

BLESSINGS

A newsletter for the supporters of Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina

SUMMER 2015



www.secondharvestmetrolina.org

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MESSAGE FROM KAY

No matter how old you get (and I am getting old), there are some things you never forget. One of those things for me as a child was the excitement of the last day of school. You waited and waited and it seemed that day in June would never arrive. That glorious day when we would be freed from homework and could look forward to a summer filled with swimming, vacations and camp.

Truthfully, I had not thought about that feeling in a long time. The memories came back to me as I visited with the principal at one of the high poverty elementary schools where Second Harvest will begin offering services this fall through our Together We Feed Program.

My visit happened to be the day following the last day of school. The principal was relaying to me how many of the children at her school were crying as they were loaded on to the buses that last day. She noted that the teachers were crying right along with the children.

For these children summer is not the season most of us remember from our youth. In fact, for these children, summer can be a time when they lose a very important support system – their school and the teachers who care about them. They also in many cases lose critical breakfast and lunch meals that help struggling families feed their kids.

Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina has always made ending child hunger our number one goal, all the way back to 1981 when the food bank started. With programs like Kids Café which provides critical nutritious meals year round, expanded backpack programs that are serving more and more children in the summer through partnerships with our high poverty elementary schools, and now an expansion of our school based mobile pantry program through Together We Feed, more kids are being reached than ever before.

Sadly, we are still not reaching every one of the 180,000 children living in poverty in our 19 county service region. You can help us feed more hungry kids by continuing to support our child hunger programs. Consider making a gift today to help make the rest of this summer a little less scary for our most valuable resource – our children.

To learn more about Second Harvest and our child hunger programs visit our website at www.secondharvestmetrolina.org, or call me directly at 704-375-9639 ext 16. See also page 16 of this issue which talks more about the Together We Feed summer programs we are providing in conjunction with CMS schools. Take time to learn a little more about child hunger and to help if you can. You'll be glad you did!

EMPTY BOWLS



Thanks to our donating potters!

Clayworks
Jim Wolf
Winthrop University, James Connell
Bluegill Pottery, Vicki Gill
T Reid and Company, Kim Stivers



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

TITLE SPONSORS

Charlotte Marriott City Center
Food Lion Feeds

SOUP TUREEN SPONSORS

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SOUP SPOON SPONSORS

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Hood Hargett
JSC Home Connection
ML Kings and Associates
Greg & Lindy Morris
US Foodservice - North

FOOD LION
FEEDS

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**CHARLOTTE
CITY CENTER**

The Marriott Charlotte City Center was host to the 15th Annual Empty Bowls event sponsored by Food Lion Feeds. For this event, local potters, including Clayworks and Jim Wolf, donate handcrafted bowls. Guests enjoy a modest meal and select a pottery bowl to take home. The bowl serves as a reminder of all the empty bowls in homes all over our region. Special thanks to Maureen O'Boyle and to Charlotte GoPlaySave for their support. The event annually raises close to \$100,000 to help feed the hungry.

PARTNER APPRECIATION



Food Lion Feeds

Simpson's Eggs

Whole Foods



Titan Farms



David Weekley Homes



Vanguard



Charlotte Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat

Ernest Perry



Maureen O'Boyle



Elevation Church



Harris Teeter



Cargill



CRVA



DP World



Electrolux



Mercedes-Benz of South Charlotte

AWARD WINNERS

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD

Food Lion Feeds

FOOD INDUSTRY PARTNER AWARDS

Simpson's Eggs

Whole Foods

Titan Farms

FOOD DRIVE PARTNER AWARDS

David Weekley Homes

Vanguard

SPECIAL EVENT PARTNER AWARD

Charlotte Eye Ear Nose &

Throat

INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEER AWARD

Ernest Perry

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

Together We Feed

Hendrick Automotive Group

CMS Schools

FRANK TIMBERLAKE AWARD

"Innovation in Action"

Lynn Carlson

MEDIA PARTNER AWARD

Maureen O'Boyle

FAITH BASED PARTNER AWARD

Elevation Church

SPECIAL EVENT PARTNER AWARD

Chef's Best

Harris Teeter

Cargill

CRVA

Art Institute of Charlotte

NEW PARTNER AWARDS

DP World

Electrolux

Mercedes-Benz of South Charlotte

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Springs Close Foundation

Bank of America

TED HEYWARD AWARD

"Compassion in Action"

Thomas & Kelly Davis



Bank of America was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award for supporting the Food Bank through financial donations, food drives, and volunteerism.



The Springs Close Foundation and Anne Springs Close were honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award for their work in ending child and senior hunger in Lancaster and York counties.



