

HUNGER matters

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A NEWSLETTER FOR THE FOOD BANK OF CENTRAL & EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

FALL 2017

HELPING TAKE ACTION AGAINST HUNGER MAKES AN IMPORTANT IMPACT

More than 630,000 of our friends and neighbors in central and eastern North Carolina are one life event away from having to choose between paying bills and putting food on the table. Many of these folks are just getting by working two part-time jobs. Some are dealing with illness. And some have come to our area seeking opportunity, only to find more hardships.

This is the situation Preethi and her husband found themselves in this past May. They moved to the Triangle area in January with their two little boys so her husband could take a new job. By the spring, he had been laid off and the couple were both on the hunt for jobs. Luckily, they each found new jobs toward the end of June.

But without the prospect of a paycheck for another two weeks, Preethi knew her already stressful situation would get worse before it would get better.

Thankfully, she was able to reach out to the Food Bank. She contacted our Digital Media Specialist Lindsay via Facebook, and Lindsay connected Preethi and her family with the help they would need to get through those last few tough weeks.

We are able to provide much-needed nutritious food to families like Preethi's with the support of our community. And this coming September, you can take a small action each day that will help the Food Bank provide even more food to our friends and neighbors.

September is Hunger Action Month – a time when we focus on educating the public about the problem of hunger in our community, and the actions that will help alleviate food insecurity for folks in our service area. You can help us spread the word by visiting foodbankcenc.org/HungerActionMonth. There you will find our "30 Days in 30 Ways" calendar that will give you a small, but impactful, action you can complete each day. There is also information to help you start a conversation around hunger and ultimately may result in helping families like Preethi's through a hard time.



**FOOD
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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends,

When we moved into our new Raleigh facility in October 2016, we were thrilled to know it would allow us to distribute more food. Although our yearly distribution increased to more than 60 million pounds in 2016, we know that there is still a gap between what we distribute and the 100 million meals needed in our service area to help all those who are food insecure. What we never could have anticipated is that we would have distributed more than 5 million additional pounds of food over the last year. And while over half of that number was disaster relief following Hurricane Matthew, it still means our distribution shot up more than 2 million pounds versus this time last year.

I wish I could tell you people in our service area were not suffering. I wish I could tell you all the meals we provided this past summer through Stop Summer Hunger were not long gone. But we hear stories like Preethi's every day. A life event has occurred that stretches an already thin budget to the breaking point and something has to give. And we cannot allow these families, who are working hard after being laid off, or are working the only jobs they can find but still cannot make ends meet, to go hungry. It should never happen that our friends and neighbors choose not eating over seeking a helping hand.

That is why Hunger Action Month is so important, and during the month of September, we will show you how easy it is to make a difference in the lives of our friends and neighbors.

Join us in taking action this month and help us ensure no one goes hungry in central and eastern North Carolina.

Peter Werbicki
President & CEO
Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina



OUT OF THE MOUTH OF: MERCEDES SANDERS, KIDS SUMMER MEALS SUPERVISOR

As soon as summer is over, my team and I sit down and strategize about how to feed more kids the following summer – a task that seems impossible with every passing year. Unfortunately, summer is a time when our children are particularly vulnerable to hunger. Since the Food Bank started administering the Kids Summer Meals Program seven years ago, we've been able to provide children in our service area with more than 1.5 million meals. These children are just some of the almost 300,000 who miss out on two free or reduced-cost school meals during the summer months. One summer, our staff saw a tiny 8-year old girl eat three sandwiches in one sitting. When we chatted with her, we found out she only had cheese to eat at home. But that day, she went home with a full belly from breakfast and lunch and the knowledge that she could get the same each day until she was back in school.

We set a goal each summer for the number of Kids Summer Meals sites, number of children we will serve, and the number of meals we will provide. And over the last seven years, we have surpassed those goals.

But we also think about much more than the quantity of kids we feed.

In addition to feeding more kids a breakfast and lunch meal in the summer, we've partnered with local caterers to provide healthy, hot lunches to over 50% of our sites. We're so happy the kids are getting yummy meals but also that we can put some funds into the local economy. The kids get fresh fruit, milk, and an additional snack. We are even able to support some mobile sites that go to a central location to feed those that are too far away from a Kids Summer Meals site.



HOW YOU CAN HELP



DONATE MONEY & ASSETS

\$1 = \$10 worth of food or 5 meals

- Individual Giving
- Event Sponsorships
- Corporate Giving
- Planned Giving
- Stock

For more information, visit foodbankcenc.org/donate_money



DONATE FOOD

One meal equals a little over one pound of food (19 ounces)

- Individual Food Drives
- Company Food Drives
- Virtual Food Drives
- School Food Drives
- Community Food Drives

For more information, visit foodbankcenc.org/donate_food



DONATE TIME: VOLUNTEER

Total number of volunteer hours donated last year is equivalent to 116 full-time employees.

