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SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK PARTNERS WITH STARBUCKS AND FEEDING AMERICA® TO LAUNCH FOODSHARE PROGRAM

Collaborative program already yielding up to 3 tons of food a week for recipients at agencies in Santa Clara County

SAN JOSE, Calif., June 29, 2018 – Today, Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, Starbucks and Feeding America® celebrated the launch of the [Starbucks FoodShare](#) program in Santa Clara County. The partnership was officially launched with a packing event at the San Jose Farmer’s Market where Starbucks employees volunteered their time to pack 2,000 lunch kits for people in need and included a surprise additional \$50,000 donation from the Starbucks Foundation to help fight hunger in the community.

As part of this collaborative outreach effort, Starbucks is donating nourishing, ready-to-eat meals each day to Second Harvest Food Bank from 76 of its company-operated stores throughout Santa Clara County. The program is already providing up to three tons of food a week to recipients at two local organizations and is estimated to provide 312,000 pounds of food in the area in one year.

“It’s hard for some to imagine that 1 in 4 people is at risk for hunger in Silicon Valley, especially since it’s the center of so much wealth and innovation,” said Leslie Bacho, CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank. “To address such high levels of need, we’re exploring innovative ways to reach more people beyond our traditional food bank services. Our collaboration with Starbucks and Feeding America on the FoodShare program is a new and innovative way we can provide wholesome, ready-to-eat meals to some of our most vulnerable residents who struggle with hunger on a daily basis. The FoodShare program is a great example of how organizations can all work together to impact hunger in our area.”

Through a strategic alliance with Feeding America, Starbucks has set a goal to rescue 100 percent of food available to donate from their more than 8,000 US company-operated stores. The program has donated more than 7.5 million meals since launching in 2016.

“We are proud to partner with Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties and Feeding America in launching the Starbucks FoodShare program in our 20th market,” said Laura Olson, Starbucks director, global social impact. “Today we are one step closer in achieving our goal to bring FoodShare to all our stores and provide more than 50 million meals annually to those in need.”

FoodShare donations are picked up in refrigerated vans from selected Starbucks stores seven days a week, year-round. At each location, drivers from two of Second Harvest's partner agencies check all items to ensure food safety and then transport the food for distribution. The donated food includes items from Starbucks' newly launched Mercato line including Bistro Boxes, breakfast sandwiches, paninis, salads, yogurts and high-quality baked goods.

The donated food has been well received by clients at HomeFirst, one of Second Harvest's two partner agencies benefitting from the FoodShare program. According to one of HomeFirst's clients, a homeless veteran, the donated food gives people a healthy option. "What a treat! With my diabetes, I shouldn't be eating a lot of the stuff I do, but this is just what I need – something healthy. I don't know how you did it but thank you for getting us something we could never afford on the streets," he stated.

HomeFirst's Chief Development and Communications Officer Stephanie Demos added, "Among the great unanticipated consequences of this program for HomeFirst's homeless shelter guests is the dignity they infer from these Starbucks' meals and snacks. Although many of us choose from the Starbucks menu one or more times a day, our guests generally don't even consider such a treat as a possibility."

Second Harvest's second agency partner in the program – Cityteam, a faith-based non-profit organization that serves the needs of people living in poverty, hunger and homelessness in the community – said the program will help them reach more people. "We are serving 100,000+ meals to our homeless men, women, and children guests this year," said Glen Peterson, president of Cityteam. "This food increases the quality and quantity of our food service and we hope to be expanding the FoodShare distribution into several Santa Clara County low-income communities this fall. We all know the economic realities of living in the Bay Area, and many of the people we serve are working individuals and families struggling to make ends meet. The pre-packaged food from Starbucks gives our guests food they can take with them to work and for kids lunches."

Santa Clara County is one of more than 20 Feeding America member food banks in the country to benefit from the FoodShare partnership. Similar programs have also been launched in Seattle, New York City, San Diego and San Antonio. Starbucks intends to scale this program over the next few years and rescue 100 percent of its food available for donation from participating company-operated U.S. stores.

For more information about the Starbucks FoodShare program at Second Harvest Food Bank, please visit <https://www.starbucks.com/responsibility/community/foodshare>.

ABOUT SECOND HARVEST

Based in Silicon Valley, Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties is one of the largest food banks in the nation. Currently providing food to more than one quarter of a million people every month, Second Harvest is a trusted community-based organization that was founded in 1974. Despite the immense wealth in Silicon Valley, and partly due to the high cost of living, hunger and malnutrition are pervasive. The Food Bank distributes nutritious food, including more fresh produce than almost any other food bank in the country, through a network of 300 nonprofit partners at 905 sites. Second Harvest is pursuing innovative efforts to increase access to food resources as it seeks to feed an additional 100,000 hungry people each month. To reach more people, it advocates for anti-hunger policies and connects those in need to federal nutrition programs and other food resources. To learn more about how Second Harvest is building a hunger-free community, visit [SHFB.org](https://www.shfb.org).

ABOUT STARBUCKS

Since 1971, Starbucks Coffee Company has been committed to ethically sourcing and roasting high-quality arabica coffee. Today, with stores around the globe, the company is the premier roaster and retailer of specialty coffee in the world. Through our unwavering commitment to excellence and our guiding principles, we bring the unique Starbucks Experience to life for every customer through every cup. To share in the experience, please visit us in our stores or online at <http://news.starbucks.com>.

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