



News Release



For Immediate Release

Contact:

Donna Ragan, Marketing & Communications Manager
Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina
704. 805.1724
dragan@secondharvest.org

Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina Receives \$135,000 Donation from Publix Super Markets Charities for New Truck Purchase

CHARLOTTE, NC, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 – Yesterday, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina announced it received a \$135,000 grant from Publix Super Markets Charities, which will be used to purchase a new truck. Since 2014, Publix has helped the Food Bank purchase five trucks and a van for our transportation fleet, which is vital for the food bank's distribution operations.

The Food Bank has seen an increased need for food support in their 24 county service region (14 counties in NC and 10 counties in SC) since the coronavirus pandemic began, and Publix charities' donation will help increase capacity and meet this need. "Prior to COVID-19, approximately 553,000 people in the counties we serve were struggling with food insecurity, including almost 188,000 children," said Kay Carter, CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. "Since COVID-19, we have seen a tremendous increase in those seeking assistance from our 800+ partner agencies. "Our partnership with Publix Super Market Charities is instrumental to feed those in need and we thank them for their continued support."

Additionally, as the impact of the pandemic took shape, many produce and dairy farmers around the Southeast saw their buying partners dry up and found themselves dumping or plowing over product they could no longer sell. Meanwhile, food banks throughout the region were experiencing substantial increases in need. To bridge the gap, Publix implemented a program to purchase surplus produce and milk from farmers and deliver it directly to food banks. Since then, Publix has purchased and delivered more than 11 million pounds of produce and 500,000 gallons of milk to Feeding America member food banks throughout the nation, including over 1.6 million pounds of produce and almost 107,000 gallons of milk to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina.

"It has been our privilege to support hunger relief throughout the Southeast for many years now, and this work has never been more important," said Publix CEO Todd Jones. "We are grateful for the opportunity to support Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina and to alleviate hunger in the communities we serve and bring hope to those who need it most during these uncertain times."

The \$135,000 donation from Publix Charities to Second Harvest is one of several donations made this year to help provide food and other essential support to those hardest hit by the pandemic. In all, Publix Charities has donated \$5 million to Feeding America member food banks and other nonprofit partners in 2020.

For more information about Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina's efforts to fight hunger during COVID-19, please visit SecondHarvestMetrolina.org.

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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 FY2019-2020, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina distributed over 70 million pounds of food and household items to over 800 hunger feeding agencies including emergency pantries, soup kitchens, senior programs, shelters and low-income daycares. Follow the Food Bank on: [Facebook](#); [Twitter](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); [YouTube](#).

About Publix Super Markets

Publix, the largest employee-owned company in the U.S. with more than 220,000 associates, currently operates 1,253 stores in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia. For 23 consecutive years, the company has been recognized by Fortune as a great place to work. In addition, Publix's dedication to superior quality and customer service is recognized among the top in the grocery business. For more information, visit the company's website, corporate.publix.com.