OUR FEATURE STORY: The School Food Pantry Program
The School Food Pantry Program supports children and families at risk of hunger

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Letter from the President/CEO

“Go Orange” for Hunger Relief

It is hard to believe another summer vacation has come and gone in what seems like an instant. I am proud to report, thanks to our generous donors and partners, Second Harvest provided more than 44,722 breakfasts, lunches and suppers to children this summer through our Summer Food Service Program.

Now that our next generation of leaders are back in the classroom, we focus our efforts on Feeding Programs that ensure these children receive balanced meals throughout the school year. Free and reduced-price meals in schools alleviate some hunger issues, but we know children and their families are still at risk on nights and weekends.

The BackPack Program and Kids Cafe provide meals for those children at risk, but on the following pages you’ll learn about Second Harvest’s newest initiative in schools, the School Food Pantry Program, which provides food assistance to children, families and seniors.

And as we all settle back into our routines after summer vacation, please join our efforts this September as we “Go Orange” for hunger relief during Hunger Action Month. I invite you to be a part of the solution to end hunger. Whether it’s by advocating and raising awareness, making donations, or volunteering, you can commit to make a difference.

Wear an orange shirt or tie, or encourage your business to “Go Orange” on Thursday, September 4 for Hunger Action Day.

Show your support of hunger relief by participating in the Post-a-Plate Project. Learn more about the project and how to share your own plate in this edition’s Spotlight section.

Enjoy a delicious lunch every Wednesday and Friday at our First Harvest Cafe or attend our Culinary Arts Center’s first-ever fifty-two seat Pop Up dinner on Wednesday, September 10.

Celebrate with NASHVILLE & Friends at Home on Saturday, September 13. This unique evening benefitting Second Harvest will include heavy hors d’oeuvres, exceptional California wines and entertainment from the cast of NASHVILLE.

Join Friends of the Food Bank, our new young professional group, on Tuesday, September 23 for food sorting, or volunteer to assemble BackPacks for school children with your family on one of our Family Nights.

Learn more about how to be a part of the solution and help us raise awareness of hunger issues in our community online at secondharvestmidtn.org.

Your gifts of time, food and funds play a crucial role in our mission to end hunger for children, families and seniors throughout the 46 counties we serve in Middle and West Tennessee.

Thank you for standing with Second Harvest in the fight against hunger, and I look forward to seeing you in orange for Hunger Action Month this September.

Sincerely,

Jaynee K. Day
President & CEO
September is Hunger Action Month – a movement urging individuals, charities, businesses and government to take action in the fight against hunger in their communities.

Community support and increased awareness during Hunger Action Month has a real and lasting impact on Second Harvest’s mission to create a Hunger Free Tennessee.

One in six adults and one in four children in Tennessee struggle with hunger - that is 395,770 of our neighbors throughout our 46-county service area who do not know where their next meal is coming from.

Join Second Harvest and our Hunger Action Month sponsors, Fifth Third Bank, Kroger and Twice Daily, and help raise awareness of this critical issue. You can show your support for hunger relief by participating in the Post-a-Plate Project.

Step 1: Write a message about hunger on an empty paper plate.
Step 2: Snap a photo holding your paper plate.
Step 3: Share your photo on social media with #HungerActionTN, and tag Second Harvest Food Bank on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @2HarvestMidTN

The Post-a-Plate Project is not only a unique way to spread awareness of the hunger issues in our community but also an opportunity to spark a conversation that will inspire people to make a difference. Be creative with your paper plate message – shed light on a hunger statistic, promote why you support Second Harvest or even share your story about being at-risk of hunger.

We thank you for joining the Second Harvest staff and 450+ partner agencies as well as our generous Post-a-Plate Project sponsor, Target, by posting your plate during Hunger Action Month this September.

**SPOTLIGHT: HUNGER ACTION MONTH**

**Share What’s On Your Plate and Your Mind!**

**HUNGER IS A REALITY FOR 1 IN 6 ADULTS AND 1 IN 4 CHILDREN IN TENNESSEE.**

JOIN SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE IN RAISING AWARENESS OF THIS CRITICAL ISSUE AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR HUNGER RELIEF!

#HUNGERACTIONTN

**395,770 PEOPLE IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE DON’T KNOW WHERE THEIR NEXT MEAL IS COMING FROM**

DONATE FOOD
DONATE TIME
DONATE MONEY
As children and families get back into the daily grind of the school year, Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee’s Feeding Programs are fully operational serving children, families and seniors throughout our 46-county service area.

Our focus in schools is to serve children through the BackPack Program, which sends children who are at risk of hunger home with a backpack full of easy-to-prepare food to help sustain them throughout the weekend, and Kids Cafe, which provides free meals and snacks to at-risk children during and after school.

However, we’ve learned from experience that if a child is at risk of hunger, it is more than likely that the other household family members are at risk of hunger too.

To combat the issue of families in need, Second Harvest piloted the School Food Pantry Program in March 2013, providing food assistance to both the school child and the family members at home.

Since inception, the School Food Pantry has grown from one location at John Early Museum Magnet Middle Prep in Davidson County to 14 locations in two counties. In a little over a year, the program has served nearly 8,800 people, averaging 123 families per month.

Theresa, mother of two, is beyond thankful for the School Food Pantry Program in her community. She has had trouble making ends meet as a single mom with two autistic children. Theresa laughingly describes her son Benjamin, age 10, as the class clown, saying “He always has to have a joke or stick his tongue out or make faces at you,” and his sister, Jocelynn, age 9, as outgoing and friendly.

