

# **News** Release

Together We CAN End Hunger

#### For Immediate Release

**Contact:** Donna Ragan, Marketing & Communications Manager 704-805-1724 dragan@secondharvest.org

## Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina Calls on Public to Join Together in Ending Hunger

## The Mission is Year-Round with Ways for Everyone to Get Involved

**Charlotte, NC – September 11, 2024 -** September is Hunger Action Month and throughout the campaign, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina will be raising awareness and inspiring action in the 24 counties they serve (14 in NC and 10 in SC). Every action counts, whether it's donating, advocating, volunteering or spreading the word online.

"It is through our work with over 950 partner agencies, our donors, and our wonderful volunteers, we believe that we can end hunger in our 24-county service region." said Kay Carter, CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. "Hunger is year-round and we are encouraging individuals, companies, organizations, and families to get involved through volunteering, attending one of our signature events, hosting a fund or food drive, donating financially, or following and sharing our posts on social media. It is through these actions that we become a strong region with a mission to end food insecurity."

In fiscal year 2023-24, the Food Bank distributed over 88 million pounds of food and household items, with over 54 million pounds being foods high in nutritional value including fresh produce, meat, and dairy. The need is still great. 12.1% of our service area population, almost 483,000 people, live in poverty including over 151,000 children and 57,000 seniors. Our emergency pantries, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters continue to report significant increases in requests for assistance. This was a record setting year in food distributed.

People can get involved locally through the actions below:

- Volunteer throughout the year
- Attend one of our signature events
- Plan now to host a holiday food / fund drive
- Become a monthly donor or participate in planned giving.

Learn more about how you can get involved, visit secondharvestmetrolina.org.

###

#### About Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina

As part of Feeding America, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina - serves 24 counties in North and South Carolina. In FY 2023-2024, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina distributed over 88 million pounds of food and household items, which included over 54 million pounds in fresh produce, meat, and dairy, to over 950 hunger feeding agencies including emergency pantries, soup kitchens, senior programs, shelters and low-income daycares. Follow the Food Bank on: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Linkedin, and YouTube.