



Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania
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NEWS RELEASE

THE SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF NORTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA TO FOCUS ON HUNGER AWARENESS DURING HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Second Harvest Encourages the Community to Join Them in Creating Awareness of the 167,700 People Who Struggle with Food Insecurity in Northwest Pennsylvania

Erie, PA (September 1, 2015) – The Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania will observe Hunger Action Month™ – an initiative designed to inspire the public to take action on the issues of hunger. Advocates from across the country will be working together this September to shine a light on the 49 million individuals facing food insecurity in our country, including the 167,700 individuals right here in northwest Pennsylvania.

Second Harvest will be kicking off a month of hunger education on Thursday, September 3rd from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. by having staff, board members and their families participate in volunteer activities that will help provide our member agencies with nutritious food.

Second Harvest is encouraging the public to also get involved during Hunger Action Month by participating in the following:

- **Turn Erie Orange:** Local businesses in Erie County can turn their offices orange – the official color of Hunger Action Month. Businesses can participate by asking staff to wear orange, by displaying Second Harvest signs in their front windows and by putting orange lightbulbs in their light fixtures. Second Harvest has asked participating businesses to share with them how they are participating in Hunger Action Month.
- **Open Houses:** Second Harvest will open its doors to visitors with special events during the month of September. Guests will receive a behind the scenes look at the daily operations of a food bank. A photo taking area will also be set up for visitors to take “spoon selfies”—taking a selfie while balancing an orange spoon on the nose, then posting the photo to social media and including a statistic about hunger in northwest Pennsylvania to become an advocate for the food bank. Open houses will take place on:
 - Friday, September 18th 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
 - Saturday, September 26th 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 - Wednesday, September 30th 5p.m. – 7 p.m.
- **Food Drives and Fundraisers:** Second Harvest is also encouraging individuals, groups and businesses to consider hosting fundraisers and food drives to benefit the food bank. These events provide the food bank with essential food and monetary donations that are needed to support member agencies.

To learn more about Second Harvest and Hunger Action Month, please visit www.eriefoodbank.org.

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About Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania

As the only food bank in northwest Pennsylvania, the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania is the major supplier of food to a network of 298 member organizations that distribute products to individuals and families in 11 counties. Last year, Second Harvest distributed nearly 13 million pounds of food to partner organizations, which in turn provided food to 167,700 unduplicated recipients. Second Harvest is proud to have earned **Charity Navigator’s** highest rating for sound fiscal management for the **8th consecutive year**. Visit www.eriefoodbank.org to learn more about the mission of Second Harvest.

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