

Blowing Rock, NC □ Blowing Rock CARES has become an official partner agency of the Second Harvest Food Bank of NW NC. The Second Harvest Food Bank of NW NC is a major nonprofit hunger-relief organization serving 18 counties across Northwest NC through a network of more than 400 partner food assistance programs. As an official Partner Agency, Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S. will now be able to purchase and distribute food from Second Harvest Food Bank of NW NC. More information on Second Harvest Food Bank of NW NC can be found on their website at <http://www.hungernwnc.org/>. As data recently released on www.blowingrockcares.com shows, the client needs have grown from less than 100 clients served in May 2013 to 779 clients during the month of September 2013.

Originally a Blowing Rock School-based non-profit volunteer organization that provided food, clothing and other support for children and families in need in the Watauga County area, Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S. is now primarily a food bank housed in Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church and run completely by volunteers. In addition, members of Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church assist in the running of the food pantry which is open on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Donations of non-perishable food items are always welcome and can be dropped off during the food pantry hours on Mondays. In addition, seasonal residents that are leaving the area are invited to clean out their pantries and drop off any non-perishable food items in grocery carts behind Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church on Sunday mornings in October. Thanks to Casa Rustica's Seventh Annual Charity Golf Tournament held at Boone Golf Club on August 15th, Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S. received \$7,500 which provides for the purchase of food. For every dollar donated to C.A.R.E.S., approximately \$7.00 worth of food items can be purchased through Second Harvest Food Bank of NC NW.

Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S. is a 501(c)3 organization run completely by volunteers. For more information, please visit www.blowingrockcares.com.