



**FOOD BANK OF CENTRAL & EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA**

*Fighting Hunger in 34 Counties... so no one goes hungry.*

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## April News from the Food Bank



Spring is a wonderful time of growth and renewal. We are grateful for the rain that is starting to replenish our neighborhoods. But as the rivers and lakes begin to rise, ***the need in our communities also rises as the struggling economy continues to affect the Food Bank and those we serve.***

The number of individuals and families who need food are doubling and even tripling in areas within our 34-county service territory. Many of them are hard-working parents that have trouble making ends meet or seniors who must choose between food and medicine. They are unable to feed themselves or their families. This year, the price of eggs ***has risen over 29% from last year***, bread prices are almost twice the rate of inflation, fuel costs continue to rise at an alarming rate. This year, ***over 45,000 families in North Carolina are facing foreclosures and bankruptcy***. And in the midst of this crisis, weekly earnings fail to keep pace, rising only 0.9% in the last year. We're finding that the face of hunger is changing and more people need our help.

Just like you, we're working hard to make our dollars go even further. We're calling on our dedicated volunteers to help in all areas. Companies are working even harder to increase their support. Food sources are coming up with more creative ways to stock the shelves for the Food Bank.

***We hope that you can support the Food Bank in the face of economic hardships.*** The need in our communities is tremendous. But with your help, we can meet that need and continue our mission to ensure that no one goes hungry in central and eastern NC. Please [consider a donation today](#), [attend an event](#), or simply spread the word by [telling a friend about our work](#).

There are lots of exciting events coming up in the next few months and we look forward to hopefully seeing you and your family! Thank you for your interest and concern for those who suffer from hunger in our community. ***Your involvement means so much to so many!***

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**Here is what's happening at the Food Bank!**

[Letter Carriers Food Drive](#) | [Legislative Food Drive](#) | [Volunteer Recognition Week](#)  
[Food Lion: 2007 Donor of the Year](#) | [Feinstein & Stewards Fund Challenges](#)  
[Kid's Summer Stock](#) | [Other Food Bank News](#)

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### [Letter Carriers Food Drive](#) Saturday, May 10

The National Association of Letter Carriers unite for the 16th Annual "**Stamp Out Hunger**" Food Drive, the largest food drive in the nation. Letter carriers will collect non-perishable food from mailboxes on Saturday, May 10th.

**How can you help?**



- Place non-perishable items by your mailbox for your letter carrier.
- Deliver non-perishable items to your local post office.
- [Volunteer to sort and load at your local post office.](#)
- [Spread the word to friends and family.](#)

[Read more about Stamp Out Hunger](#), print flyers and pledge sheets, and sign up today!

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### **Legislative Food Drive** **Tuesday May, 13**

The General Assembly is hosting its annual **Legislative Food Drive** on the Opening Day of the 2008 legislative session. Lawmakers, legislative staff members, lobbyists and others attending Opening Day events are asked to donate canned food and nonperishable goods to benefit the Second Harvest Food Banks of North Carolina including the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC. State employees in other departments and agencies are also welcome to bring donations to the legislature.



The Food Drive will be held from 10 am to 3 pm. [Read more about the Legislative Food Drive.](#)

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### **Volunteer Recognition Week** **April 7 to May 3**

**Volunteer Recognition Week** is coming up and the Food Bank honors all of the hard-working volunteers who give selflessly of their time and energy to make our mission possible. During the fiscal year 06-07, volunteers logged more than 122,000 hours - the equivalent of over **58 full time employees!**



Food Bank volunteers help in many areas such as sorting food, assisting at events, donation pickups and office work. Please see our [Volunteer Honors Page](#) featuring a [story from a Sandhills Volunteer](#), a list of our volunteers with over 5 years of service and photos of our volunteers in action. You can also [sign up to volunteer](#) or [share a story](#) that you may have about volunteering for the Food Bank!

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### **Food Lion: 2007 Donor of the Year**

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC recognizes **Food Lion** as the 2007 Donor of the Year. Food Lion's commitment to feeding those who suffer from hunger is extraordinary. Thanks to the longtime partnership with the Food Bank, Food Lion **donated over 7 million pounds of nutritious meats, produce, deli food, and baked goods in 2007.** This is equivalent to 6 million meals.



Individuals representing Food Lion have also provided leadership services on the board, commercial freight services, annual food drives and they are the sponsors of Hunger Relief Day at the NC state fair. [Read more about our Donor of the Year!](#)

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### **Feinstein and Stewards Fund Challenges** **Until April 30**

We have received overwhelming support for our two challenges and **have nearly reached our goal!** There is still time to participate in two of the largest challenges of the year:



- **The Stewards Fund** has awarded the Food Bank with a generous **\$100,000 Challenge Grant**. From now until April 30, any gift from a **new donor** (who has not supported the Food Bank in the past) will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Stewards Fund up to \$100,000! [Read more about the Stewards Fund!](#)
- **The Feinstein Foundation** has once again issued its **Million Dollar Challenge** to anti-hunger organizations across the country. **Existing donors** can help boost our share. [Read more about the Feinstein Challenge!](#)

**Thanks to everyone who has already made generous donation towards these two challenges!** Urge your friends and family to make a donation that will go twice as far in serving those suffering from hunger in our community. [Tell a friend](#) or send an informative [Food Bank ecard](#).

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### [Kids Summer Stock Food Drive](#)

**Kids Summer Stock** is a new food drive that will kick off in June to raise awareness, food and funds for kids who do not have access to reduced breakfasts and lunches that schools would normally provide. **There are over 120,000 kids in our 34-county service territory who are at risk of hunger every day.**



The Food Bank will host events and food drives throughout our service territory during the month of June. You can get involved by hosting a food drive, making a donation of food or funds or spreading the word! Stay tuned for information about events in your area. [Read more about Kids Summer Stock.](#)

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### [Other Food Bank News](#)

- **Manage Your Online Account:** Now you can manage your online account with the Food Bank. View your giving history, manage recurring gifts, or change your password. [View your account now!](#)
- **Mother's Day is Almost Here!** Have you decided what to get for a special mother in your life? Consider a donation to the Food Bank in their honor! On May 1, the Food Bank will unveil a special Mother's Day Campaign. Stay tuned!
- **Donate Your Rewards Points:** Did you know that you can donate your American Express Membership Awards Points to the Food Bank? [Learn more about the program.](#)

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The mission of the **Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina** is to harness and supply resources so that no one goes hungry in central and eastern North Carolina. The administrative overhead of the Food Bank is 3%. The Food Bank serves the following counties:

- Durham Branch: Chatham, Durham, Granville, Orange, Person, Vance
- Greenville Branch: Carteret, Craven, Edgecombe, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt, Wilson
- Raleigh Branch: Duplin, Franklin, Halifax, Harnett, Johnston, Nash, Sampson, Wake, Warren, Wayne
- Sandhills Branch: Lee, Moore, Richmond, Scotland
- Wilmington Branch: Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover, Pender



[Read more about our mission and history.](#)  
[Read more about our service territory.](#)  
[Learn more about our branch locations.](#)



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