Press Kit
OUR WORK FIGHTING FOOD INSECURITY IS NOT DONE
Feeding America is a nationwide network of 200 food banks of which Second Harvest is a member. The organization released the latest statistics on food insecurity in America, and these staggering numbers prove our work at Second Harvest continues to be critical for the health and well-being of everyone in Orange County.

267,000
PEOPLE IN ORANGE COUNTY ARE FOOD INSECURE

1 IN 12
INDIVIDUALS IS FOOD INSECURE

64,000
CHILDREN IN ORANGE COUNTY ARE FOOD INSECURE

1 IN 11
CHILDREN IS FOOD INSECURE

FOOD INSECURITY RATES IN ORANGE COUNTY BY RACE/ETHNICITY

Food insecurity rates in Orange County are highest in communities of color – 15% of Blacks are food insecure and 11% of Latinos, versus 5% of Whites. The largest number of food-insecure individuals are in the Latino population (119,000 people).
SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK WAS FOUNDED IN 1983 as the Food Distribution Center by the Council of Orange, Society of St. Vincent de Paul. In 1997, the food bank was rebranded and named Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County. Second Harvest moved from its location in Orange to Irvine 10 years later. We serve the Orange County community and distribute nutritious food through a network of partners and pantries throughout the county. They include houses of worship, schools, after-school programs, colleges and universities, senior centers, shelters for the unhoused, soup kitchens and transitional housing facilities.

OUR TEAM
Led by CEO Claudia Bonilla Keller, Second Harvest has 95 employees and is a member of the Feeding America network.

FACILITIES & FLEET
Second Harvest is located in Irvine on 6.5 acres. The 108,000-sq-foot DISTRIBUTION CENTER includes 14,550 square feet of cold storage including two cold docks. Our FLEET includes box trucks, tractors and 28’-53’ trailers. Located 3.6 miles away from the Food Bank, HARVEST SOLUTIONS FARM was launched in August 2021. Since its founding, the 40+ acre farm has allowed us to harvest more than 3.7 million pounds of nutrient-dense produce.

WAYS TO GIVE
- Volunteer
- Give a Gift
- Host a Virtual Food Drive
- Donate Cryptocurrency, Stocks, by IRA Rollover or through Legacy Gifts

WE SOURCE FOOD FIVE WAYS

1 PURCHASING nutritious food in bulk
2 ACQUIRING large volume donations from major food manufacturers and distributors
3 RESCUING FOOD donations collected from grocery stores
4 RECEIVING ASSISTANCE from federal and local government
5 GROWING our own produce at Harvest Solutions Farm

As of June 30, 2023
HOW THE FOOD BANK WORKS

SOURCES AND DESTINATIONS

WE SUPPLY MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF FOOD from five primary sources to houses of worship, schools, after-school programs, colleges & universities, senior centers, shelters for the unhoused, soup kitchens and transitional housing facilities. Only with their help are we able to reach those facing food insecurity by:

PURCHASING nutritious food in bulk

ACQUIRING large volume donations from major food manufacturers and distributors

RESCUING FOOD donations collected from grocery stores

RECEIVING ASSISTANCE from federal and local government

GROWING our own produce at Harvest Solutions Farm

HOUSES OF WORSHIP
SCHOOLS
AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS
COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES
SENIOR CENTERS
SHELTERS FOR THE UNHOUSED
SOUP KITCHENS
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FACILITIES

As of June 30, 2023
OUR IMPACT
IN FISCAL YEAR 2023

SERVING INDIVIDUALS
THROUGHOUT ORANGE COUNTY

36.3M
POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED

393,000
PEOPLE SERVED PER MONTH ON AVERAGE

130,000
CHILDREN SERVED PER MONTH ON AVERAGE

78,000
SENIORS SERVED PER MONTH ON AVERAGE

PROVIDING FOOD THROUGH 294 PARTNERS
AT 362 DISTRIBUTION SITES, INCLUDING:

6
PERMANENT SCHOOL PANTRIES

42
AFTER-SCHOOL & SUMMER PROGRAMS

74
MOBILE SCHOOL PANTRIES

58
SENIOR-SERVING LOCATIONS

17
COLLEGE PANTRIES

DID YOU KNOW?
IN FY 2023...

