

SNAP RESPONSE

WEEK ONE - Week of November 3rd

Six tractor trailer loads (approximately 2,000 boxes per load) have been delivered to all the Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina branch locations including Charlotte, Salisbury, Hickory, Anderson and Spartanburg. These branch locations serve hundreds of emergency pantry partners throughout our 24-county region. Specific emergency pantry partners have been selected in each county who will distribute boxes to individual clients who have lost their SNAP benefits.

Emergency food boxes have also been staged at Crisis Assistance Ministry to assist potential clients there who have lost their SNAP benefits.

We will deliver over 6 tractor trailer loads of healthy food boxes into our region this week.

WEEK TWO - Week of November 10th

We are hosting a packing event in order to replenish food boxes so we can continue to distribute. Sort-A-Rama for SNAP will take place at the Charlotte Convention Center on Nov. 12th from 8:30am-12:30pm. We have secured 500 volunteers from various corporate partners who will pack 16,000 food boxes in 3 hours. Media is invited to attend for interviews and filming hundreds of corporate volunteers onsite packing food boxes. This event will create 8.5 tractor trailer loads of boxes.

In addition to the Sort-A-Rama event, we have already purchased additional tractor trailer loads of nutritious food boxes. **During week two, four (4) tractor trailer loads of boxes will be delivered to Nourish Up, two (2) will go to smaller Mecklenburg County food pantries and three (3) will go to additional partners in counties around Mecklenburg County. We will also restock school mobile pantry boxes.**

We also plan to begin conducting special distributions where we will distribute produce, meat, and dairy. These dates are pending but expected to occur in mid-November.

By the end of week two (2), we will have delivered 15 loads of nutritious food boxes into our service region.

WEEK THREE - Week of November 17th and Beyond

Distribution of Food Boxes: We will repeat the distribution cycle from week one and will continue this schedule until further notice. By the end of week three (3) we will have distributed over 20 loads of nutritious food boxes.

- We will continue special distributions as need.
- We will continue to stock boxes at Crisis Assistance as needed.

ADDITIONAL OUTREACH BY SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF METROLINA

1. **School Requests:** With existing school partnerships throughout our 24-county service region, where we hold School Mobile Pantries, have Backpack programs, or Kids Café sites, we are responding to individual school leaders who are reaching out for ideas on how to support their students. These include:
 - Doing additional food box drop-offs at schools
 - Adding extra backpack drop-offs
2. **Constantly responding to our partner agencies when they make requests for specific needs.**
3. **Special Food Bank Distributions to include produce, meat, eggs, and pet food:**
 - Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina Main Branch Distribution: In the planning phase with date TBD – expected to be middle of November
 - Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina Rowan County Branch Distribution: In the planning phase with date TBD – expected to be middle of November

All distributions for those impacted by the Government Shutdown will be announced through media alerts as well as on our social media platforms - @shmetrolina.

HOW THE COMMUNITY CAN HELP THE FOOD BANK

- **Donate Funds:** Each tractor trailer load of nutritious food boxes costs approximately \$40,000 with 20 already scheduled. The Food Bank needs to continue distributing as many additional boxes as we can, as well as adding meat, produce and dairy. To date, our food bank orders in response to SNAP total over one million dollars. With the public and private sector donating funds, the Food Bank can purchase in bulk and save funds. Donations can be made at secondharvestmetrolina.org or for questions email info@secondharvestmetrolina.org
- **Host a Food or Fund Drive:** Collect items from our “Most Needed Items Shopping List” or you can set-up your own fundraising page and collect funds. This information is available at secondharvestmetrolina.org under GIVE FOOD.
- **Volunteering:** This is a great way to help the Food Bank. If you check our site at secondharvestmetrolina.org and the date/time you prefer is filled, please let us know and we will assist you with finding an opportunity with one of our wonderful partner agencies.
- **Remote Volunteer Projects:** If you are interested in doing a service project with your employer, civic group, church, or other organization, this is a helpful and convenient way to help the food bank. You can complete projects at your own location and avoid planning an off-site volunteer shift. For information about this, email info@secondharvestmetrolina.org.

- **Advocate:** Consider contacting your legislators and ask for their help in getting SNAP reinstated so children, seniors, families, and veterans can receive the nutritious food they need. Plan a phone bank with your civic group, book club, etc. to make calls. Voices matter and we appreciate your participation.

UPCOMING FOOD DRIVES TO DONATE TO:

These events are annual events held by the Food Bank:

November 14th – 8am-6pm at Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina's Main Branch at 500-B Spratt Street, Charlotte, NC 28206. Drop off items from our most needed shopping list which is attached.

November 15th – 10am-5pm – Harvest Feast Marathon at Harris Teeter Stonecrest located at 7832 Rea Road, Charlotte, NC. Food and funds are collected at this drive.

November 22nd – 12n-8pm – Harvest Feast Marathon at Harris Teeter Rea Farms located at 11135 Golf Links Drive, Charlotte, NC. Food and funds are collected at this drive.

November 26th – 7AM-5pm – WFNZ 92.7FM's 23rd Annual Street Turkey Food & Funds Drive. Stop by The Dog House powered by Jack Daniel's. Just pull up and our awesome volunteers will meet you for your donation of food or funds to support Second Harvest and our largest emergency pantry partner in Mecklenburg County – Nourish Up.

December 1st – 6pm-10pm (rain or shine) – Join us for the 2nd Annual Drive Out Hunger Night at Speedway Christmas presented by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina. For one night ONLY, Monday, Dec. 1, donate six (6) of any of the following items to get FREE admission: Canned Goods, Canned Fruit, Boxed Stuffing, Boxed Potatoes. NOTE: Donations are per car. Speedway Christmas is the Southeast's largest drive-thru holiday light show that features more than 5 million lights on a four-mile course circling the iconic oval, pit road and infield road course, and features synchronized lights-to-music on 101.3FM.

Please note that many of our friends in the community are also doing food and fund drives. Please consider giving to those also. We will try to share those on our social media platform as scheduling allows.

FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

Please contact Donna B. Ragan, Donor Relations, Marketing & Communications Manager at dragan@secondharvestmetrolina.org for immediate assistance.