



NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 23, 2011

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FOOD BANK CONTINUES DISASTER RELIEF IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA
Emergency Delivery to Craven County Agency on Saturday; Total of 86,000
pounds of relief delivered this week in all areas

RALEIGH – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina has a long history of responding to natural disasters. For 15 years, the Food Bank has responded to disasters around the state and in other parts of the country. The tornadoes on Saturday, April 16 have once again placed the organization in the dual role of continuing its day to day hunger relief operations to 34 counties and assisting agencies affected by the natural disaster. The Food Bank is sending additional resources to the agencies affected by the powerful tornadoes; have extended hours for these organizations to access their warehouses for additional items and is making special deliveries directly to agencies affected. **The list of disaster relief support continues today as the Food Bank dispatched a truck from its Raleigh warehouse directly to one of their partner agencies, Good News Outreach, 3208 Oaks Road in New Bern.**

Good News Outreach reported a significant increase in service since the disaster, particularly in the Catfish Lake area. The Food Bank truck is loaded with four pallets of water, four pallets of snacks and two pallets of disaster relief boxes, totaling 13,000 pounds of food and relief items to the agency. The Food Bank anticipates the truck to arrive at Good News Outreach in New Bern between 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2011.

In the past few days, great community support and donations from other areas of the country have allowed the Food Bank to provide the following for hard-hit agencies in Craven, Wake, Johnston, Lee, Harnett, Greene and Onslow counties:

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- 32 pallets of snacks, water, produce and frozen meat to Wake County agencies and American Red Cross facility in Johnston County– totaling more than 26,500 pounds
- 20 pallets of produce, orange juice, water and canned goods to Lee County agencies – totaling 16,519 pounds
- 10 pallets of produce, orange juice, water, dairy and bread from Greenville Branch to Greene County agencies – totaling 9,962 pounds
- 10 pallets of produce, water and snacks to an agency in Harnett County – totaling 11,000 pounds
- 10 pallets of water, snacks and relief boxes to an agency in New Bern County – totaling 13,000 lbs
- Two deliveries from Greenville Branch to agencies in Onslow County – totaling 9,240 pounds
- The American Red Cross in Greenville is storing 22 pallets of product in the Food Bank’s Greenville warehouse.

The Food Bank has distributed more than 86,000 pounds of food to the relief effort this week.

The Food Bank’s history of providing support during natural disasters includes:

- In 1996 the Food Bank distributed a little more than 1 million pounds of food to disaster relief as a result of Hurricane Fran. The organization had about 15 employees at that time.
- In 1998, the Food Bank distributed nearly 300,000 pounds of food and relief supplies to emergency operation centers to our sister food bank in the east, the Food Bank of the Albemarle in the aftermath of Hurricane Bonnie.
- In 1999 the Food Bank distributed more than 5 million pounds in disaster relief to partner agencies and other agencies due to Hurricane Floyd.
- In 2005, in response to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, the Food Bank distributed 233,358 pounds of food and relief supplies to assist the victims and sent nine tractor trailer trucks of food.

The Food Bank expects to see the need for emergency food to increase over the coming weeks as displaced families seek precious resources and disaster relief transitions to recovery. Food donations will help provide emergency and increased assistance to Food Bank partner agencies.

Food donations will be accepted at Food Bank warehouses in Durham, Raleigh, New Bern, Greenville, Southern Pines and Wilmington throughout the recovery period. Donate immediately by going to www.foodbankcenc.org or text “40meals” to 50555.

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Disaster Relief_Tornado

Most Needed Items List [image attached]:

- Pop-top, high-protein canned foods like soups, ravioli, spaghetti
- Single serving snacks
- Hygiene Products (hand sanitizer, toiletries, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap)
- Diapers
- Cleaning supplies (wipes preferred)
- Peanut butter
- Paper goods and products (paper towels, paper plates/cups/napkins, plastic utensils)
- Other single serving meals that do not require refrigeration or cooking/meals ready to eat

To be a part of hunger and disaster relief in the 34 counties served by the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, take food donations to any Food Bank warehouse listed below or to read more about how you can be a part of the relief effort in the event of a natural disaster, go to www.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 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 2009-2010, the Food Bank distributed more than 41.5 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.

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