



FACT SHEET

About Second Harvest Heartland

- Second Harvest Heartland is one of the nation's largest, most efficient and most innovative hunger relief organizations.
- Second Harvest Heartland sources, collects and provides food for individuals who worry about having enough to eat, touching the lives of more than half a million people every year. Second Harvest Heartland serves children, parents, seniors and working adults.
- In fiscal year 2017, Second Harvest Heartland provided more than 81 million meals to partner programs in 59 counties in Minnesota and western Wisconsin.
- Second Harvest Heartland strengthens the hunger relief network, working with 1,000 partnering food shelves, food pantries and other meal programs. Second Harvest Heartland creates new partnerships with schools, hospitals and clinics, and they advocate for programs and policies that support the people we serve.
- Second Harvest Heartland provides an average of 74 percent of all food distributed by its local food shelf partners.
- More than 57 percent of food that Second Harvest Heartland distributes is fresh from local farmers and growers and grocery and convenience stores, and 34 percent of the food distributed is produce.
- Donations go a long way at Second Harvest Heartland – every \$1 donated provides three meals.
- Second Harvest Heartland is committed to being good stewards of donated funds, with 94 percent of our total expenses spent on the programs and services we deliver to end hunger.
- Second Harvest Heartland won't stop working until every hungry person in Minnesota and western Wisconsin has the food they need to thrive.

About Hunger in Minnesota and western Wisconsin

- Hunger continues to be a prevalent and pervasive issue in the area, though the face of hunger looks significantly different than it did 10 years ago. More than 33 percent of Second Harvest Heartland's clients are children, 10 percent are senior citizens and many are working families.
- One in 10 people in the region is at risk of being hungry even though there is more than enough food to feed hungry neighbors.
- Though 68 percent of Second Harvest Heartland client households have a member who worked for pay in the past year, they still experience challenges with underemployment and limited income.
- In Second Harvest Heartland's service area, at least one member in 45 percent of households has high blood pressure and 35 percent have a member with diabetes.
- At least once a year, when faced with hunger, clients make the following tough decisions over putting food on the table:
 - 63 percent choose housing
 - 71 percent choose transportation/gas
 - 67 percent choose medical care/medicine
 - 71 percent choose utilities

For More Information

- Visit 2harvest.org, email communications@2harvest.org or call 651.484.5117.
- Visit Second Harvest Heartland on Facebook at facebook.com/2harvest, Twitter at twitter.com/2harvest, Instagram at instagram.com/secondharvestheartland or LinkedIn at linkedin.com/company/second-harvest-heartland.