• Almost 2.1 million pounds of nutritious produce, equivalent to 59 truckloads, was harvested at Harvest Solutions Farm.

• Our trucks and drivers traveled 199,000 miles, almost eight times around the globe.

• We purchased almost 646,000 dozen eggs—enough to make a 3-egg omelet for 2.6 million people.

Food Distributed

BY TYPE
- Produce 30%
- Dairy 10%
- Grains 12%
- Protein 21%
- Processed Veg & Fruit 5%
- Produce Grown 5%
- Other Groceries 17%

BY SOURCE
- Donated 64%
- Purchased 13%
- Gov’t 18%
- Grown 5%

As of June 30, 2023
Harvest Solutions Farm is an innovative component of Second Harvest’s strategy to provide food and nutritional security for all in Orange County. With Harvest Solutions Farm, we have strengthened operations and paved the way for a new focus on pursuing planned nutrition based on consistent access to fresh protein, produce, and dairy—rather than relying on situational nutrition driven solely by donations. Our business model now focuses on the weekly purchase, bulk donation, and now harvesting of nutritious food.

Harvest Solutions Farm allows Second Harvest to mitigate challenges like pandemic-induced inflated food prices and supply chain disruptions. The Farm’s location, just 3.6 miles from the food bank, greatly reduces the number of miles trucks drive to deliver ultra-fresh produce to our distribution center and thereby reduces the environmental impact. And, it drastically cuts the time from “farm to plate,” providing children, families, and seniors in our community with consistent access to the nutrient-dense food that can set them up for success in school, at work, and in life.

### The Details

**Farm Launch:** August 2021

**Partners:** Solutions for Urban Agriculture, led by A.G. Kawamura, Board Chairman and former Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture; and University of California South Coast Research & Extension Center (SCREC)

**Location:** The Farm is located at SCREC, a 100+ acre agricultural research center in Irvine. The availability of fields for use by Second Harvest Food Bank for Harvest Solutions Farm is based on SCREC’s research projects and is revisited semi-annually. Throughout the year, Harvest Solutions Farm encompasses up to 40 acres.

**Crop Selection:** Crops are selected for Harvest Solutions Farm based on several considerations including: soil and weather, availability, partner network interest, wide appeal among various cultures and ethnicities, and availability from bulk donation sources.

**Crops:**
- First planting in August 2021: 26,000 cabbage transplants
- Fall/Winter – Cabbage, broccoli, broccolini, cauliflower and spaghetti squash
- Spring/Summer – Zucchini, bell peppers, watermelon, honeydew melon, yellow squash and green beans

**Volunteer Support:** Volunteers are key to the success of Harvest Solutions Farm.
- Volunteer shifts are open to participants 7+ years of age (volunteers 7-17 years old must be accompanied by an adult chaperone)
- Volunteer shifts are generally 7:30-11:00am Tuesday through Saturday. During daylight saving time, Tuesday shifts move to 4:00-6:00pm.
- Volunteer activities include planting, weeding and harvesting
- To date, we have averaged 170 volunteers per week.

"I love volunteering at Harvest Solutions Farm because I love being outside. It’s nice to be outdoors in the quiet and experience the peacefulness of the farm. And it’s an opportunity to see first-hand how our efforts are going toward feeding people with every piece of produce we harvest." -Steve Z.
The Impact

Total Pounds: Since the project began, we have harvested over **3.7 million pounds** of produce for the community.

Harvest By Season in FY23:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring/Summer Harvest (lbs.)</th>
<th>Fall/Winter Harvest (lbs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bell Peppers</td>
<td>Broccoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>127,128</td>
<td>92,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Beans</td>
<td>Broccolini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97,132</td>
<td>43,501</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watermelons</td>
<td>Cabbage</td>
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<tr>
<td>617,754</td>
<td>469,889</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellow Squash</td>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
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<tr>
<td>83,232</td>
<td>252,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zucchini</td>
<td>Spaghettis Squash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>278,264</td>
<td>10,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>Subtotal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,203,510</td>
<td>868,779</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total FY23</td>
<td>Total FY23</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,072,289</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Partner Distribution: Produce from Harvest Solutions Farm is distributed to our network of over 300 partner sites throughout Orange County.

