



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

Walmart Foundation Supports Summer Meals *Joins the "Nourish this Summer-Flourish this Fall" Effort*

Winston-Salem, N.C. – July 21, 2016 — Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina, the local Feeding America Food Bank, is pleased to announce a \$50,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation's State Giving Program to help fill the summer meal gap.

A growing number of families are eligible for and rely on the National Free and Reduced School Lunch Program during the academic year; however, similar federal summer meal programs fail to reach the majority of these children. With more and more families turning to Second Harvest Food Bank's network of local food pantries for help to feed their children, the Walmart Foundation award comes at a critical time.

"Many area families simply cannot make up for the meals lost to their children when the last school bell rings, especially under the strain of added expenses for childcare," said Clyde Fitzgerald, Executive Director of Second Harvest Food Bank. "Walmart's grant will be used to purchase Family Meal Boxes filled with nutritious food, ensuring that children are nourished this summer, so that they can flourish when they return to school in the fall."

Pediatricians and nutrition experts agree that children who lack access to nutritious food suffer from more health and social problems than their well-fed counterparts and are at risk for childhood obesity. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are working to support a food system that is affordable, healthy and accessible to those in need so families do not have to choose between food that is affordable and food that is healthy.

"Walmart and the Walmart Foundation take pride in giving back to the communities where we serve and we are delighted to support Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina," said Brooke Mueller, Director of Government Relations and Public Affairs, Walmart. "Through this grant, Second Harvest will be able to reach more children in the community and provide them with nutritious meals during their summer break."

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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.