



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Zachary Webb**  
Development Manager  
P: 814-459-3663 x 114  
[zwebb@NWPAfoodbank.org](mailto:zwebb@NWPAfoodbank.org)

## Second Harvest Ranked in Top 1% of Charities Nationwide

**ERIE, Pa., March 11** --- Erie, PA – The Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania has been named one of America’s best managed nonprofit organizations for the ninth consecutive time, according to Charity Navigator, America’s premier charity evaluator. Charity Navigator President and CEO Michael Thatcher recently awarded Second Harvest the coveted 4-star rating indicating that Second Harvest consistently outperforms most other charities in America. Only 1% of the charities that are rated have received at least nine consecutive 4-star evaluations.

In his letter announcing this rating, Thatcher states, “Receiving four out of a possible four star indicates that your organization adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way. This ‘exceptional’ designation from Charity Navigator differentiates Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust.”

Karen Seggi, executive director of Second Harvest, expressed appreciation for the award, saying: “With 167,700 northwest Pennsylvanians counting on us to put food on their tables each year, it is important for the community to feel confident that their charitable contributions are being spent wisely. We are honored to be recognized by Charity Navigator and the designation proves that the Second Harvest goes the extra mile to make every donation count toward our mission of feeding those in need.”

Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania scored 95.29 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, how well it has sustained its programs and services over time and their level of commitment to good governance, best practices and openness with information. Charity Navigator provides these ratings so that charitable givers/social investors can make intelligent giving decisions and so that the nonprofit sector can improve its performance.

Charity Navigator's team of professional analysts have examined tens of thousands of non-profit financial documents and developed an unbiased, objective, numbers-based rating system to assess more than 8,000 of America's best-known and some lesser known, but worthy, charities.

#

***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 nearly 13 million pounds of food to 298 member agencies, 144 distribution sites for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for low-income seniors. Second

Harvest serves the following 11 counties in northwest Pennsylvania:

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