



Gaston County

[www.SecondHarvestMetrolina.org](http://www.SecondHarvestMetrolina.org)



# Facts At A Glance

- Gaston County has a population of 216,965.
- There are 37,534 individuals living at or below the poverty level. This represents 17.3% of the population.
- There are 3,684 individuals 65 years and older living at or below the poverty level. This represents 10.9% of the older adult population.
- There are 11,446 children living at or below the poverty level. This represents 23.4% of the child population.

## Gaston County Distribution

In 2016-2017, the Food Bank distributed over 54 million pounds of food and household items throughout our 19 county service region.

In 2016-2017, the Food Bank distributed over 3 million pounds to agencies in Gaston County.

## Gaston County Partners

The Food Bank serves 38 programs in Gaston County including Crisis Assistance Ministry, S.O.C.K.S., Belmont Community Organization, Dallas Christian Ministries, New Covenant Church, Cherryville Area Ministry and Salvation Army.

## Child Hunger Programs

There are five Kids Café sites in Gaston County. These are located at the West Gastonia Boys and Girls Club, the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club in Lowell, Bessemer City Boys & Girls Club, Bradley Teen Center Boys and Girls Club, and With Friends. The West Gastonia and Lowell sites also have Backpack programs. In addition, the Food Bank sponsors Backpack Programs at Tryon Elementary School in Bessemer City and Parkwood Community Outreach.

## Dallas Branch

The Food Bank operates a branch warehouse in Dallas, North Carolina. This branch has greatly reduced the time and transportation costs for Gaston County agencies to acquire food.