



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Second Harvest Teams with Operation BBQ to Provide Thousands of Restaurant Meals to Families in Need**

**Erie, Pa., June 2, 2020** – More than 1,200 families across five school districts in northwest Pennsylvania will receive meals this week from a partnership developed between the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania and Operation BBQ Relief. A total of 400 families will attend a drive-thru distribution at the Northwestern School district on Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 5 p.m. Each family will receive one box containing four pre-packaged containers with enough food for sixteen meals to feed a family of 4. In total, nearly 19,760 meals will be delivered through the five school districts.

Second Harvest is providing meals through a unique relationship with Operation BBQ Relief (OBR) that began as part of COVID-19 disaster relief efforts. The OBR meals are prepared and packaged by staff at 14 Pennsylvania restaurants, caterers and hotels in the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia areas. These meals are delivered to Second Harvest who then provides them to the schools, as well as other member agencies to distribute to people in need. Second Harvest is currently receiving 2 truckloads of OBR meals per week. These meals may contain breakfast, lunch or dinner options.

“No family should worry about where their next meal is coming from,” says Second Harvest CEO Karen Seggi, “Second Harvest is proud to partner with our school districts to not only help feed the children in need, but help feed their families as well.”

### **Media Information**

**What:** Second Harvest and Operation BBQ Relief meal distribution  
**Where:** Northwestern Elementary School, 10450 John Williams Ave, Albion, PA 16401  
**When:** Wednesday June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5 p.m.  
**Contact:** Zachary Webb (814) 572-4014

Meals will be distributed through a drive-thru format at each school to ensure the health and safety of those involved.

School Districts will distribute meals at the following dates and times:

- General McLane School District – Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11 a.m. – 100 boxes
- Northwestern School District – Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5 p.m. – 400 boxes
- Harborcreek School District – various times - 110 boxes

- Girard School District – Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. - 500 boxes
- Ft. LeBoeuf School District – Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. – Fort LeBoeuf - 125 boxes

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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 9.6 million meals through an anti-hunger network of 399 partner organizations. Second Harvest serves the following 11 counties in northwest Pennsylvania: Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Venango and Warren. The health and safety of Second Harvest's staff, clients and volunteers is of utmost importance. Extra safety measures are being taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**About Operation BBQ Relief**

Operation BBQ Relief is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Kansas City, MO that was founded in May 2011 in response to a need for tornado relief efforts in Joplin, MO. Competitive pitmasters from eight different states answered the call to feed displaced families and first responders. Together, they were able to serve over 120,000 meals in a thirteen-day period. This experience of building a network to feed individuals in need has been the inspiration for Operation BBQ Relief. To date, Operation BBQ Relief has provided over 3 million meals throughout the United States and internationally following natural disasters and through The Always Serving Project, benefiting the homeless, first responders, veterans, and service men and women. For more information, visit [www.obr.org](http://www.obr.org). Sharon Green Operation BBQ Relief +1 574214-7959