



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Second Harvest Looks for New Partnerships in North East Area

**North East PA., August 7, 2019** – For more than three decades, the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania and North East Community Food Pantry have worked together to help alleviate hunger in North East. As of Wednesday, August 7, that partnership will come to an end. Second Harvest wishes the North East Community Food Pantry success in the ongoing pursuit of their mission.

According to the US Census, 1 in 13 people in North East are living in poverty. That means that nearly 500 individuals in the area may be without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. In order to alleviate this need, Second Harvest is actively pursuing new partnerships within North East to provide donated food to the area. Second Harvest operates through a vast network of 411 food pantries, soup kitchens, Produce Express mobile distributions, Backpack programs, School Pantries and more. If your organization has an interest in partnering with Second Harvest in hunger relief services, please contact (814) 459-3663 x 120 in order to explore the opportunity of working together to achieve the greatest impact.

Second Harvest, the lead hunger relief organization in the region, will continue to provide food across the 11 counties of northwest Pennsylvania, including North East. If you, or someone you know, are in need of food, there are several Second Harvest resources you can access:

- Ella Cochran at Our Lady of Mercy Church  
814-480-9979  
837 Bartlett Road, Harborcreek, PA 16421  
This agency distributes the third Wednesday of the month from 8:30 am -1:30 pm  
Ella Cochran is a Second Harvest member agency who has agreed to serve individuals from the North East area. All you will need is a photo ID and proof of residency.
- Wesleyville Interfaith Food Pantry  
814- 403-8475  
2041 Station Road, Erie, PA 16510  
Open the third Tuesday of the month 10:00 to 11:30 am and 5:30 to 7:00 pm  
Wesleyville Interfaith Food Pantry is a Second Harvest member agency who has agreed to serve individuals from the North East area. All you will need is a photo ID and proof of residency.

- Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania Produce Express  
Call 814-459-3663 x 111 to pre-register  
1507 Grimm Drive, Erie, PA 16501  
Distributions take place the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 4:00 pm  
This Second Harvest direct service distribution is now open to individuals from the North East area. All you will need is a photo ID and proof of residency.
- Second Harvest currently partners with three organizations in North East to provide food boxes to low-income senior citizens. If you are 60 years of age or older, you may qualify to receive a free, senior food box distributed through Second Harvest's partnership with the 4 NINE. Please contact Sheilah at 814-459-3663 x 111 for more information.

“Overcoming the challenges of hunger requires a community-based approach,” says Second Harvest Executive Director, Karen Seggi. “I want to assure the North East community that Second Harvest is committed to maintaining our services within the area, and we will continue in our efforts to expand alongside other partner organizations who share in our belief that no person should be hungry.”

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***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. Last year, Second Harvest distributed more than 9 million meals through our anti-hunger network of 411 member organizations and distribution partners.

Second Harvest serves the following 11 counties in northwest Pennsylvania:

Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Venango and Warren.