

# Community Notes

WINTER 2021 | A PUBLICATION OF SECOND HARVEST COMMUNITY FOOD BANK



## IN THIS ISSUE

Page 2  
**LETTER FROM THE CEO**

Page 3  
**YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK**

Page 4  
**FOOD FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

Page 4  
**STRETCHING YOUR DONATIONS**

**Your gift supplies food for families in need across Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas.**



*Second Harvest Community Food Bank is a member of Feeding America and Feeding Missouri.*

# Letter from the CEO

*Dear friends of Second Harvest,*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Bryan Carter, Chair	Tina Evans
Kevin Kelly, Vice Chair	Gerri Housholder
Amy Ryan, Immediate Past Chair	Katie Jonas
Christel Gollnick, Secretary	Kenny Miller
Monica Walker, Treasurer	Becky Ritchey
Robin Andrews	Carolynn Sollars
Robb Ensign	Donna Wilson

## STAFF:

Chad Higdon, Chief Executive Officer  
 T. J. Bauer, Chief Operations Officer  
 Michelle Fagerstone, Chief Development Officer  
 Director of Logistics  
 Sara Alexander, Director of Programs  
 Jackie Auxier, Children's Initiatives Coordinator Lead  
 Michael Belding, Finance/Admin Coordinator  
 Sydney Duke, Children's Initiatives Coordinator  
 Andrew Foster, Volunteer Coordinator  
 Blake Haynes, Communications Coordinator  
 Levi Johnson, Inventory Control Coordinator  
 Dustin Knapp, Driver  
 Kim Maddox, Housekeeping  
 Lona Morgan, Community Outreach Coordinator  
 Chad Neff, Warehouse Operations Lead  
 Kassandra Norris, Senior Initiatives Coordinator  
 Deb Ramey, Community Outreach Coordinator  
 Corey Ripper, Food Sourcing Coordinator  
 LeDorian Robinson, Warehouse  
 Bob Russell, Driver  
 Melissa Ryser, Development Specialist  
 Jennifer Smith, Executive Assistant  
 Brandon Throne, Driver  
 Caleb Underwood, Driver/Warehouse



## OUR MISSION

To provide nourishment and hope to the hungry while engaging and empowering the region in the fight to end hunger.

## OUR VISION

A hunger-free Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas.

Newsletter is produced by Second Harvest Communications Department. For questions, please contact Blake Haynes at 816.364.3663 x 219.

Facebook.com/sec.harv  
 Twitter.com/Second\_Harvest  
 @secondharvestcfb

**SHCFB.org**

Like many of you, I am glad 2020 is behind us and look forward to the days when the COVID-19 pandemic is merely a part of history. In response to the pandemic, we continue to distribute food on a torrent pace. From March to November, we have served nearly 200 times the number of individuals in comparison to 2019. Plans are in place to continue service at the present level for the next several months. In the first six months of our current fiscal year, we distributed 6.5 million pounds of food. With more than half the year to go we are on track to eclipse last year's record distribution total of 9.86 million.

At Second Harvest we are proud of what we have accomplished this past year. More families than ever needed our support, and I am proud to say we have worked hard to keep up with the increased demand. With limited local food resources available to us to support families in need, we often rely on fundraising and food purchases, and support from federal nutrition programs. Many of the USDA foods available in 2020 have concluded or are projected to decrease. We have worked hard to convey to policy makers the importance of these programs, especially during the pandemic. The federal support and deployment of National Guard in 2020 contributed significantly to our distribution efforts this past year.

As we focus our service on traditional food distribution programs, we also look for innovative ways to support community needs. We are in the process of forming a diversity committee to improve access and reach across various demographics. A new program that we will be starting is a military food box program to support veterans and military families in Leavenworth. I am also proud to announce that I was selected Vice-Chair of Feeding America's Policy Engagement and Advocacy Committee (PEAC). This committee helps develop and support Feeding America's policy strategy and advocacy efforts across the network. We are proud to offer our individual and collective time, resources, and talent at Second Harvest to promote an environment where everyone has access to their family's nutritional needs. **It is an honor to serve, and we are blessed to have your support of our mission.**



Chad Higdon  
 CEO of Second Harvest  
 Community Food Bank



# YOUR Donations at Work

**PANDEMIC RESPONSE**  
COVID-19

## Purchased Product

2020 \$2,078,670

2019 \$1,079,068



## Second Harvest

# Brought HOPE

in all 19 counties in our service area because of

Donors  
Like YOU!



## Total Meals Distributed

2020 7,870,650

2019 4,845,873

## SNAP Applications



2020 715

2019 1,130

## Fresh Mobile Distributions

2020  
380

2019  
234



## Individuals Served

2020 584,561

2019 252,957



# thank you!

# Food for the Holidays

When you think of the holiday season, what comes to mind? Family? Friends? Smiles? Warm get together? Maybe this is what comes to mind for you, but is it for everyone?

For some, the holiday season brings with it a mound of pressures. How can I afford the heat bill? Will I be able to provide gifts this year? Can we even afford to have a meal?

**“That is why it is so important for us to provide food for the holidays through our Turkey Day and Christmas Wing-Ding distributions.”**

“We know that the holiday brings with it rising bills to heat homes and other financial burdens,” said Chief Executive Officer, Chad Higdon. “That is why it is so important for us to provide food for the holidays through our Turkey Day and Christmas Wing-Ding distributions.”

This year, Second Harvest Community Food Bank provided 750 meals at each distribution. In total, 1,500 meals were provided to those in need, all in attempts to lessen some of the worry during this year’s holiday season.

“We really need the extra help at this time of the year, especially with everything going on,” box recipient Neeba Nolan said.

Throughout 2020, more individuals than ever have had to seek out food assistance to provide for their families. Something they never thought that they would ever have to do, many from reasons/circumstances they have never had to face before. Everything from job loss, illness, and hours being cut. Through it all Second Harvest continues to be there for each person as they are returning to work and getting back on their feet during the holidays.

“If it wasn’t for this, we wouldn’t be able to do anything for the holidays this year,” box recipient Debbie Pace said.

The holiday season is a time for people to be able to smile with friends and family, not for them to worry whether they can provide a meal for their children. This year, more than ever, we are honored to be able to provide 1,500 holiday meals to those in need.



## Because of You

We are excited to announce, that with your support, we were able to make history for this year’s Mayors’ Thanksgiving Dinner. We brought this event to the public virtually, via KQ2! The response of the event was very warming, and very beneficial. TOGETHER, we will be able to provide over 140,000 meals to those in need from the proceeds raised for this year’s TV Special! Thank YOU for all your support!



## ANNUAL FUND DRIVE 2021

YOU can make ALL the difference for those in need through wthe 2021 Annual Fund Drive. For every \$1 donated, Second Harvest is able to provide up to 3 meals to those in need. Just think,

- \$5 = 15 Meals
- \$10 = 30 Meals
- \$20 = 60 Meals
- \$50 = 150 Meals
- \$100 = 300 Meals

Together, through your donation, WE are bring HOPE within YOUR community.

To make a donation visit [www.shcfb.org](http://www.shcfb.org) or call Michelle Fagerstone at 816.364.3663 #MakeADifference