The Future

We will continue to cultivate crops that are used frequently in the community, and we will look to diversify our selection of produce as the project progresses. We are continuing to market our volunteer opportunities to audiences. We hope to inspire other food banks across the nation to use this model as a blueprint for providing fresh, nutritious produce to local communities.

As of 06-30-23
**HARVEST SOLUTIONS FARM**
Join us as we plant, harvest, weed and maintain the fields at Harvest Solutions Farm located just down the road from our food bank in Irvine at the intersection of Lambert Rd. and Irvine Blvd.

Welcoming ages 7+ with a registered adult chaperone.*

**Tues. – Sat.**

*Visit feedoc.org/volunteer for current schedule and volunteer waivers.

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**DISTRIBUTION CENTER**
Volunteer at our Distribution Center at 8014 Marine Way in Irvine. Participants assist in a variety of projects to help us process food to send to our community.

Welcoming ages 13+ with a registered adult chaperone.*

**M/W/Th – 8:30-11:30am and 12:30-3:30pm**

**Tu & F – 8:30-11:30am**

*Visit feedoc.org/volunteer for volunteer waivers.

For more information, please visit feedoc.org/volunteer or contact us at volunteer@feedoc.org.
What is a Virtual Food Drive?
A Virtual Food Drive is a fundraising platform that provides an opportunity to engage your employees, colleagues, friends, and family while helping to provide nutritious food for children, families and seniors in Orange County.

Skip the store with a Virtual Food Drive! This is an easy and convenient web-based tool that allows everyone to participate, regardless of location. Virtual Food Drive donations support Second Harvest’s efforts including bulk food purchasing, operations, programming, and more.

Why Support a Virtual Food Drive?
Second Harvest Food Bank’s Virtual Food Drives make it easy to help Orange County families in need and make a difference in our community. You can join us in making sure that all who need our help can access healthy food. With just a few clicks, you can help Second Harvest in our vision of an Orange County with food and nutritional security for all.

Example of How Your Support Helps
By supporting a Virtual Food Drive, you are helping to provide food for families like Kimberly’s. Kimberly’s family is among those we serve. Kimberly, a Vanguard University student, has turned to the school’s pantry for food assistance, both for herself and her family.

“Not having access to food has been very difficult. College students shouldn’t have to worry about what they’re going to eat. They should be thinking about finishing assignments and studying for their exams.”
— Kimberly

Learn more!
Visit https://feedoc.org/get-involved/#food-drive or point your phone’s camera at the QR code to the right. Or email us at yourfooddrive@feedoc.org.

Note: Items on the Virtual Food Drive page and pictured here are representative of food Second Harvest purchases using Virtual Food Drive funds to provide food to people experiencing food-insecurity.
2023 CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEER

Harvest Solutions Farm (HSF) – Plant, harvest, weed and maintain the fields on the HSF located off-site in Irvine. Welcoming ages 7+ with adult chaperone.

Volunteer shifts: Tues. – Sat.; times vary and are available on our website.

Distribution Center (DC) – Assist in a variety of projects that help us process food to send out to our community. Welcoming ages 13+ with adult chaperone.

Volunteer shifts:
• M/W/Th – 8:30-11:30am and 12:30-3:30pm
• Tu & F – 8:30-11:30am

Visit feedoc.org/volunteer for current schedule and more information. Contact Volunteer@feedoc.org for any questions.

“Fluor volunteers value the hands-on experience and the deeper connection it brings to help Second Harvest provide critical food assistance, while fulfilling Fluor’s commitment to feeding the hungry and building a better world.”
— DeeDee Rosenthal, Community Relations Manager

EVENT SPONSORSHIP

Food From The Bar
June 1 – June 30, 2023
Do you work in the OC legal community? Support this month-long friendly competition with your office by sponsoring, raising funds and volunteering to help raise awareness to provide nutritious food for people in need in OC.

Walk to Feed OC
Saturday, September 9, 2023
Support Second Harvest’s second annual walk event by sponsoring and/or signing up your company as a team and inviting staff and family members to join the walk.

“No Lunch” Lunch
Tuesday, November 21, 2023
Our signature annual event where we come together as a community to reflect on our work from the previous year, as well as look ahead to the year before us.
Questions? Contact Megan Hunker, Donor Relations Manager, at 949.208.3187 or megan@feedoc.org.

Last updated 3/23
For media inquiries, please contact us at communications@feedoc.org or (949) 653-2900.