



Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina Wins National Award for Excellence in Food Banking

Wins award for its "Fairshare" program

(NASHVILLE, April 16, 2013)— The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina received a 2013 Excellence in Food Banking Award for Food Access at the annual Feeding America Network Executive Directors' Forum held on April 9-10, 2013 in Nashville, TN. The award is given to the year's most outstanding food access program from the 202 food banks across the nation in the Feeding America network. Judges awarded the distinction to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina for its "Fairshare" program. Peter Werbicki, President/CEO of the Food Bank accepted a plaque and a \$2,500 monetary award on behalf of his organization.

[PHOTOS ATTACHED]

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina created the "Fairshare" program shortly after Hurricane Floyd hit eastern NC in 1999 and it changed the organization's food distribution model forever. The Fairshare program uses readily available poverty rates in each county to provide a blueprint of the areas in greatest need. This data is used by the organization's Operations Team to move donated food product to and through its six warehouses.

"The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina continues to show why it's a leader in our Network," said Bob Aiken, President and CEO of Feeding America, the nation's leading hunger relief charity. "This award shows the innovation and creativity of the food bank's staff to help fight hunger in their community."

Established in 1980, the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina a nonprofit organization that has provided food for people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina for over 30 years.

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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 2011-12, the Food Bank distributed nearly 45 million pounds of food and non-food essentials through these agencies.

“We are honored to receive acknowledgement for a longtime strategy that the Food Bank has used to ensure that resources provided by our supporters are shared effectively for all those who are at risk of hunger in our 34 county service area” said Peter Werbicki, President and CEO for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. “Our staff is humbled to know that their work has been recognized on a national level.”

PHOTO ID:

- **FeedingAmerAward AikenWerbicki2 [L to R]:**
Bob Aiken, President and CEO of Feeding America presents Excellence in Food Banking Award to Peter Werbicki, President and CEO of the Food Bank of CENC. (Photo Credit: Feeding America)
- **FeedingAmerAward Plaque:**
Close up of Excellence in Food Banking Award presented to Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC (Photo credit: Food Bank of CENC)

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About Feeding America

Feeding America provides low-income individuals and families with the fuel to survive and even thrive. As the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity, our network members supply food to more than 37 million Americans each year, including 14 million children and 3 million seniors. Serving the entire United States, more than 200 member food banks support 61,000 agencies that address hunger in all of its forms. For more information on how you can fight hunger in your community and across the country, visit <http://www.feedingamerica.org>. Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/FeedingAmerica](https://www.facebook.com/FeedingAmerica) or follow our news on Twitter at twitter.com/FeedingAmerica.

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