

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BISSELL TO DONATE VAN TO SECOND HARVEST Van Will Distribute Food on Behalf of Ballantyne Corporate Park

CHARLOTTE, NC (December 19, 2013) – Bissell will donate a new van to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina in the spirit of the holiday season. The Ford E250 Cargo Van, which will be given on behalf of the tenants of Ballantyne Corporate Park, will be used to distribute food to assist people in need. This gift represents Bissell's largest donation to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. Bissell will also contribute 380 turkeys, representing each tenant within its building portfolio. Bissell has sponsored campaigns over the last five years in Ballantyne Corporate Park, resulting in its tenants donating nearly 120,000 pounds of food to the nonprofit.

Following the presentation, the van will be loaded with the turkeys and deliveries will be made to Second Harvest partner agencies that feed on-site. These agencies will include Urban Ministry Center, Men's Shelter of Charlotte, the Center of Hope, Hope Haven and the Charlotte Rescue Mission.

DATE: Friday, December 20, 2013

TIME: 11a.m.

WHERE: Ballantyne Corporate Park, near Chandler Building, 13860 Ballantyne Corporate Place

"We want to thank Bissell for its generous donation in helping our efforts to end hunger in the region," said Kay Carter, executive director, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. "Since we serve such a large population, a new van is vital for us to distribute food to those in need."

"We wanted to do something more impactful on behalf of our tenant community this year," said Smoky Bissell, chairman of the Bissell organization. "We enjoy partnering with Second Harvest on our annual food drive and hope our tenants feel an even stronger connection to such an important cause."

About Bissell

The Bissell Companies, Inc. is a real estate firm that offers a complete approach to fulfilling office and hotel needs in Charlotte, North Carolina. Founded in 1964, <u>Bissell</u> is widely recognized as the principal developer of Ballantyne and SouthPark – two of the Southeast's largest and most successful mixed use communities. Bissell specializes in commercial development and leasing, property services and hospitality.

About Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina

As part of Feeding America, <u>Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina</u> – serves 19 counties in North and South Carolina In FY2012-2013, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina distributed over 40 million pounds of food and essential grocery items to almost 600 hunger feeding agencies. Agencies served include emergency pantries, soup kitchens, senior programs, shelters and low-income daycares.