



GIVING THANKS



Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina
500-B Spratt Street, Charlotte, NC 28206 | 704.376.1785

FALL | 2024

YOUR SACRIFICE IS TRANSFORMING LIVES FROM HUNGER TO HOPE!

There's an old saying, "Tough enough to be a drywall installer and crazy enough to love it." Feliciano has been working drywall construction for years, and even admits loving the job.

But the demand for drywallers has slowed considerably, which puts Feliciano in a tough spot. "I'm not getting enough hours at work right now," he says.

A hard-working father of two children, 11 and 13 years old, Feliciano and his wife are struggling to feed their family and pay their bills. Sometimes they can't do both, putting him in a tough situation. They need both, but can only afford food or bills. To make ends meet, he and his wife eat less, so their children will have enough.

Because of growing inflation, and the rising costs of food, Feliciano is concerned for his family and worries about where the next meal is going to come from. And what about tomorrow? If he doesn't get solid work soon, how will he provide just the basic needs for his wife and children?

Hourly workers are among the highest who suffer from food insecurity in our service area. Mainly because their work schedule can become inconsistent or completely cut off at a moment's notice. Overnight, this can spiral a family out of control and take years to get back on their feet.

Thanks to your ongoing generosity, struggling families who are out of work or underemployed, like Feliciano's, can get the help they urgently



need at mobile food pantries like Nations Ford Elementary. Here, they are greeted with truckloads of nutritious food to take home and help bring stability in their family.

To those who support Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina, Feliciano says with a grateful heart, "Thank you. Thank you. And hopefully one day I'll be in their shoes so I can also help out!"

It's so appreciated that you care for people struggling with food insecurity; your sacrifice is transforming lives from hunger to hope!

**SECOND
HARVEST
FOOD BANK
OF METROLINA**

Together We CAN End Hunger

SAVE THE DATE

**FOOD LION FEEDS FOR THE
HOLIDAY AT YOUR LOCAL FOOD
LION GROCERY STORE
NOVEMBER 8 – DECEMBER 12**

**HARRIS TEETER'S HARVEST FEAST
MARATHON FOOD /FUND DRIVE
NOV. 15-16 10AM-5PM AT HARRIS
TEETER WAVERLY AT 111135 GOLF
LINKS DR. NOV. 23 10AM-6PM AT
HARRIS TEETER STONECREST ON
REA RD.**

**STREET TURKEYS PRESENTED BY
WFNZ 92.7FM SPORTS RADIO –
THANKSGIVING EVE 6AM-6PM
LIVE BROADCAST FROM THE
JACK DANIEL'S DOG HOUSE, AT
THE CORNER OF MINT ST. AND
MOREHEAD ST. IN CHARLOTTE.
WE INVITE YOU TO BRING FROZEN
TURKEYS, CANNED THANKSGIVING
FOODS, AND BOXED GOODS OR
A MONETARY DONATION.**

For more information, visit
SecondHarvestMetrolina.org
or follow us on Facebook,
X, Instagram, LinkedIn
[@shmetrolina](https://www.instagram.com/shmetrolina).



Kay Carter
CEO

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Looking back on 2024 this holiday season, there are so many things to be thankful for. First of all, I cannot say enough about our magnificent staff and extraordinary volunteers. Every day they faithfully give of themselves to improve the lives of folks hurting from food insecurity. Watching them in action is truly a joy — not just during the holidays, but all year long!

I applaud our 950 partner agencies who moved an astonishing 88 million pounds of food throughout the 24 counties we serve in both North and South Carolina. Our partners include food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, senior programs, school and summer feeding programs for children, and more.

Backed by compassionate donors like you, the lives of tens of thousands of our neighbors suffering from hunger are transformed every day with much needed food they simply don't have at home. More than 54 million pounds of what we distribute each year consists of nutritional food like fresh produce, meat, and dairy.

It takes all of us to make this possible, including our corporate and foundation partners. They took the lead in special events and programs, along with enormous food, financial, and community contributions. Your generosity is pushing back hunger and giving confidence to the communities we serve.

Those communities are home to nearly 483,000 people who are living in poverty, which includes 151,000 children and 57,000 seniors.

