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Library Offers Food for Fines Drive to Encourage Donations

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop University patrons with overdue books at Ida Jane Dacus Library can return them for a minimal cost during the holidays and help the community at the same time.

The fourth annual "Food for Fines" drive will begin on Nov. 8 and last through Dec. 10. Patrons are asked to turn in their overdue books along with non-perishable food items instead of paying fines.

"Students on a budget appreciate the opportunity to support a good cause and eliminate their late fees," said Linda Walrod, library technical assistant.

The food will be sent to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina, which serves 16 counties in North and South Carolina including York County. Nearly 11 percent of the Second Harvest Food Bank service area lives in poverty, including almost 80,000 children and 30,000 seniors. Some of Second Harvest clients report choosing between paying for food or paying for medicine and medical care.

The library’s food drive brought in 650 pounds of food in 2003, 1,992 pounds in 2004 and 894 pounds last year.

For more information, contact Walrod at 803/323-2263 or 803/323-4502.