



SECU Foundation
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE



For Immediate Release

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SECU Members Partner with North Carolina Feeding America Food Banks for 6 Million Meal Project



Winston-Salem, N.C. – August 29, 2016 — The coolers at Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina are filled with potatoes, corn, and other produce thanks to a three year grant from the State Employees' Credit Union (SECU) Foundation, which is having a positive impact on hunger in Northwest North Carolina.

Last year, SECU Foundation Executive Director Jama Dagenhart, Foundation Board Member McKinley Wooten, Jr. and NC Association of Feeding America Food Banks Executive Director Alan Briggs announced a \$1.2 million grant that will provide six million meals over the next three years for struggling North Carolinians. Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina is in their second year of utilizing these funds.

The grant supports North Carolina's Feeding America food banks in providing families in need access to fresh fruits and vegetables, tying in with the Association's Farm to Food Bank initiative to rescue unharvested or unsold produce.

The \$400,000 given in the first year provided over 2.6 million additional meals in all one hundred counties, including an additional 421,000 meals for community members in need across Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC's 18-county service territory."

"On behalf of SECU members who fund the SECU Foundation, we are proud to team up with the NC Association of Feeding America Food Banks to assist with solutions to alleviate hunger through programs like Farm to Food Bank," said SECU Foundation Board Chair Jim Johnson. "SECU Foundation's 3-year investment will expand and deepen the reach of the community food system, making a powerful and positive difference in the lives of children and families throughout the state."

Second Harvest Food Bank Executive Director Clyde Fitzgerald added, "Partnerships like this one with SECU Foundation are absolutely critical to our goal of securing additional fresh fruits and produce and other nutritious foods for families in need in our community. We deeply appreciate the support from SECU members through their generous funding and commitment to this project."

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About SECU and the SECU Foundation

A not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by its members, SECU has been providing employees of the State of North Carolina and their families with consumer financial services for 79 years. The Credit Union also offers a diversified line of financial advisory services including retirement and education planning, tax preparation, insurance, trust and estate planning services, and investments through its partners and affiliated entities. SECU serves over 2 million members through 256 branch offices, nearly 1,100 ATMs, 24/7 Member Services via phone and a website, www.ncsecu.org. The SECU Foundation, a 501c (3) charitable organization funded solely by the contributions of SECU members, promotes local community development in North Carolina primarily through high impact projects in the areas of housing, education, healthcare and human services.

About the North Carolina Association of Feeding America Food Banks

The North Carolina Association of Feeding America Food Banks is a strategic alliance of the six food banks and one food recovery organization in North Carolina who also belong to Feeding America, the nation's largest hunger relief charity. The North Carolina Association of Feeding America Food Banks is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable nonprofit organization. Member services include: Statewide networking and communication; raising food and funds for our food banks; public policy analysis and public awareness about hunger issues

About Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC

Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC is the leading hunger-relief organization for an 18-county service area. In partnership with more than 400 local food assistance programs (food pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters and special feeding programs for children and seniors), Second Harvest Food Bank works to address immediate needs for food assistance and passionately pursues an end to hunger through outreach, education and advocacy. Collectively, our network is a source of food and hope for nearly 300,000 neighbors in need each year, including 100,000 children. Special Second Harvest Food Bank programs include initiatives to combat childhood hunger; the Triad Community Kitchen culinary job training program; Nutrition Education Services and others. To learn more, visit www.hungernwnc.org.