



NEWS RELEASE

MARINES FROM CAMP LEJEUNE VOLUNTEER AT GREENVILLE FOOD BANK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Greenville, N.C. (April 4, 2012) For the month of March, a special Kids Day was held on Saturday, March 31, at the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Greenville warehouse on 497 West Ninth Street where children were paired with nearly 50 Marines from the 2nd Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Marine Logistics Group. The Marines made the two hour trip from Camp Lejeune to volunteer side-by-side with children from the Little Willie Center and Faith Friends from Unity Free Will Baptist Church from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. **[PHOTOS ATTACHED]**

The children and Marines packaged items from 12 pallets of product such as canned food and pasta into family-sized boxes. They also sorted six (6) bins of sweet potatoes into family-sized bags. These two projects combined will provide more than 13,000 meals to children and their families in Greenville and surrounding communities.

“It was great to see the Marines enjoy the projects just as much as the children,” said Angel Ray, Volunteer Coordinator for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Greenville.

“We are humbled by the thought that these Marines think so highly of our mission that they were willing to travel such a distance to make an impact in our community and on the children. Some of them even brought their wives and children to be a part of this project!”

For one Saturday each month, children between the ages of 5 and 12 in the Greenville community get to experience the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Greenville in a cool way and learn about the issue of hunger. Every 2nd Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., the Greenville Branch of the Food Bank holds Kids Day. During Kids Day, volunteers will tour the warehouse and participate in an age-appropriate food sorting project.

“This was a great opportunity for the Marines to extend their presence beyond the Jacksonville area... [and] give back to supporting communities,” said LT Deirdre Green, the Chaplain for 2nd Maintenance Battalion.

“Also with Marines recently coming back from deployment, it is a good thing to channel and keep focus on positive endeavors. It is a win, win situation.”

More than 51,000 children are at risk of hunger in the Greenville branch’s 10-county service area.

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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 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 2010-2011, the Food Bank distributed more than 42 million pounds of food and non-food essentials through these agencies. Sadly, hunger remains a serious problem in central and eastern North Carolina. In these counties, more than 500,000 struggle each day to provide enough food for their families.
www.foodbankcenc.org. Twitter: @FoodBankCENC

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