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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina recently held their 2009 Partner Appreciation Awards Luncheon in Charlotte. Suzanne Hambrick of the Service League of Hickory was instrumental in communicating with Second Harvest and the Hickory City Schools to make this program a reality. In October 2008, Second Harvest began providing backpacks for the Service League of Hickory to distribute bi-monthly to Longview and Southwest Elementary Schools. Since that time, raising funds through their Kitchens & More Tour, the Service League is now providing backpacks on a weekly basis to five different elementary schools in Catawba County. Because of their efforts, need-based qualified children in Catawba County are receiving food to take home for use on the weekends and holidays when school meals are not available.

Will Arant, Joe Mercer, and Jake Schoonderwoerd who volunteer at the local Hickory Second Harvest Food Bank were honored with Individual Volunteer Partner Awards. The Service League of Hickory was presented with the Group Volunteer Partner Award for their contribution to the success of this program.



**David Brown and Kay Carter of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina present the Group Volunteer Partner Award to Suzanne Hambrick of the Service League of Hickory for their efforts in starting the first backpack program through Second Harvest in Catawba County, NC.**