

# The?

Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina (SHMETROLINA) strives through education, advocacy, and partnerships to eliminate hunger by the solicitation and distribution of food. SHMETROLINA has been in existence since 1981.

Together We CAN End Hunger











#### Who We Are and What We Do

We provide a regional distribution warehouse and branches that supply food and grocery items to charitable agencies that assist people in need. We also provide training, technical assistance, and hunger education to our partner agencies.

#### **Counties Served**

We serve a total of 24 counties - 14 counties in North Carolina including Anson, Burke, Cabarrus, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Rowan, Rutherford, Stanly and Union. We serve 10 counties in South Carolina including Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenwood, Lancaster, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, Union and York.

### **Agencies Served**

SHMETROLINA provides food for over 950 partner agencies and programs including soup kitchens like Roof Above, emergency pantries like Nourish Up, homeless shelters like Center of Hope, senior programs, and low-income daycares.

#### Food Distributed

In fiscal year 2024-2025, SHMETROLINA distributed over 88 million pounds of food and household items throughout our 24 county service region. Over 54 million pounds of our annual distribution were foods high in nutritional value including fresh produce, meat and dairy.

#### The Need

12.2% of our service area population, almost 493,000 people, live in poverty including over 153,300 children and 73,000 seniors. Our emergency pantries, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters continue to report significant increases in requests for assistance.

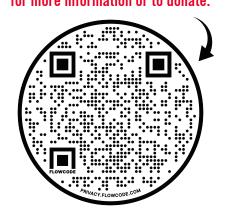
#### Where Our Food Comes From

Approximately 68% of the food we distribute is donated, 12% is purchased and approximately 20% of the food comes from government commodities.

#### How We Distribute Food

Through our main warehouse in Charlotte and through branches in Hickory (Catawba County-NC), Salisbury (Rowan County-NC), Anderson (Anderson County-SC), and Spartanburg (Spartanburg County-SC).

Scan the QR code below or go to SecondHarvestMetrolina.org for more information or to donate.





In addition to providing food to over 950 partner agencies and programs, SHMETROLINA directly serves our hungry neighbors.



## We \*Kids

Over 151,000 children are at risk of hunger every day.

#### **Backpack Program**

This program is designed to provide children at risk of hunger with backpacks full of ready-to-eat, nutritious foods for weekends and holidays when school meals are not available.

#### **Kids Cafe**

Second Harvest partners with agencies that already serve children at risk of hunger to help provide nutritious meals and snacks at their sites. We currently serve thousands of children who might otherwise go hungry.



## We Y Seniors

57,000 seniors struggle to afford both food and medicine.

#### **Second Helping**

This program provides monthly boxes of supplemental nutritious food to older seniors working with our Meals on Wheels partners. Second Helping supplements the daily nutritious meals received through that program with supplies of easy-to-open nutritional items.

#### Fresh Produce Markets

Nothing says summer quite like picking up fresh produce at a Farmer's Market, but fresh fruit and vegetables can be a luxury for seniors at-risk for hunger. SHMETROLINA provides farmers market experiences at senior center partner sites throughout our service region.



## We**\***Families

Working poor families often choose between paying utilities, rent or buying food.

#### **School-Based Mobile Pantries**

This program supplements our backpack program at high-poverty rate elementary schools. It provides on-site food including produce, meat and dairy for low-income families. This helps our children have enough nutritious food to eat and to come to school prepared to learn.

#### **Rural Mobile Pantries**

This program is designed to deliver food to rural areas of our service region where poverty rates tend to be higher and resources can be scarce. Specially equipped trucks deliver 5,000 to 10,000 pounds of food per trip.



24% of households served by Food Banks have a member who is a veteran.

#### **Serving Veterans**

SHMETROLINA provides food to hundreds of emergency pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and senior centers. All of these agencies stand ready to serve the brave men and women who have fought for and protected our freedoms.



## We Pets

Families and seniors in need struggle to feed their pets, too.

#### Our Pet Food Bank & Operation Rescue

SHMetrolina acquires large donations of dog/cat food, along with other pet supply items. To ensure that those in need, both animal rescues and individuals, receive food for their furry family members, we have created a network of rescue partners who have agreed to assist us in making food readily available to those in need. For more information, visit our website at secondharvestmetrolina.org or email us at info@secondharvestmetrolina.org