Her children’s special needs require frequent hospital visits, which are not only costly but also make holding a full-time day job difficult. Theresa is currently working on opening her own business, allowing flexibility to work from home. However, during her time of need, Theresa can rely on assistance from the School Food Pantry at her kids’...
school. She receives food boxes full of green beans, rice, fruit, peanut butter and much more, enabling Theresa to put food on the table.

Theresa is grateful for the assistance because the food helps her two children stay healthy and happy. “Just because we’re struggling now doesn’t mean we’re always going to struggle, or that we have always struggled,” she says. “But the times that we do need the [help], it’s there.”

Theresa is confident she’ll be on her feet again one day very soon with a successful career allowing her to provide for her family on her own. She looks forward to the day when she lands on her feet, and she says, “I won’t forget, believe me. I am very thankful.”

Theresa’s family is just one of the many families who can now receive food assistance from the School Food Pantry Program. Second Harvest currently supports 13 sites in Davidson County, all funded by a generous grant from Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), at various elementary, middle and high schools.

Milton Johnson, President and CEO of HCA believes, “Second Harvest works at a scale that has a significant impact on reducing hunger in our community through partnerships. One new partnership has allowed The HCA Foundation the opportunity to work with Second Harvest to reduce food insecurity by launching the School Food Pantry Program as a founding partner.”

The generous support from our partnership with HCA has secured funding to sustain the Davidson County sites throughout this school year. However, there are more schools to serve in other counties and more families to feed.

Just this month, Second Harvest opened our first rural School Food Pantry. The Warren County school food pantry will serve the entire county thanks to a generous grant from The Bridgestone Trust. The pantry’s first order will arrive on Wednesday, August 27 and immediately begin serving families.

Mitch Burke, Plant Manager of the Bridgestone Warren County Plant says, “the Warren County Plant is honored to have partnered with both the Warren County School System and Second Harvest Food Bank in this new venture to provide much needed food to children and families. Bridgestone is committed to support the education of our youth, and we understand a child can’t learn if he or she is hungry.”

The rural School Food Pantry is a great triumph for Second Harvest, “says Tracey Alderdice, Director of Agency and Program Services at Second Harvest. In rural counties it is imperative food distribution sites are convenient and easily accessible due to the lack of transportation. “We are excited to continue to expand on the success of our current School Food Pantry Program and serve even more families in need,” Tracey concluded.

Second Harvest is fortunate to have continuous loyal partnerships with individuals, organizations and businesses who support our mission to feed hungry people and work to solve hunger issues in our community, and we couldn’t be more grateful. Each and every meal we provide is due to the generosity of your financial contributions, volunteer support and commitment to hunger relief. Thank you for fighting hunger and feeding hope.
Recent Events
Highlights from a sampling of recent events.

FRIENDS OF THE FOOD BANK HAPPY HOUR
Friends of the Food Bank, Second Harvest’s new young professionals group, hosted the inaugural Become a Friend Happy Hour to kickoff the groups fundraising and awareness efforts on Thursday, July 31.
With more than 100 attendees, the event raised $1,000 in support of Second Harvest’s Feeding Programs from guest donations as well as a percentage of sales from The Music City Tippler.
Friends of the Food Bank will host a Hunger Action Month volunteer event on Tuesday, September 23. Visit secondharvestmidtn.org/friends for more details.

BASH OF THE TITANS
The Tennessee Titans and LP Building Products teamed up to host Bash of the Titans benefiting Second Harvest. The event, raised more than $48,500 to fight hunger in Middle Tennessee.
The special evening included a Q&A session with Head Coach Ken Wisenhunt and GM Ruston Webster and a behind-the-scenes experience for 250 attendees.
Send holiday cards that make a difference!

Honor your family, friends, clients and co-workers with a gift of food and hope to children and adults in our community.

Please call (615) 329-3491 for more information or to order.
Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars and support Second Harvest

**SEPTEMBER 3**
**WAREHOUSE WEDNESDAY TOURS**
Join us on the first Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. for a personal tour of our food distribution facility.
For more information: 615-627-1581

**SEPTEMBER 4**
**HUNGER ACTION DAY**
Orange is the symbolic color of hunger, and we are encouraging individuals, charities, businesses and government to turn orange together to take action against hunger and raise awareness for those at risk of hunger.

**SEPTEMBER 10**
**BULGER RUBIN- MAILLE DINNER**
Second Harvest’s Culinary Arts Center will host a one-of-a-kind Pop Up dinner hosted by Terry Bulger, Mark Rubin and Myles Maille
For more information: 615-627-1569

**SEPTEMBER 13**
**NASHVILLE & FRIENDS AT HOME**
Join us for a unique evening with heavy hors d’oeuvres, exceptional California wines and entertainment from the cast of ABC’s NASHVILLE.
For more information: 615-627-1581

**SEPTEMBER 13/14**
**TENNESSEE VOLKSFEST**
Volunteers are needed for the event, featuring traditions and tastes of Munich at the Nashville Farmers’ Market. A portion of proceeds benefit Second Harvest.
For more information: 615-627-1570

**NOVEMBER 1**
**HARVEST MOON BALL**
The 31st annual Harvest Moon Ball will take place at Nashville’s War Memorial auditorium, celebrating our hunger relief efforts and honoring Nashville’s Downtown Rotary Club.
For more information: 615-627-1565

secondharvestmidtn.org/events