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Second Harvest Receives 12th Consecutive 4-Star Rating Ranked in Top 1% of All Nonprofits Nationwide

ERIE, PA, July 3, 2019 – Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania’s strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency have earned it a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America’s largest independent charity evaluator. This is the twelfth consecutive time that Second Harvest has earned this top distinction.

“Second Harvest’s exceptional 4-star rating sets it apart from its peers and demonstrates its trustworthiness to the public,” according to Michael Thatcher, President & CEO of Charity Navigator. “Only a quarter of charities rated by Charity Navigator receive the distinction of our 4-star rating. This adds Second Harvest to a preeminent group of charities working to overcome our world’s most pressing challenges. Based on its 4-star rating, people can trust that their donations are going to a financially responsible and ethical charity when they decide to support Second Harvest.”

“It’s important our donors trust that we’re using their donations wisely to accomplish our mission of alleviating hunger in our community,” said Karen Seggi, Executive Director of Second Harvest. “We are proud to be the only nonprofit to receive the 4-star Charity Navigator rating in our area, which demonstrates to our supporters our good governance and financial accountability.”

Second Harvest scored 92.92 on Charity Navigator’s rating system. The rating system examines two broad areas of a charity’s performance; their financial health and their accountability & transparency. The ratings show donors how efficiently Charity Navigator believes a charity will use their support today and how well it has sustained its programs and services over time. The rating also demonstrates to donors a nonprofit’s level of commitment to good governance, best practices and openness with information. Charity Navigator provides these ratings so that charitable givers can make intelligent giving decisions and so that the nonprofit sector can improve its performance.

Every dollar donated can provide five meals to families in need through Second Harvest's network of member agencies. A full 97% of every dollar donated to Second Harvest goes directly toward feeding programs.

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About Charity Navigator

Charity Navigator, www.charitynavigator.org, is the largest charity evaluator in America and its website attracts more visitors than all other charity rating groups combined. The organization helps guide intelligent giving by evaluating the Financial Health and Accountability & Transparency of more than 8,000 charities. Charity Navigator accepts no advertising or donations from the organizations it evaluates, ensuring unbiased evaluations, nor does it charge the public for this trusted data. As a result, Charity Navigator, a 501 (c) (3) public charity itself, depends on support from individuals, corporations and foundations that believe it provides a much-needed service to America's charitable givers. Charity Navigator, can be reached directly by telephone at (201) 818-1288, or by mail at 139 Harristown Road, Suite 101, Glen Rock, N.J., 07452.

About the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania

The mission of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania is to provide food to those in need within 11 counties of northwest Pennsylvania while creating awareness and educating the community on the realities of hunger. Second Harvest provides food to 412 member agencies and distribution partners throughout the 11 counties of northwest Pennsylvania. These organizations include food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, Produce Express mobile distributions, Military Share – a Produce Express Program, School Pantries, Backpack Programs and Senior Box distribution sites. In the most recent year, Second Harvest has distributed 9.2 million meals to individuals in need. Second Harvest serves the following 11 counties in northwest Pennsylvania: Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Venango and Warren.