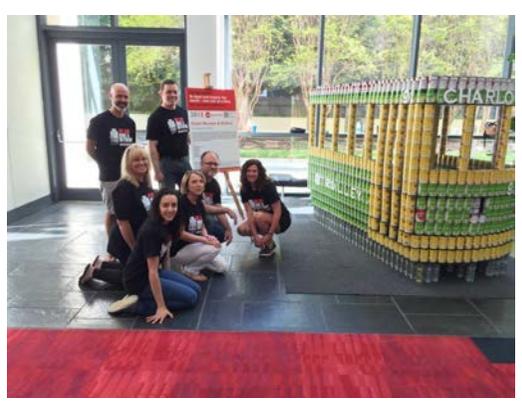
Hendrick Automotive Group and CMS Schools were honored with a Community Partnership Award for their work in developing and supporting the Food Bank's newest program Together We Feed. Lynn Carlson was honored with the Frank Timberlake Award for "Innovation in Action" for her role in creating and implementing Together We Feed.



Thomas and Kelly Davis were honored with the Ted Heyward Award that represents "Compassion in Action." Thomas and Kelly have supported the Food Bank for many years, focused in the area of child hunger.

CANSTRUCTION





Thanks to the following architectural and construction firms for participating in this year's construction event. Award winners are listed below:

Jurors' Favorite
Gensler + Holder Construction
ai Design Group

People's Choice Award
Wright McGraw Beyer Architects

Structural Integrity Award
ADW Architects / Duncan-Parnell

Best Meal Award
Narmour Wright Architects

Honorable Mention Awards
Stewart & Perkins + Will
Clark Nexsen & Edifice
Angelo Architects PLLC & The Art Institute
Housing Studio

FOOD LION FEEDS

FOOD LION FEEDS

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF METROLINA
Together We CAN End Hunger

1 IN 5 CHILDREN ARE AT RISK OF HUNGER EVERY DAY.



ODEL



The Charlotte Hornets and Food Lion Feeds partnered together in March for a very unique food drive benefitting Second Harvest. With the help of Odell, a playground and basketball court was designed and built out of cans, depicting that one in every five children in our region is at risk of hunger every day.

The Hornets also collected food at each home game from March 3rd - April 4th, encouraging fans to bring food for chances to win lower-level seats. With all of the food that was used to construct the playground added to the food and funds collected at the games, almost 19,000 pounds was donated to Second Harvest to help end child hunger.



SWARM TO SERVE



On June 22nd, sixty plus volunteers from the Charlotte Hornets and Fox Sports South joined Second Harvest in packing 3000 food boxes that will be used to feed veterans throughout our nineteen county service region.

CHARLOTTE HORNETS HOME TEAM SUPPORTS SECOND HARVEST



Special thanks to the Charlotte Hornets Home Team - wives and mothers of Hornets players, coaches and executives - who have been volunteering at Second Harvest. The ladies helped pack thousands of backpacks at the Food Bank and also served at one of our School-Based Mobile Pantries at Albemarle Road Elementary School.

Thanks to the Home Team for helping feed hungry children and families in our region.



SUMMER FOOD 9 DRIVE





Thanks to all of our friends at WSOC-TV and all of the station's wonderful viewers, this year's food drive was the most successful ever. The 10th annual drive held on June 11, 2015 collected the equivalent of 22,141 pounds through food and funds raised. Many of the food drive partners are pictured above and below. Special thanks to all of the Family Focus partners, including Ashley Furniture, Showmars, Hendrick Honda, and Piedmont Natural Gas, as well as Food Lion Feeds, that matched the pounds collected by the Family Focus partners.



SECOND
HARVEST
FOOD BANK
OF METROLINA

Together We CAN End Hunger

BANK2BANK

Bank of America



FIFTH THIRD BANK

The things we do for dreams.™



SUNTRUST™

WELLS
FARGO



The 8th Annual Bank to Bank Food Drive was held the first two weeks in June, with the finale event held at the Food Bank on June 17th. This year's event raised almost 400,000 pounds in food and funds combined, bringing the 8 year total to 2 million pounds.



Special thanks to Wells Fargo and their employees for packing 2,000 backpacks during their week of service in June. The week of service coincided with the Bank to Bank Food Drive. Once packed, employees stuffed the Stagecoach with the backpacks.



Also during Bank to Bank our friends from Bank of America packed special lunch packs that will be distributed to hungry children in our region. Bank of America volunteers packed 777 packs, which helped add to the total pounds for the drive.