- 1 volunteer hour = 130 meals

For more information, visit foodbankcenc.org/volunteer

OUR BRANCHES

RALEIGH

1924 Capital Blvd.
Raleigh, NC 27604
919.875.0707

GREENVILLE

1712 Union Street
Greenville, NC 27834
252.752.4996

SANDHILLS

195 Sandy Avenue
Southern Pines, NC 28387
910.692.5959

DURHAM

2700 Angier Avenue
Durham, NC 27703
919.956.2513

NEW BERN

205 South Glenburnie Road
New Bern, NC 28560
252.514.2006

WILMINGTON

1314 Marsteller Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
910.251.1465



YOU HELPED STOP SUMMER HUNGER

For the last eight years, you have come to the table to help the Food Bank Stop Summer Hunger and this year was no different. From the day we kicked off our Stop Summer Hunger initiative, with a goal to provide 3.4 million meals to children and families in June and July, you responded. It was with your support we were able to nourish our friends and neighbors this summer. You made summer so much better for thousands in the Food Bank's service area by eliminating worry for kids and families. Please accept our sincere thanks for always supporting this important initiative!

Here is a look back at our kickoff events:



Sandhills



Wilmington



Greenville



Raleigh

IN MEMORIAM: JENNY LILLIAN SEMANS KOORTBORJIAN

Jenny Koortborjian had a real love for helping others in need, a legacy that she learned through several generations of her family. Her legacy will continue on at the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina through a gift from her estate. Part of this gift will go to our Endowment Fund, which builds sustainable revenue for our community's future. Ms. Koortborjian passed away July 20, 2016. We will forever be grateful for her quiet way of caring for those in need, especially in the Durham community. Our thoughts are with Ms. Koortborjian's family and friends.



DISHING IT OUT: UPCOMING EVENTS

Kitchens of New Bern Tour Saturday, September 30.



Transformed spaces helping to transform lives, one meal at a time! This event is an opportunity to explore a selection of unique kitchens in and around New Bern. Gracious homeowners are welcoming guests into their kitchens to support the Food Bank's New Bern Branch. This self-guided tour is a chance to learn about the latest kitchen designs, the newest industry ideas, and state-of-the-art products. The tour runs 9:30am-4:00pm and tickets are \$25/person. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit foodbankcenc.org/kitchentour.

Many thanks to Platinum Partners Bojangles' and Food Lion Feeds, and Media Partner WNCT 9 On Your Side.



Students Against Hunger, October – November.

Calling all students – make back to school fun and do your part to feed families during the holiday season. Host a food drive at your school or with a student group, deliver it to the Food Bank branch nearest you and be entered into the "Leader in the Fight Against Hunger" contest. Since Students Against Hunger began, students, families, and school staff have come together to provide over 4 million meals to our friends and neighbors. Consider hosting a food and funds drive at your school – all ages welcome! Register at foodbankcenc.org/SAH.



Food Lion Feeds Hunger Relief Day Thursday, October 19.



Enjoy a day at the North Carolina State Fair for the admission price of just five Food Lion-brand food items. The Food Bank is always in need of canned fruits, veggies, soups, stews, and beans. Join the Food Bank and Food Lion at the fair to help our food insecure friends and neighbors.



Chef's Feast at Pinehurst, Sandhills Tuesday, October 24.

The Sandhills Branch invites you to an elegant evening of food, desserts, and wine. Local chefs and restaurants will be preparing their signature dishes paired with wine from our premiere partner Food Lion. Join us at the Pinehurst Members club for this can't-miss event! For tickets and more information, visit chefsfeastnc.org.



Chef's Feast on the River, Wilmington Monday, October 2.

Join the Wilmington Branch for a lovely evening of culinary delights with special guest Chef Vivian Howard. The event will begin at 6pm and will be hosted at the beautiful River Lights facility. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit chefsfeastnc.org.



CROP Walk to Fight Hunger Sunday, October 22.

Help end hunger one step at a time by participating in the local CROP Walk. The 32nd Annual Greater Triangle Area CROP Walk will be held Sunday, October 22 at Court of NC North Trail on the NC State campus. Registration begins at 1:30pm and the walk begins at 2:30pm. The Raleigh Branch of the Food Bank benefits from this walk. Host a team or register as an individual walker at CropHungerWalk.org/RaleighNC.



DONOR PROFILE: DR. BART EHRMAN

Americans seem to be more fragmented and divided than ever – but there is one thing we can all agree on: there is enough food in the world for everyone to have what they need, and we should all unite together – whatever our personal beliefs and situations – to combat the very real problem of hunger. No organization in our part of the state engages in this fight more effectively and impressively than the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina.

We live in an agriculturally rich state, but there are still more than 630,000 people in our own community who struggle with hunger. Some 210,000 children in the Food Bank’s 34 counties are living in food insecure households.

We will not be able to solve this problem all at once. But we can certainly work for a solution, and there is no place better to start than in our own backyard.

Even though the primary mission of the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is to feed our friends and neighbors through its community partners, it now has developed a new and inspiring initiative through its recently formed Community Health & Engagement department, which is dedicated to helping members of our community move beyond the state of food insecurity to become self-sufficient and no longer in need of emergency services. We should all applaud and heartily endorse the forward-looking thinking behind this initiative.

