

Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina was founded in 1981, as a project of the Charlotte Area fund. Within 15 months, the food bank was able to qualify for membership in Feeding America, the national food bank network. Feeding America is recognized as the nation's largest hunger relief organization, comprised of more than 200 food banks and food rescue programs across the United States.

As the largest hunger relief charity in the Metrolina area, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina works to end hunger by supplying a network of 715 non-profit agencies throughout 14 counties in NC and 5 counties in SC with food and essential grocery products.

Fiscal year June 2015 – June 2016, SHFB distributed more than 50 million pounds of food to our non-profit agencies. SHFB has more than 40,000 volunteers per year which equates to a savings to the food bank of 3.5 million dollars per year.

In our 19 county region:

- 527,475 people live in poverty and over 188,000 are children
- Almost 60% of children qualify for free or reduced lunch at school
- In Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, over 5,000 children are homeless

In the last several years, SHFB has added several new programs.

- Kids Café - There are 44 Kids Café sites in 11 different counties.
- Backpack Program – This program is designed to provide children at risk of hunger with backpacks full of ready-to-eat nutritious foods for the weekends and holidays when school meals are not available. We operate 141 Backpack programs in 17 counties and distributed 152,000 backpacks this past fiscal year.
- School Based Mobile Pantries – This program supplements our backpack program at high-poverty rate elementary schools. It provides on-site food including produce, meat and dairy for low-income families. This year, SHFB will provide over 150 school-based mobile pantries.



[www.SecondHarvestMetrolina.org](http://www.SecondHarvestMetrolina.org)