



**Second Harvest Food Bank
of Northwest NC**
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For Immediate Release

Second Harvest Receives Grants for Summer Feeding Community Effort Supports Families and Local Farmers

Winston-Salem, N.C. – June 28, 2016 — Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina is the recipient of two grants that will have a big impact in the lives of Caswell County families struggling with food insecurity, plus provide a boost for local farmers.

The grants are independent, yet will work in tandem to support the families and children turning to County Outreach Ministry in Yanceyville for nutritional support.

A \$9,150 grant from the Community Foundation of the Dan River Region will allow the Ministry to expand its summer meal program for children to five days a week for up to 125 children. It also provides a commercial-grade refrigerator and freezer for perishable items and underwrites a “Cooking Matters” course, in which Second Harvest nutrition educators teach participants how to cook healthy meals with a limited budget. A \$12,000 grant from The Conservation Fund’s Resourceful Communities Program and the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust will support local farmers, allowing the Ministry to purchase fresh, sustainably-grown produce at market rate, and will provide funding for several additional cooking and canning classes.

“We are so excited that these grants will enhance the wonderful work being done by Alice and Paul Robinson at County Outreach Ministry this summer,” said Clyde Fitzgerald, Executive Director of Second Harvest Food Bank. “We are thrilled that we can partner with them, providing meals for the kids and teaching the ‘Cooking Matters’ curriculum to families so that they can make healthier dinners at home. It’s an added bonus that much of the money will stay in Caswell County, helping small, family farmers.”

The effort truly embodies Second Harvest Food Bank’s expanding focus on building and strengthening collaborative efforts that address the linked issues of food insecurity, economic stability and health. The partnership not only involves Second Harvest Food Bank and County Outreach Ministry, but also the Caswell County Local Foods Council and the Caswell County Cooperative Extension Service. Local farmers and Caswell County neighbors who receive services at the Ministry contributed to the planning process. Any produce not used by the Ministry’s programs will be shared with other partner agencies of the food bank. The program concludes in November, with a community meal prepared by graduates of the cooking classes.

“We cannot thank Second Harvest Food Bank enough for all it has done for our ministry,” said Alice Robinson, director of County Outreach Ministry. “We deeply appreciate their commitment to helping us meet the needs of the people of Caswell County. We appreciate the funds from both grants. Paul and I, along with our board members, are excited about being able to provide fresh produce to the families seeking assistance from our ministry center. And being able to feed more children more often this summer, when school is out, is just incredible.”

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About Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC

Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC is the leading hunger-relief charity in the region, providing immediate access to food to those facing hunger and passionately pursuing an end to hunger through outreach, education and advocacy. In partnership with a network of more than 400 charitable food assistance programs across 18 counties, Second Harvest Food Bank reaches 300,000 people in need of food assistance each year, including 100,000 children. Partner programs include food pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters and special feeding programs for children and seniors operating in Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Caldwell, Caswell, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Guilford, Iredell, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes and Yadkin.) To learn more, please visit www.hungernwnc.org.

About Feeding America

Feeding America is a nationwide network of more than 200 food banks that leads the fight against hunger in the United States. Together, we provide food to more than 37 million people through 61,000 food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters in communities across America. Feeding America also supports programs that improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit <http://www.feedingamerica.org/>. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FeedingAmerica or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/FeedingAmerica.