

**SECOND
HARVEST
FOOD BANK
OF METROLINA**

Together We CAN End Hunger

News Release



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Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina Kicks Off Their Summer Feeding Program on the Last Day of School

Hendrick Automotive Group, Assistance League of Charlotte, Ally, Thrivent, and the GSF (Golden State Foods Foundation) Come Together to End Child Hunger

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – June 3, 2018 – Not a day will be wasted for Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina's (SHFBM) goal to end hunger as they kick off their Summer Feeding program on the last day of school, June 8th at 10:00 am at their 500-B Spratt Street warehouse. SHFBM will announce that summer feeding services in and around the Charlotte area will be expanded with the financial assistance of **Hendrick Automotive Group**, the **Assistance League of Charlotte**, **Ally**, **Thrivent**, and the **GSF (Golden State Foods) Foundation**. Funds donated will allow SHFBM to feed more children who are at a high risk of missing meals while they are out of school for the summer.

Hendrick Automotive Group will present the Food Bank with a check for \$63,615 to support 17 school-based mobile pantries from June – August. These mobile pantries will benefit the following schools: Berryhill Elementary, Albemarle Road Elementary, Highland Renaissance Academy, J.H. Gunn Elementary, Thomasboro Elementary, Hidden Valley Elementary, and Nathaniel Alexander Elementary. Hendrick is also supporting backpack programs this summer at Devonshire Elementary, J.H. Gunn Elementary, Berryhill Elementary, Albemarle Road Elementary, and Thomasboro Elementary.

The Assistance League of Charlotte will also present the Food Bank with \$21,420 to help provide backpacks to children this summer. These backpacks will be distributed to children attending 17 Freedom School sites.

Additional child hunger programming partners that will also be in attendance include Ally Financial (\$21,450), Thrivent Financial (\$40,000), and the GSF (Golden State Foods) Foundation (\$36,000), who have been instrumental in helping SHFBM provide additional food for children and families this summer.

Ally Financial, Thrivent, and the GSF Foundation all made donations to SHFBM's Child Hunger programs recently and a portion of their funds will help fund additional school based mobile pantries and backpacks all summer.

"Our Summer Feeding Programs meet a real need in our community", says Kay Carter, CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. "We are thankful that Hendrick Automotive Group, The Assistance League of Charlotte, Ally Financial, Thrivent, and the GSF (Golden State Foods) Foundation are helping us expand what we are able to offer children in need in our community this summer. Children should be enjoying their summer break, not worrying about when they will eat again. The food provided will help keep these children healthy and ready to learn when school starts back in August."

The Second Harvest Backpack Program provides a backpack of nutritious, ready-to-eat foods on the weekends and school breaks when children don't have access to school meals. The School- Based Mobile Pantry Program provides families at high-poverty elementary schools with a week's worth of groceries. Groceries include staple pantry items such as oatmeal, rice, low-sodium soups, canned fruits and vegetables, pasta, spaghetti sauce and peanut butter. Also provided are fresh fruits and vegetables, meat, whole grain bread and dairy. Both programs provide financial savings to families struggling to make ends meet.

For additional information, please contact Donna Ragan, SHFBM Marketing & Communications Manager at 704.572.1812 or dragan@secondharvest.org.

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About Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina

As part of Feeding America, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina serves 19 counties in North and South Carolina. In FY2016-2017, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina distributed over 54 million pounds of food and household items to over 700 hunger feeding agencies including emergency pantries, soup kitchens, senior programs, shelters and low-income daycares.

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