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Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania Kicks Off Hunger Action Month in Perry Square with Mayor Joe Schember

August 29, 2022 – For Hunger Action Month this September, Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania will join Feeding America, as well as other member food banks, to inspire people to join in the fight to end hunger and raise awareness of people experiencing food insecurity across the United States. Food banks around the country are working to make a real and lasting impact on hunger in their communities and they are asking for the public's support.

On Thursday, September 1, at 12:00 PM in Perry Square, Mayor Joe Schember will present a proclamation to Second Harvest Food Bank for Hunger Action Month. The City of Erie supports our vision for a hunger-free community and is committed to raising awareness on the realities of hunger.

September marks the 15th year Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization, has organized the annual call to action. This year's campaign presents the impossible choices that millions of people in America are often forced to make between food and other basic needs.

Food insecurity is defined as lacking reliable access to enough affordable, nutritious food. According to the latest Map the Meal Gap statistics from Feeding America, **88,670 individuals in Northwest Pennsylvania are food insecure, 29% of them are children under the age of 18.** Second Harvest Food Bank has seen a 25% increase since January of 2022 of families that are participating in our various programs and the 390 agencies we serve.

About Feeding America

Through a network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and meal programs, we provide meals to more than 40 million people each year. Feeding America also supports programs that prevent food waste and improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about

the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Visit www.feedingamerica.org, find us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

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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 over 10 million meals through an anti-hunger network of 390 partner organizations. Second Harvest serves the following 11 counties in northwest Pennsylvania: Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Venango and Warren.