and mobile pantries being funded are a lifeline. They provide healthy food that helps these students come to school prepared to learn and do their best every day.

In addition to funding these critical programs Hendrick also hosts major food drives at Easter and Thanksgiving that feed tens of thousands of families across 27 food bank regions. Since our partnership began with them, they have donated over \$12 million dollars locally to help feed hungry children and families who are struggling with food insecurity.



## Atrium Health

Our friends at Atrium Health know the importance of access to fresh, healthy food and the major impact it has on a person's health. With almost 182,000 children in our region at risk of hunger each day, having community partners like Atrium allows us to reach so many children and families in need. For over a decade, Atrium Health has partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina's School Mobile Pantry program by providing volunteers and funds to sponsor dozens of pantries at Title 1 schools across 11 counties. Atrium Health team members assist with the distribution of staple goods, produce, meat, eggs, whole grain breads and essential non-food items like toilet paper and diapers on-site at these mobiles. At each pantry, an average of 40 to 50 pounds of food is distributed to each family. Atrium has also filled over 5,000 backpacks with nutritious food for families in need every week during their teammate orientation. Since 2008, Atrium has donated over \$430,000 to the Food Bank for school mobile pantries, and backpacks as well as event sponsorships for both Sort-A-Rama and Empty Bowls.



Assistance League of Charlotte, through their Operation Check Hunger (OCH), is making hunger relief for students one of their primary missions. In collaboration with the Food Bank, they help support our Backpack Program, which provides a backpack with ready to eat meals to supplement breakfast, lunch, and dinner weekend meals. In 2020-2021, OCH will sponsor and volunteer at 11 school-based mobile pantries at four Title 1 schools. Since 2010, the Assistance League of Charlotte has donated over \$837,000 to help us feed children and families in need.

## Apartment Arrangements

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## CAMG Solamere Management

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# Thank You For Providing Hope



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**Elizabeth Community Foundation**

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**Griffin and Griffin Prime Investment Group**

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Together We CAN End Hunger



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In partnership with  
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