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## Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast North Carolina Receives Funding to Fight Childhood Hunger

**FAYETTEVILLE, NC– October 26, 2018**– Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast North Carolina (SHFB), a proud member of Feeding America, was awarded \$10,000 from Feeding America to assist in its childhood hunger-fighting initiatives. The Red Nose Day Child Hunger Grant will support the SHFB's BackPack Program, which provides nutritious meal supplements for children of low-income families.

Red Nose Day shines a light on the need for safe and healthy environments for children around the globe; it has raised over \$100 million to help end childhood poverty. Money raised through fundraising and the sales of red noses at local Walgreens stores supports programs in 34 countries and all 50 states—including Feeding America and its vast network of member food banks.

"One in four children in our region faces hunger. This funding helps us ensure children have access to nutritious foods and can focus on having fun and making good grades – not about where their next meal may come from," said Ron Pringle, Program Director for Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast North Carolina.

A proud member of Feeding America, SHFB fights hunger across seven largely rural counties. In addition to working with churches and shelters that serve as partner agencies to distribute food, SHFB coordinates with school systems to identify and enroll children facing hunger into the BackPack Program. For some families struggling in Southeast North Carolina, the only meal guaranteed to provide the nutrients a child needs is the lunch received at school. Each Friday, eligible children take home a backpack with nutritious and easy-to-prepare foods to supplement what they may receive at home.

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**ABOUT SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF SOUTHEAST NORTH CAROLINA:** A member of Feeding America, Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast North Carolina serves seven counties: Bladen, Cumberland, Duplin, Harnett, Hoke, Robeson, and Sampson. With a large, rural service area, the organization relies on strong partnerships with over 260 churches, food pantries, and other nonprofits to distribute food to those in need. Led by the principles of "Feed – Advocate – Empower," SHFB is committed to improving access to healthy foods; advocating for those in need; and empowering the community with emergency aid and education.