

News Release

February 10, 2025
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Second Harvest Food Bank's Pack the Bag Campaign

From **February 10th to 22nd**, Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee will host their annual "Pack the Bag" fundraiser to benefit their Food for Kids Program, with the goal of providing meals for school children experiencing hunger in our 18-county area. The Food for Kids program is a collaboration between Second Harvest and 296 participating public schools to provide nutritious, easily prepared food to children who are at risk of missing meals regularly. For \$100, a child can be sponsored for the entire year.

Second Harvest thanks several key corporate sponsors who are supporting this campaign, each committed to helping East Tennessee children. Special thanks to our sponsors, SouthEast Bank, Republic Plastics, and Atmos Energy.

Jimmy Dalton, SouthEast Bank's Community Reinvestment Officer, said, "At SouthEast Bank, our commitment to the well-being of our community extends beyond financial services. That's why we're proud to partner with Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee in their mission to fight childhood hunger in public schools across our region. The Pack the Bag campaign is an intentional effort to care for student and family wellness and we are grateful to play our part in supporting programs that make such meaningful impact in the lives of our neighbors."

"The Pack the Bag campaign is a powerful reminder of the impact community support can have on students in our 18-county service area," said Elaine Streno, Executive Director, Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee. "With the help of our generous sponsors like SouthEast Bank, we're able to ensure East Tennessee children have the nourishment to succeed."

Second Harvest raises funds for the Food for Kids Program year-round. More information on this and other hunger relief programs is available at www.secondharvestetn.org/programs.

About Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee:

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee, a Partner Food Bank of Feeding America, has worked to compassionately feed East Tennesseans experiencing hunger since 1982. Last year, Second Harvest distributed more than 26.3 million pounds of food across an 18-county service area through eight hunger-relief programs and 670+ community partners.

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