



**Second Harvest Food Bank**  
Greater New Orleans and Acadiana

**Media Contact:**

Linzy Cotaya

504.473.6494

[lcotaya@secondharvest.org](mailto:lcotaya@secondharvest.org)

@2ndHarvestGNOA

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**\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\*PHOTO OPPORTUNITY\*\*\***

## **9-A-Day Program Gives Children Access to Fresh Produce Thanks to Cargill Grant**

*Three year commitment gives low income, pre-school children the knowledge and skills to adopt healthy eating habits.*

**WHO:** Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana, Cargill and George Washington Carver Head Start

**WHAT:** 9-A-Day produce pack and distribution

*Visual: Volunteers from Cargill will be on site at George Washington Carver Head Start to sort, package and distribute fresh produce to pre-school students. The students will thank the Cargill volunteers for making the 9-A-Day program possible with a presentation.*

**WHEN:** Wednesday, November 9  
2:00PM

**WHERE:** George Washington Carver Head Start  
109 Carver Street, Breaux Bridge

**WHY:** 9-A-Day refers to the recommended number of fruits and vegetables the average person should consume daily. The 9-A-Day program is a nutrition education program designed to provide low-income, pre-school children with access to fresh fruits and vegetables and the skills and knowledge to adopt lifelong healthy eating habits.

Each week, Second Harvest Food Bank delivers fresh produce to participating Head Start schools to encourage healthy eating among pre-school aged children and their families. Through the program, the children receive nutrition education focused on a variety of produce each week from Head Start educators. The produce, along with healthy recipes, is then sent home for the families to cook and enjoy a nutritious meal together.

Thanks to a new three-year commitment, Cargill will support the expansion of a 9-A-Day program in Breaux Bridge. The new site at George Washington Carver Head Start is expected to serve 146 children this school year.

In addition to the Breaux Bridge site, Second Harvest has an additional 1,224 children enrolled in 9-A-Day at 12 sites across Orleans and Jefferson Parishes.

“Second Harvest serves over 82,000 children a year,” says Amy Fuselier, Second Harvest Food Bank Lafayette Branch Manager. “With so many children in our community unsure of where their next meal will come from, we rely on partners, such as Cargill, to help us meet the growing need.”

*About Second Harvest Food Bank:*

*Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana is leading the fight against hunger in south Louisiana through food distribution, education, advocacy and disaster response. Annually, Second Harvest serves approximately 263,000 people through 240 nonprofit and faith-based agencies across 23 south Louisiana parishes – from the Mississippi border to the Texas state line. In any given week, nearly 42,000 people access emergency food services through Second Harvest Food Bank member agencies.*

*Second Harvest Food Bank is an affiliated ministry of the Archdiocese of New Orleans and a member of Feeding America. To learn more or donate food, money or time, please visit [www.no-hunger.org](http://www.no-hunger.org). Follow us on Twitter at [www.Twitter.com/2ndHarvestGNOA](https://www.Twitter.com/2ndHarvestGNOA) or fan us on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/2ndHarvestGNOA](https://www.Facebook.com/2ndHarvestGNOA).*

*USDA:*

*Second Harvest Food Bank is distributing commodities to eligible, needy families under the Food Bank Program in 23 south Louisiana parishes. Commodities will be given on a first come, first serve basis as a part of the normal food package provided by the site. Commodities can only be given to registered applicants. For a complete listing of member agency locations visit, [no-hunger.org/Programs/MemberAgencies](http://no-hunger.org/Programs/MemberAgencies).*

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