



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **The Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC Serving More People Thanks to Community Partners**

*Nearly 60 million meals served because of generous donations*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 4, 2018

*RALEIGH, NC* – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (the Food Bank) today announced its Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Partnership Recognition Program, which honors the generous support of corporate, foundation, government, and civic donors across its 34-county service area.

At an event held at the Raleigh branch, the Food Bank thanked its top donors who have supported the Food Bank with funding, food donations, and/or volunteer hours. Top donors include Food Lion, the Walmart Foundation, Publix Super Markets Charities, and Society of St. Andrew.

“We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our partners and friends across all sectors of the community,” said Peter Werbicki, President and CEO of the Food Bank. “Without their support, we would not have been able to distribute enough food to serve 58 million meals last year.”

The Food Bank also honored Sister Mary Ann Czaja, Executive Director of Tarboro Community Outreach, with its annual Hunt-Morgridge Service Award, which recognizes extraordinary leadership and dedication to hunger relief. Sister Mary Ann has been serving the Tarboro community since 1983 and has created a place where people facing homelessness and hunger can gather and find a sense of purpose.

To see a complete list of donors and recognition levels, please visit [foodbank.com/partners](http://foodbank.com/partners).

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**Media Contacts:**

Jessica Slider Whichard

919-865-3050

[jwhichard@foodbankcenc.org](mailto:jwhichard@foodbankcenc.org)

**About the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina**

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is a nonprofit organization that has provided food for people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina for more than 35 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 2017-2018, the Food Bank distributed nearly 70 million pounds of food (over half of which was perishable) and non-food essentials through these agencies. Sadly, hunger remains a serious problem in central and eastern North Carolina. In these counties, more than 600,000 people struggle to access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for an active and healthy life. [foodbankcenc.org](http://foodbankcenc.org).

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