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For Immediate Release

Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC Awards Michael Sexton Dennis G. Hatchell Community Leadership Award



Left to right: Clyde Fitzgerald, Michael Sexton, **dgsgdsgwg**

Winston-Salem, NC—September 18, 2013—Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina named Michael Sexton the 2013 Dennis G. Hatchell Community Leadership Award winner at its 11th Annual Agency Conference held this week to coincide with Hunger Action Month. Sexton is Program Facilitator of the Ashe County Sharing Center, a food and clothing assistance ministry supported by more than 120 volunteers representing 12 multi-denominational churches that in 2012 provided supplemental nutritional support to more than 13,000 Ashe County residents in need.

The award is given each year in honor of Dennis G. Hatchell, President and CEO of The Pantry and former Board Chair for Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC. Awardees exemplify the living example of Mr. Hatchell through leadership characterized by integrity, excellence, innovation, compassion and effectiveness.

“We are pleased and proud to recognize Michael Sexton for his exemplary leadership in service to the people of Ashe County and contagious passion for the mission of the Ashe County Sharing Center,” said Clyde Fitzgerald, Executive Director for Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC. “Michael is an inspiration to all of us who stand with him in the shared vision of an end to hunger in our communities.”

“Michael wears many hats - he is an organizer, grant writer, rules checker, a beggar for our cause, a friend to all, our leader and a blessing,” said Kelly Vannoy, Board Chair for Ashe County Sharing Center.

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About Ashe County Sharing Center:

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About Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC:

Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC is the leading hunger-relief organization in the region, providing immediate access to food to those who cannot afford it and passionately pursuing an end to hunger through outreach, education and advocacy. More than 400 partner programs across 18 counties (Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Caldwell, Caswell, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Guilford, Iredell, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes and Yadkin) rely on Second Harvest Food Bank as a primary source of food, including food pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters and special feeding programs for children and seniors. Together, we serve more than 300,000 people in need of food assistance each year, including 100,000 children. To learn more, please visit www.hungerwnc.org.