



NEWS ADVISORY

Contact: Zachary Webb
Second Harvest Food Bank
P: 814-459-3663 x 114
zwebb@NWPAfoodbank.org

Second Harvest Expands Produce Express Program to Corry

Corry, PA., May 16, 2019 – The Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania is supporting the Blue Zones Project to boost healthy living initiatives by expanding its Produce Express mobile distribution program to Corry, PA. This will not only expand Second Harvest’s footprint for distributing fresh produce, but also meet a key goal of targeting food deserts in Erie County and bringing resources to areas that are desperately in need.

Second Harvest’s Produce Express Program is a mobile food distribution where Second Harvest fills a truck full of fresh fruits and vegetables and distributes it at a location where income eligible individuals and families will receive about 25-50 pounds of nutritious fruits and vegetables, free of charge.

By making fresh, healthy produce available to those who normally would not have access to it, Second Harvest is working to encourage the community to eat healthier and make better nutritional choices. When available, Produce Express trucks also include other grocery items and non-food essentials.

“Fruits and vegetables provide many of the vitamins and minerals that we need in our daily nutrition,” said Karen Seggi, executive director of Second Harvest. “We are so happy that our Produce Express allows us to provide fresh, nutritious options to hungry families in our community.”

This distribution is open to all who meet the income qualifications and reside within the Corry Area School District. To see if you qualify and to register for the event, please visit <https://nwpafoodbank.org/corry-produce-express/> or call Gerry Weiss at 814.459.3663 x 120. Those who participate are asked to bring ID and bags or boxes to carry the food home.

Event details include:

What: Second Harvest Produce Express Program

When: Thursday, May 16th at 1:30 P.M.

Where: Salvation Army, 127 West Washington St., Corry, PA 16407

According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), food deserts are an area where at least 33% of residents live one mile or more from the nearest grocery store or supermarket. Food deserts tend to be in low-income areas where there is not access to supermarkets with fresh nutritious foods like vegetables, fruits, and other healthy whole foods. Residents in these areas typically have limited access to vehicles or other transportation and must often rely on convenience stores or fast food options which primarily offer highly processed, packaged, high-fat, high-salt, high-sugar foods and drinks.

###

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.