What a difference a year makes! For those of you who follow Blessings, you may remember reading about an exciting new program called Together We Feed. During the summer of 2014, through the generosity of Hendrick Automotive the Food Bank was able to expand our feeding programs at three high-poverty elementary schools in Charlotte. Fast forward to 2015, and the program has expanded to serve seven schools this summer. The schools, including, Albemarle Road, Devonshire, Highland Renaissance, JH Gunn, Sterling, Thomasboro, and Berryhill, are receiving additional food services through Second Harvest, including, backpacks, school-based mobile pantries, in-school emergency pantries, and healthy snacks.

By the time the 2015-2016 school year starts, services will also be expanded at Reid Park and Walter G. Byers, and food services will be started at Nathaniel Alexander and Nations Ford. Thanks to the support of Hendrick Automotive, Wells Fargo, Elevation Church, and many others, more children will come to school ready to learn.



TO BENEFIT OUR HUNGRY



CHILDREN of CHARLOTTE

Saturday, May 9th / The Big View Restaurant and Bar / Charlotte, NC / 8:00AM



Thanks to all the sponsors and runners who participated in The Big View 5K. Because of your support, almost \$8,000 was raised to support Together We Feed.

CARLISLE

DHG

DIXON HUGHES GOODMAN LLP



DHG recently hosted their 4th annual Count the Cans Food Drive. The drive is held to benefit communities across the twelve states that are served by Dixon Hughes Goodman. This year, working with Food Lion Feeds, DHG Charlotte donated almost 30,000 pounds to Second Harvest Food Bank.

Special thanks to our friends at Carlisle who donated \$18,674 as part of the Ballantyne Corporate Park's "Cans for a Cause" food drive. Including the Carlisle donation, this year's drive raised over 140,000 pounds. Special thanks to Food Lion Feeds for their donation of almost 5,000 pounds.



A joint program of the N.C. Bar Association and the N.C. Association of Food Banks



Thanks to all the law firms and law schools who participated in this year's Legal Feeding Frenzy. Winners were recognized at a special ceremony featuring North Carolina Attorney General, Roy Cooper. This year's drive generated 300,000 pounds of food for North Carolina Food Banks.



Moore & Van Allen



www.secondharvestmetrolina.org





**SECOND HARVEST
PET FOOD BANK**



Special thanks to all of our friends at Mallard Creek Animal Hospital for collecting almost 2,500 pounds of pet food during their annual drive. Because of your generosity pets in the Charlotte region will get to remain with their families.



COMPASSIONATE CARE
VETERINARY HOSPITAL
OF CHARLOTTE

Our friends at Compassionate Care Veterinary Hospital collected almost 700 pounds of pet food to support the Second Harvest Pet Food Bank. Thanks for helping to feed hungry pets.



Thanks to our friends at Pet Paradise for sponsoring their 6th Annual Pet Food Drive. This year's drive raised almost 15,000 pounds of pet food to help keep pets and their families together. The six year total for Pet Paradise is close to 70,000 pounds.



The Second Harvest Pet Food Bank recently received a \$5,000 donation from PetSmart. The donation was part of the PetSmart Gives Back initiative and will be used to purchase dog and cat food for families that cannot afford to feed their pets.



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Together We CAN End Hunger

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**NO MORE
HOMELESS PETS**

Second Harvest Food Bank and Spay Neuter Charlotte share a common goal to insure that cats and dogs are spayed and neutered to achieve our hope of no more homeless pets. Second Harvest works with Spay Neuter to provide items they need to run their clinics, such as, distilled water, paper products, cleaning products, and pet food and litter. The donation of these items frees up funds that can be used by Spay Neuter to provide more surgeries. During the past year, the donations from Second Harvest have provided 335 spay neuter surgeries .

THE POWER OF PROTEIN

For many of the families who depend on the help of Second Harvest Food Bank, protein packed items like meat and eggs are unaffordable. Consuming high protein foods has many benefits, including reducing muscle loss, building lean muscle, helping maintain a healthy weight, and curbing hunger. Second Harvest depends on donors like Smart Chicken who provides 40,000 pounds of organic chicken annually, Simpson's Eggs, who donates hundreds-of-thousands of eggs annually, and Smithfield who annually donates between 50,000 and 100,000 pounds of pork. Special thanks to Richard Petty and NASCAR driver Aric Almirola for being such amazing supporters of ending hunger in our region.



SIMPSON'S EGGS

Smithfield





Thank you to all of our friends at Duke Energy for hosting a corporate wide food and funds drive. Collectively their employees raised over 25,000 pounds to help Second Harvest end hunger in our region. Great job!

