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New Income Guidelines for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) Expanded for 2022-2023

Erie, PA. Hunger is everywhere. We are all just one crisis away from needing Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania. Maybe it's a job loss, illness, injury, death in the family, or unexpected debt. Food insecurity can affect anyone.

New guidelines by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture have significantly increased funding available for those in need of food assistance. Under the previous guidelines, a one-person household could make \$19,320 annually or less to qualify. Under the new guidelines, which went into effect on July 1, 2022, a one-person household is now able to make \$25,142 or less to receive assistance. "This is almost a \$6,000 differential," said Director of Network Relations, Gerry Weiss. "This significant increase has arrived at just the right time due to the cost of so many food items going up due to inflation."

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost.

For those that need assistance or further information are asked to log on to www.nwpafoodbank.org or call the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania's Food Helpline at (814) 459-3663 extension 117.

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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 395 partner organizations. Second Harvest serves the following 11 counties in northwest Pennsylvania: Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Venango and Warren.