

## GCS Organization of the Month – Harvest Hope Food Bank

Government and Community Services (GCS) is a proactive outreach arm of the County. GCS focuses on facilitating improved community outreach, administration of government services, and the resolution of community issues. GCS recognizes an "Organization of the Month" that exemplifies the importance of supporting the community and assisting in getting resources to those most in need.

Harvest Hope is South Carolina's largest food bank, providing over 22.6 million meals annually to neighbors in need across the Midlands, Pee Dee and Upstate. Harvest Hope is on a mission to eliminate hunger and food insecurity in South Carolina. They operate programs that provide food for Richland County's most vulnerable citizens — children, seniors, and rural residents who don't have access to grocery stores. They also run an emergency food pantry in Richland County where anyone in need can get a week's supply of groceries for free.

This year has been busy for Harvest Hope as they not only celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but focus on many of the root causes of hunger brought to light during the pandemic. With Erinn Rowe, the newly named CEO at the helm, there are many new initiatives you'll see from Harvest Hope.

## Check out their:

- Newly launched blog
- Video series: Cooking Well with Harvest Hope
- Partnerships with various community partners, like <u>Senior Resources</u>, to help distribute more food to those in need

While a hunger-free South Carolina is still on the horizon, Harvest Hope is committed to serving the citizens in need in Richland County for however long it takes. Thank you to all who support their mission of building a hunger-free tomorrow.

To keep up with their work, you can follow Harvest Hope on their social media channels – <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

If you are interested in partnering with Harvest Hope visit <a href="https://www.harvesthope.org/get-involved">https://www.harvesthope.org/get-involved</a> for information on volunteering, donating food or a financial gift, and hosting a food drive.