

## **SpeakUp! SEACAA- *Second Harvest Food Bank Provides for Families During Coronavirus Crisis***

Action Pathways Second Harvest Food Bank (SHFB) is working tirelessly to provide for those affected by COVID-19. To ensure families and children are given the resources they need, Action Pathways Second Harvest Food Bank collaborated with local businesses and organizations to expand their distribution reach.

On Monday, April 13, Massey Hill Classical High School, Cumberland County Schools, and Manna Church partnered with Action Pathways Second Harvest Food Bank to host a drive-thru food distribution. Families were provided backpacks and food boxes from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Over 835 people within 200 households were served.

Action Pathways Second Harvest Food Bank continued its partnership with Cumberland County Schools and with the Tau Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated to supply meals during spring break. A call to Action was placed from Cumberland County School's Child Nutrition Department to support the meal distribution during spring break for students. The Brothers of Tau Gamma Gamma supported this cause by volunteering to set up, distribute, and clean up at the end of the event.

"We are doing everything we can to ensure families have access to food during this crisis," Interim Food Bank Director Cortez Phillip said.

Along with creating more opportunities for distribution, Second Harvest Food Bank partnered with Action Pathways Head Start to create nutrition boxes for families who may not have access to food during this time. One hundred and twenty (120) families were provided with these boxes, filled with enough food for two weeks as well as activity packets for the children created by local Head Start facilities.

"The process at the food bank went very smooth and my son was excited to be greeted by his teacher when they placed the food in our car. Once again thank you all so much, this was a huge help to me and my family," said Rosemary Head Start parent Ms. Jakita.

"I appreciate you all for picking up the food box for me and bringing it to the center. That was very convenient for me since I was just coming from work," Ms. McCormick, Lewis Heights Head Start parent, said. "The food box, as well as the pull-ups and wipes, will be a huge help for me while my children are out of school."

Both Action Pathways Second Harvest Food Bank and Head Start are continually working with their network of partners in the community along with local businesses to alleviate the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

To make a donation that will help Action Pathways further their efforts in helping those in need during this crisis, please visit [actionpathways.ngo](https://actionpathways.ngo).