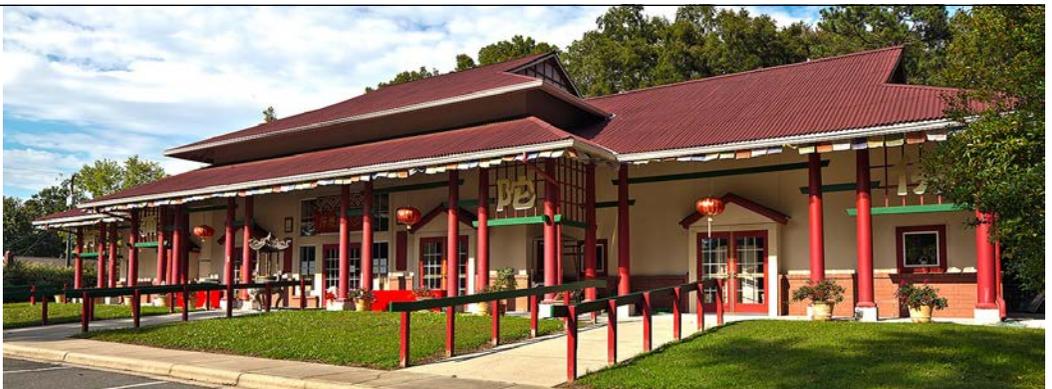
Feed 4 More is an annual community food drive sponsored by Whole Foods Market. Customers make in-store donations to assist in stocking pantries with non-perishable foods. Fund donations are collected at the registers and Whole Foods in turn purchases food for Second Harvest. Their most recent drive collected over 24,000 pounds to help us End Hunger in our region.



During the month of February, our friends at Jiffy Lube offered a special promotion to customers bringing in two or more non-perishable canned goods. Customers participating in the food drive received \$10 off their oil change that day and a \$10 coupon good for their next visit. Thanks to all the customers who participated in helping to raise almost 1,400 pounds at our Jiffy Lube regional locations.

Share the  and Get a Deal

Thanks to our friends at the Blumenthal for hosting their first annual Staff Food & Funds Drive. They divided their staff of about 150 into three teams (red, blue and green) who competed to provide the most meals between physical food collection and funds. The winning team earned a pizza lunch. Together the teams collected almost 4,000 pounds of food.



Thanks to all of our supporters at Charlotte The Truth Buddhist Temple who raised almost 2,400 pounds of food to help support our mission of ending hunger in the Metrolina region.



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NC NC MUSIC
ME FACTORY

The festival grounds at the North Carolina Music Factory were the site for Creative Loafing's First Annual Moo & Brew event. Featuring craft beer and burgers, guests enjoyed music by Langhorne Slim and Ancient Cities. Thanks to everyone who supported the festival for helping to raise over \$8,000 for Second Harvest Child Hunger programs. We'll see you next year at Moo & Brew!

Special Gifts from Special Friends

33,000 Happy Meals = 33,000 Happy Kids



McDonald's restaurants in Charlotte and the surrounding 22 county area launched their "Buy One, Give One Happy Meal" program in May. The program inspired families to purchase a Happy Meal, and with that purchase, McDonald's donated a second Happy Meal to Second Harvest Food Bank and our neighboring Food Banks.

"In our area alone, close to 18% of children are food insecure - this is alarming, and we are doing something about it," said Jeff Stanton, local McDonald's owner / operator and father of two. "We have selected community organizations who are committed to putting food directly into the mouths of those who need it most."

The program took place on Mondays in May, and by its conclusion had generated 33,000 Happy Meals for local children in need. Many thanks to all of the participating McDonald's Restaurants for helping us feed hungry children.



Special thanks to our friends at Char-Broil for including Charlotte as one of the stops on their national tour. Char-Broil representatives visited Food Banks and provided \$5,000 donations at each stop. While in Charlotte, Food Bank staff was also able to hang out with Char-Broil at Taste of Charlotte and at several WalMart stores.



From Second Harvest to Char-Broil, Well Done!



Thanks to all of the alumni from Wake Forest University who turned out in mass to volunteer with Second Harvest in May. The event was part of Pro Humanitate Day and Charlotte had the largest turn out of alumni. Along with packing thousands of backpacks, the group also made a financial donation to Second Harvest. The group is already making plans to join us in April of 2016.

Special Gifts from Special Friends



Second Harvest Food Bank is important to me because I know first-hand the impact it can have on those in need. Growing up, organizations like Second Harvest helped provide for my family after the untimely death of my father. As we look back today, we're tremendously thankful for the help we received in those trying times.

