



HARVESTERS AND CITY NATIONAL BANK PRESENT EIGHTH ANNUAL INNOVATIVE SERVICE AWARD TO THREE LOCAL NONPROFITS ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY IN ORANGE COUNTY

Local entities feeding people facing food insecurity awarded a total of \$39,960 to increase capacity and impact

Irvine, Calif. (May 11, 2026) – Harvesters, a women-only volunteer organization dedicated to raising awareness and funds for Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County, presented its eighth annual Innovative Service Award in collaboration with City National Bank on Thursday, April 30. Three exemplary nonprofits received a total of \$39,960 to implement or enhance their client choice food distribution model, which empower individuals and families to select foods that best meet their cultural preferences and dietary needs. The 2026 recipients, Orangewood Foundation, North Orange Christian Church and OC First Assembly of God, were selected for their outstanding commitment to serving vulnerable populations with dignity and respect while working in partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County.

As rising food prices and cost of living continue to strain household budgets and the need for food assistance grows, these awards provide timely support to organizations serving as lifelines in their communities. The 2026 award recipients serve their communities in the following ways:

- **Orangewood Foundation** (located in Santa Ana) is a leading Orange County nonprofit empowering nearly 2,000 youth and young adults annually on their journey to independence. Their core programs build essential skills and stability through Housing, Education, Life Skills & Employment, and Health & Wellness. Orangewood Foundation has been a Second Harvest partner since February 2009. Since the start of the fiscal year (July 2025), they have served a monthly average of 229 households (225 adults). Last fiscal year (FY25), they distributed 38,765 pounds of food.
- **North Orange Christian Church** (NOCC; located in Orange) is a non-denominational congregation of Christians that has existed for 50 years. They are not formally affiliated with any denomination or organization outside the local church. They seek unity and cooperation with all Christians, regardless of their name. They currently offer a hybrid/limited choice program, and their goal is for all guests to feel seen and to allow them a shopping experience. NOCC has been a Second Harvest partner since August 2012. Since the start of the fiscal year (July 2025), they have served a monthly average of 245 households (261 children; 462 adults; and 97 seniors). Last fiscal year (FY25), they distributed 30,933 pounds of food.
- **Orange County First Assembly's** (OCFA; located in Santa Ana) mission statement is Christ, Cause, and Community. It is their privilege and responsibility to follow the example of Christ in serving others. OCFA has been actively serving the city of Santa Ana for over 106 years. They are grateful that a part of blessing our community is through the partnership with Second Harvest. OCFA has been a Second Harvest partner since August 2021. Since the start of the fiscal year (July 2025), they served a monthly average of 1274 households (1,616 children, 2,523 adults, and 580 seniors). Last fiscal year (FY25), they distributed 414,593 pounds of food.

The announcement of these grants and awards ceremony held at Founders Farm—a program of Second Harvest located at Southwinds Farms & Gardens that grows fresh produce in raised planter beds for the Food Bank's Partner Network—comes during a particularly challenging time for community members experiencing food insecurity. This crucial funding will enable each recipient organization to enhance their services to serve more people of all ages in need, upgrade equipment and reach more individuals and families struggling to put nutritious food on their tables.



As part of its ongoing mission to combat food and nutritional insecurity, City National Bank, a dedicated Harvesters partner, presented all three awards. The bank has been an integral part of the Innovative Service Award program since it began, serving as the award presenter throughout its history. "We are honored to recognize these organizations supporting the one in nine Orange County residents facing food insecurity," said David Hasenbalg, Group Head / Sr. Managing Director for City National Bank and Second Harvest Food Bank Board member. "We appreciate their efforts to build welcoming, respectful environments for our community."

For more information on Harvesters, visit feedoc.org/harvesters.

About City National Bank

City National Bank, a subsidiary of Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), is the largest bank headquartered in Los Angeles. Founded in 1954, City National is a regional bank specializing in Consumer Banking, Wealth Management and Private Banking, Commercial Banking and Entertainment Banking with branches in Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego, the San Francisco Bay Area, New York City, Nashville, Atlanta, Delaware, Las Vegas, Washington D.C. and Miami.* For more information about City National, visit the company's website at cnb.com.

**City National Bank does business in Miami and the state of Florida as CN Bank.*

About Harvesters

Founded in 1992, Harvesters is a dedicated group of women committed to raising funds and awareness for Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County. Its members have donated thousands of hours of volunteer service and its annual campaigns have generated over \$21.5 million for Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County over the past 34 years. Learn more at feedoc.org/harvesters.

About Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County

At Second Harvest Food Bank, our vision is an Orange County with food and nutritional security for all. In collaboration with our partners, we provide dignified, equitable and consistent access to nutritious food, creating a foundation for community health. Our partner network includes schools, after-school programs, colleges and universities, senior centers, houses of worship, shelters for the unhoused, soup kitchens and transitional housing facilities, with sites at 380 locations throughout the county. In fiscal year 2024-2025, we distributed 42.1 million pounds of food to an average of 458,995* neighbors in need each month (duplicated). Approximately 39,000 pounds of produce are harvested each week at the 40-acre Harvest Solutions Farm in Irvine, a collaboration with Solutions for Urban Agriculture and the University of California South Coast Research & Extension Center begun in August 2021. Second Harvest is a member of the Feeding America network. For more information, visit feedoc.org.

**Duplicated - those seeking food assistance often visit a pantry more than once per month.*

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