Each of us can join the fight against hunger in our own way. In addition to supporting the Food Bank personally, I have dedicated my Bart Ehrman Blog (www.ehrmanblog.org) to raising funds for hunger and homelessness. The blog itself is focused on my field of academic expertise, and members pay a fee to join and every penny that comes in goes out to charities dealing with hunger and homelessness. The Food Bank has been one of the major charities to which the blog donates since I began it five years ago.

I feel, though, that I can do more, and that we as a community can do more. I sincerely hope you will join me in supporting the Food Bank in all its many endeavors to solve the problem of hunger in our part of the state.



GIVING THANKS

We are grateful for the support we receive from public and private organizations – from small businesses to large, private foundations – every dollar donated to the Food Bank is an investment in our mission and crucial to our success in bringing more food to more people. We would like to thank the following organizational donors for partnering with the Food Bank this year.

Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Cape Fear Memorial Foundation
Credit Suisse Americas Foundation
Croasdale Village Residents Associates
Cummins Foundation
Dude Solutions
Duke Energy Foundation
Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation via Feeding America

French’s Food Co. via Feeding America
GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy
Genworth Foundation
Golden State Foods
Hillsdale Fund
Jersey Mike’s
Morgan Stanley via Feeding America
PepsiCo Foundation
PPD

Prism Research Glass
PwC Charitable Foundation via Feeding America
Eddie and Jo Allison Smith Family Foundation
TOSA Foundation
UNC REX Healthcare
Walmart Foundation via Feeding America
Walmart State Giving
William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust

Special thanks to the following organizations for donating significant gifts during our disaster recovery efforts following Hurricane Matthew last fall. Their generosity enabled the Food Bank to distribute nearly four million pounds of disaster relief food and supplies to 28 counties while still making regularly scheduled food distributions throughout our 34 counties.

AARP Foundation
ABC11
Ash Family Charitable Fund
Barnhill Contracting Company
BASF

CenturyLink
Excess Line Association of New York
Feeding America
International Paper
Oak Foundation

SECU Foundation
Walmart Foundation
Waste Industries
Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation

The Food Bank has many long-standing partnerships that support our mission. We honor our partners who recognize the need in our shared communities and we are grateful for their trust in the Food Bank to nourish children, families, and seniors throughout central and eastern North Carolina.

Walmart

Walmart partners with the Food Bank in several ways including funding support, food donations, and volunteering at events or in our distribution centers. This past quarter alone, Walmart has contributed funding support to the Food Bank through three major gifts: (1) a generous gift through the State Giving program to support our benefits outreach team and purchase a new trailer for food donations at Walmart’s Henderson Distribution Center, (2) a renewal grant from the Foundation through Feeding America to continue funding for growing our FNS (SNAP) benefits outreach program, and (3) a grant made through Feeding America in support of our Retail Donation Program, enabling us to purchase needed equipment for our partner agencies collecting perishable food donations from local grocers. In addition, Walmart Foundation made a generous grant in support of our disaster relief efforts following Hurricane Matthew in fall 2016. Thank you, Walmart leaders and team members, for your commitment to our mission!



Golden State Foods

The Food Bank is proud to welcome our new partner, Golden State Foods. The Garner facility hosted a “No Lunch Lunch” event in November 2016 to raise awareness and funding for childhood hunger in the greater Triangle area. Their efforts generated \$20,000 in support for the Food Bank and an additional \$40,000 for one of our partner agencies in Garner, Community of Hope Ministries. Thank you to our host, Golden State Foods, and all participating companies and individuals attending the first annual event!

PepsiCo Foundation

The Food Bank’s eastern region received a second gift from the PepsiCo Foundation in spring 2017 following PepsiCo’s annual meeting held in New Bern. The \$25,000 grant, presented at the Chef’s Feast at Tryon Palace event, helped launch the Stop Summer Hunger initiative. Their generosity allowed the Food Bank to feed more families in eastern North Carolina during the summer months when household budgets are stretched extra thin due to children being out of school.

#FOODBANK24

Mark your Calendars: Thursday, September 28 – Friday, September 29

Learn about a day in the life of the Food Bank and help raise 24,000 meals during Hunger Action Month.

Like us on Facebook for more information and to follow along.

SINCE OUR MOVE TO 1924 CAPITAL BOULEVARD

AS OF
JULY 2017

Distributed **2 million** additional pounds of food through the Hunger Solution Center & Cisco Partner Agency Center.



Increased volunteerism by **20%** through our Food Lion Feeds Volunteer Center.



Launched Community Health & Engagement Department to build resources that will move clients into a more food secure and self-reliant future.

Community Health & Engagement

Hired Nutrition Education Manager to integrate nutrition into as many homes as we possibly can.



“ We are grateful to all the staff and volunteers at the Food Bank. We have benefited from the increase in available food, especially produce.

”

— Tri-Area Ministry



Launched Allscripts Teaching Kitchen programs



Sorted bulk protein and vegetables in our BASF Clean Room. Product we previously have not been able to accept.



Opened our Martin Marietta Community Center