Last year, I was recognized by my employer, Messer Construction Co., with its Charlotte Community Service Award, in large part due to my work with Second Harvest. I volunteer regularly at Second Harvest alongside a group of Messer employees, and it gives me a great sense of accomplishment to help the less fortunate.

Coming from someone who has seen both ends of your impact, thank you, Second Harvest, for making greater Charlotte a better place.

Macy Williams
Messer Construction Co.
Project Engineer



Everyone at the Food Bank knows that when Vivian Grose shows up its going to be a great day. Periodically, Vivian arrives with a pickup truck loaded with newly purchased food. She buys the food out of her own pocket, stocking up when she finds a good sale. Vivian is pictured at right with her recent cereal donation. In the past six months she has donated almost 1,800 pounds of food. Vivian, you're a blessing to the Food Bank and to those in need in our community.



Thanks to all of our friends who participated in the 22nd Annual Santa Shoot-Out Golf Tournament on December 5th at Cedarwood Country Club. The tournament featured 76 golfers and collectively raised over \$16,000 for Second Harvest Food Bank. These funds will be used to help provide almost 114,000 pounds of food to feed hungry children and seniors in the Charlotte region.



Thanks to all of our friends at Piedmont Medical Center in York County for hosting a "Healthy Over Hungry Cereal Drive" from May 29th to June 5th. The hospital chose to focus on collecting whole-grain cereal with no more than 200 calories per serving, 6 grams or less of sugar, at least 3 grams of fiber, and free of artificial colors and dyes. By the end of the drive, they had collected 358 boxes of healthy, nutritious cereal.





SHARE OUR STRENGTH'S
TASTE OF THE
NATION®
NO KID HUNGRY



The Wells Fargo Atrium was the venue for this year's 20th Anniversary of Charlotte's Taste of the Nation. The event featured 25 of the City's influential creators in the food and drink scene and guests had a chance to sample their signature fare and spirits. The event annually supports Second Harvest Food Bank and Community Culinary School. At press time for Blessings, the total amount raised had not yet been announced.





Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



FAMILY DOLLAR

In the past decade, Second Harvest Food Bank has gone from distributing 7 million pounds annually to over 45 million pounds annually. During that same period of time, produce, meat, and dairy pounds increased from less than a million pounds annually to almost 17 million pounds annually. All of this was accomplished with no additional space at the main warehouse in Charlotte. Recently, the Board of Directors at Second Harvest announced an 8 million dollar capital campaign to double existing warehouse, freezer, cooler, and office space, as well as to build a volunteer center. On May 8, 2015, Howard Levine was at Second Harvest to announce a gift of one million dollars towards the campaign.

“Knowing how many people rely on Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina every day, I felt compelled to help,” said Family Dollar’s CEO and Chairman of the Board, Howard Levine. “Hunger is a growing issue in our community and for many, the Food Bank is the difference between getting a meal, or going to bed hungry. I hope others will join me in support of this incredibly important endeavor. A donation, whether it be big or small, has the power to make a tremendous impact on our community.”

Howard’s generous gift has propelled the campaign past the half-way point. We would encourage everyone reading Blessings to visit www.secondharvestmetrolina.org and click on the capital campaign ad on the home page to learn more.

FAMILY DOLLAR and Second Harvest Food Bank TEAM UP TO BEAT THE HEAT



On May 18th, Family Dollar donated almost 2,000 fans to Second Harvest Food Bank just in time for what is proving to be one of the hottest summers on record. The fans were distributed to agencies throughout our 19 county region, with a special emphasis on agencies serving seniors. Many thanks to our friends at Family Dollar for this amazing donation.



For over 24 years the Taste of the NFL has been working to kick hunger in the United States. The organization works with top chefs and NFL players to raise money to support Food Banks across the country. Bonterra has been the representative for the Carolina Panthers for 10 years, supporting the efforts of Second Harvest at our local Taste of the Panthers event and the national Party With a Purpose. Special thanks to Chef Blake Hartwick and player representative Ritchie Brockel for their great support. Photos are from Bonterra's most recent fundraiser.



TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE AT
www.secondharvestmetrolina.org

The 26th Annual Chef's Best is back, featuring Charlotte's best chefs, helping to raise funds for the Community Food Rescue Program. The event includes a reception catered by the International Culinary School at the Art Institute of Charlotte, a four-course meal, great music, a live auction and raffle.

Join us, July 31, 2015 at the Charlotte Convention Center Crown Ballroom.

6:00PM - Reception | 7:00PM - Dinner



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Benefiting Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina

Save the Date

Thursday, October 15, 2015

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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Mingle with charming "Shoe Guys" • Enjoy a
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