

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Grainger Foundation Supports Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, Inc.

Wilmington, NC (June 13, 2011) - The Grainger Foundation has donated \$10,000 to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, Inc., in support of its mission to end hunger.

“This grant will be used to purchase food for the hungry in our Wilmington branch,” said Peter Werbicki, President and CEO of the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, Inc. “Many of the rescue missions, food pantries, and soup kitchens supported by the Food Bank has seen the demand for their services continue to rise. We are grateful to The Grainger Foundation for its generosity.”

The Food Bank has nearly 450,000 people at risk of hunger in its 34 county service areas, compared to 400,000 a few years ago. The Wilmington branch of the Food Bank serves more than 61,000 individuals who don't know where their next meal will come from.

The donation was recommended by Keith Lobbestael, Branch Manager of W.W. Grainger, Inc.'s, Wilmington location. Grainger has been part of the business community in Wilmington for more than 20 years as the leading broad line supplier of facilities maintenance, repair, and operating products. “We are proud to support the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina,” said Lobbestael. “We understand the need to support the local food bank and the hungry in our community.”

The Grainger Foundation, an independent, private foundation based in Lake Forest, Illinois, was established in 1949 by William W. Grainger, founder of W.W. Grainger, Inc.

Established in 1980, the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is a non-profit organization that has provided food for people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina for 30 years. The Food Bank serves a network of more than 800 partner agencies such as soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and programs for children and adults through warehouses in Durham, Greenville, New Bern, Raleigh, the Sandhills (Southern Pines), and Wilmington. In fiscal year 2009-2010, the Food Bank distributed more than 41.5 million pounds of food and non-food essentials through these agencies.

For more information on the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, contact:
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