



NEWS RELEASE

Food Bank of Central & Eastern N.C. Announces National “This is Hunger” Exhibit Tour in Raleigh

Must-see experience reveals faces, stories of America’s hidden hungry

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 6, 2017

RALEIGH, NC – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is proud to host “This Is Hunger,” a national touring exhibit that will **be in Raleigh from Saturday, November 11 to Monday, November 13**. This first-of-its-kind free exhibit will bring North Carolinians face to face with the stark realities of hunger through state-of-the-art storytelling techniques and interactive elements.

“We work every day to provide access to food and benefits, education, and an engaged community for our friends and neighbors facing hunger with a focus on building pathways to long-term food security,” said the Food Bank’s President & CEO Peter Werbicki. “This exhibit gives us an opportunity to involve the community in an experience that will change the way hunger is understood. We want people to know that those who are hungry can be a neighbor who just lost her job or the teenager at school who can’t concentrate properly because he isn’t eating enough nutritious food at home.”

Nearly 630,000 individuals—working families, children, and seniors—in the Food Bank’s 34-county service area struggle with hunger. At the national level, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s annual report on food security found that nearly 13 percent of American households had difficulty at some point last year in providing enough food for their families.

To raise awareness about the prevalence of hunger in North Carolina, the Food Bank is partnering with MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger to bring “This Is Hunger” to a local audience. The exhibit features black and white portraits by an internationally renowned photojournalist and the stories of dozens of Americans who have had difficulty putting enough nutritious food on the table each day. Through digital and hands-on activities, “This Is Hunger” takes participants on a compelling journey that draws them into the real-life circumstances of these individuals and deepens their awareness about who in America struggles with hunger and why. Visitors are then encouraged to educate others and advocate for change.

“This Is Hunger” is housed in a 53-foot-long double expandable semitrailer that, when parked and opened on both sides, provides nearly 1,000 square feet of exhibit space. The exhibit is on a 10-month national tour that is stopping in more than 30 cities across the country.

Tours are free and open to the public on the days and times below. For more information and to register, the public should visit thisishunger.org, click on “find tickets”, and then click the star icon in the state of North Carolina.

Sat, 11/11

Tours at 1pm, 2 pm, 3pm, 4pm (finished at 5pm)

Sun, 11/12

Tours at 10am, 11pm, 12pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm (finished at 5pm)

Mon, 11/13

Tours at 9am, 10pm, 11 am, 12pm (finished at 1pm)

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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 2016-2017, the Food Bank distributed 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.



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About This Is Hunger

“This Is Hunger” is a community engagement program commissioned by MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger. The exhibit will tour the United States from Nov. 16, 2016 to Aug. 31, 2017. Key members of the creative team include Marni Gittleman, Creative Director/Principal Concept & Content Developer; Gail Greenberg, Principal Designer; Chris Green, Multimedia Show Developer/Production Designer; and Karen Snider, Project Manager/Developer.

About MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger

Founded in 1985, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger is a national nonprofit organization working to end hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds in the United States and Israel. For more information, please visit mazon.org.