



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Second Harvest Student Hunger Drive Breaks All Previous Records! *Total Amount Collected by Nine Participating Schools Reaches 348,226 Pounds*

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (April 8, 2019) – Students from nine area high schools spent the evening of Monday, March 25th celebrating their success in the 2019 Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina Carolinas' Student Hunger Drive. The drive kicked off on February 11th with a skit competition and pep rally at the Food Bank. For the past six weeks, students have been hosting special events, creating videos (click [here](#) to view), collecting food onsite at their school, and an array of other creative activities to both inform and drive donations at their individual schools.

With each food bin weighed and funds calculated, the teams gathered for our finale to hear which Division I and Division II schools would be the recipient of a \$2,000 from the event's Title Sponsor – Food Lion. "The students from our area High Schools did an amazing job helping to end hunger. When it's all said and done, the total for the 2019 Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina Carolinas' Student Hunger Drive comes in at 348,226 pounds" announced Jenner Wall, who manages the event for the organization.

“Over the past six weeks, these high school students have helped our neighbors in need by collecting healthy, nutritious meals for hungry families throughout the Charlotte market,” said Pat Eyer, Food Lion Execution and Implementation Specialist for the Charlotte area. “We want to thank them for their hard work in surpassing the goal from last year. This now means that more people have less choices to make about where they can find their next meal.”

Schools taking home the title of hunger drive champs include Division I Winner, Providence High School - “The Carolinas Student Hunger Drive has provided my students with real-life skills beyond the classroom. What they learn when they actually go out into the community to get support of their food drive is an invaluable experience,” notes Anne McCanless, Teacher at Providence High School.

Division II Winner, Cabarrus Early College of Technology teacher Elizabeth Thompson noted “For us, the Carolinas Student Hunger Drive was about giving back. We know that there are people in our community who are food insecure and we wanted to do what we could to help. We may be a small school, but we have big hearts and believe that it’s important to help our community when we can!”.

The full list of winners is below:

Division I Winner – Providence High School – 54.77 pounds per student
Division II Runner-up – Ardrey Kell High School – 27.01 pounds per student
Division II Winner – Cabarrus Early College of Technology – 32.77 pounds per student
Division II Runner-up – Cannon School – 14.58 pounds per student
Most Creative Event Winner – Ardrey Kell High School for their Mr. Ardrey Kell Pageant
Most Improved Winner – Myers Park High School – 533 percent increase over 2018
Student Hunger Drive Advisor of the Year – Brittany Mercado, Ardrey Kell High School
Food Lion Feeds Hunger Hero \$500 Scholarship Winner – Alex Donatelli, East Mecklenburg High School

For more information about the Carolinas Student Hunger Drive or other information, please contact Donna Ragan, SHFBM Marketing & Communications Manager at dragan@secondharvest.org.

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About Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina

As part of Feeding America, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina serves 19 counties in North and South Carolina. In FY2017-2018, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina distributed over 54 million pounds of food and household items to over 700 hunger feeding agencies including emergency pantries, soup kitchens, senior programs, shelters and low-income daycares.

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About Carolinas Student Hunger Drive

As a program of Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina, the Carolinas Student Hunger Drive is a 6-week, student-led competition between local high schools to collect food for neighbors in need. The drive serves to unite and empower area high school students in the commitment to feed the hungry and promote volunteerism. Charlotte-based Carolinas Student Hunger Drive was founded in 2010 and has already collected 1,328,362 pounds of food for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina and its regional food pantry partners. Each spring, the Carolinas Student Hunger Drive organizes a 6-week competitive food drive in partnership with area high schools.

About Food Lion

Food Lion, based in Salisbury, N.C., since 1957, has more than 1,000 stores in 10 Southeastern and Mid-Atlantic states and employs more than 63,000 associates. By leveraging its longstanding heritage of low prices and convenient locations, Food Lion is working to own the easiest full shop grocery experience in the Southeast, anchored by a strong commitment to affordability, freshness and the communities it serves. Through Food Lion Feeds, the company has committed to provide 500 million meals to individuals and families in need by the end of 2020. Food Lion is a company of Ahold Delhaize USA, the U.S. division of Zaandam-based Royal Ahold Delhaize Group. For more information, visit www.foodlion.com.