



## NEWS RELEASE

### **BB&T Employees Light Up New Bern Food Bank In Honor of National Volunteer Week**

#### *Lighthouse Project shines bright for eastern NC families*

**NEW BERN, N.C. (April 20, 2012)** –The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at New Bern and Branch Banking & Trust (BB&T) worked together to provide food to those at risk for hunger in eastern North Carolina during National Volunteer Week. On Tuesday, April 17, about 30 BB&T employees volunteered at the Food Bank’s south Glenburnie Road warehouse as part of their “Lighthouse Project”. The purpose of the “Lighthouse Project” is for BB&T to enhance the quality of life for residents throughout our communities. The volunteers worked on two projects:

- **Warehouse Project**: Sorted and labeled over 7,500 pounds of canned products
- **Garden Project**: Worked with Master Gardeners to prepare and plant the Food Bank’s Community Garden for summer harvest – including potatoes, tomatoes, corn, and watermelon.

This effort helped to ensure residents in eastern North Carolina have access to nutritious food to help them live a healthy lifestyle. BB&T also donated \$3,200 to the New Bern Food Bank, a portion of which will be applied toward the purchase of a water meter for the garden.

“We are thankful that this group from BB&T could take time from their day to assist us with these important projects in our New Bern Branch,” said Angel Ray, Volunteer Coordinator for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at New Bern. “This donation will also allow our garden to continue to prosper which means more fresh produce for those in need.”

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Photo of BB&T Volunteers working in the New Bern Garden
- Photo of BB&T Volunteer group

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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 42.75 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](http://www.foodbankcenc.org). Twitter: @FoodBankCENC

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