Speaking of seniors, many are isolated and struggling to live on Social Security. Sadly, they often miss meals because they can't afford both their medicine and food, so they have to choose which is most important at the time.

I hope you'll reach out to seniors you know or live close to this holiday season. You may be surprised how many could use some extra food, a helping hand, and a caring friend.

Because of compassionate people like you, I am more hopeful and optimistic than ever. As we celebrate the holidays, please know that you are bringing true comfort and joy to our neighbors who struggle to put food on their tables. Happy Holidays!

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



THANKS TO YOU, SHE'LL HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

"I need a whole new body," Alisa confesses. Of course, a lot of people say that out of jest, but Alisa is serious and with good reason.

"I had two brain surgeries for aneurysms," Alisa explained. "And when I got ready to go back to work, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Then, the cancer came back four years later." Not long after, she was hospitalized with a severe case of diabetes and almost died that day.

Staying healthy seems impossible for Alisa, no matter what she and the doctors try to do. "Every time I work, I'm in total body pain because my spine is deteriorating," she admits. "I just have a lot of



Our Report Card

The Food Bank's most recent fiscal year ended on June 30, 2024.

The end of the year is always a time for us to reflect and see how well we did on achieving our primary goals. This year we went a step further and reviewed our progress since 2004.

The chart below shows our performance in several key categories for the 2023-2024 year, and for the past 21 years.

GOAL	Performance in 2023-2024	% Increase Over Last 21 Years	Average Increase Per Year
Pounds Distributed	88,809,452	834%	40%
Nutritional Pounds	54,738,178	482%	23%
Volunteer Hours	317,161	924%	44%
Programs to End Child Hunger	523	1,052%*	58%
Pounds from Food Drives	11,970,322	645%	31%
Mobile Pantries Conducted	592	374%	18%
Senior Programs	18	465%*	26%

* Represents 18 Years of Growth

health issues that limit my ability to get the things I need, like food.”

Living on about \$700 a month seriously limits Alisa’s ability to pay her bills, medicine, gasoline, and of course, food. She admits that she has to decide whether to pay her bills or buy food. “All the time!” Struggling to make ends meet, Alisa eats much less than she needs to, but has no choice. This is not what someone in her physical condition should be doing.

Alisa’s situation would be dire if it wasn’t for compassionate people like you. Thanks to your generosity,

Alisa has hope because she is able to get much needed food at the Manna House food pantry in Rock Hill. With a big smile, she says, “At least I’ll have a happy Thanksgiving because I now have a turkey to cook.”

With a thankful heart, Alisa says, “Please keep donating, because there are a lot of people that really need it, like me.”

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“Seeing and talking to the people, just being around them. I love it!”



SECOND HARVEST DRIVERS — OUR SUPERHEROES HELPING END HUNGER



We believe our drivers are superheroes. Everyday they are driving food out to feed the hungry. They may not fly faster than a bullet, but they do glide along the roadways — in the cities and beyond in the country, and throughout our 24-county service region — to rescue men, women, children, veterans, and seniors from hunger.

For more than 18 years, John Meighan has faithfully donned his hero cape where “I deliver mostly to pantries and mobile drops, like churches,” he says. “I’m also a floater to big distribution centers like Harris Teeter and Food Lion. I’ll pick up what they give me, take it to an agency, or bring it back to the food bank.”

Due to rising inflation and unemployment, the number of people needing food banks has grown in recent years, and we anticipate that trend will keep going. That’s why our drivers are critical to the success of our work.

Drivers, like John, ensure that the food bank is meeting the demand for our services, providing help and support

to people in crisis throughout the communities we serve.

John is the face of Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina to pantries across our 24 county region. People have come to expect his kind smile and helpful heart when delivering pallets of food.

John’s favorite part of his job is, “Seeing and talking to the people, just being around them. I love it!” He says, “The hardest part is going to school pantries and seeing the kids. A lot of the time, they don’t understand hunger and how it’s affecting their family and friends. They just have a smile on their face when the food is delivered.”

What motivates John is, “Helping the community and getting involved. You know there are people out there who are hungry and need help,” And as he throws the cape over his shoulders, he says, “And I get to be a part of the solution!”



CONTACT US
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Stay up-to-date on all of our upcoming events by following **@shmetrolina** on



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