



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 10, 2015

LETTER CARRIERS COLLECT MORE THAN 270,000 LBS DURING STAMP OUT HUNGER

Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC Releases Preliminary Total for 34-county service area

RALEIGH, NC - On Saturday May 9, Letter Carriers across the country, performed double duty on their routes – delivered the mail and collected food items during the **23rd Annual STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE**. The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is one of the beneficiaries of the annual food drive. Preliminary Stamp Out Hunger totals for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina’s (FBCENC) 34-county service area are **272,892 pounds (equivalent to 229,803 meals)**. Sweeps of postal branches will take place starting Monday, May 11, with a final total to be available by Friday, May 15. Please contact the Food Bank’s media contact for final totals.

Preliminary totals by FBCENC branch:

	Final 2014	Prelim 2015
FBCENC (Raleigh)	131,744	155,935
FBCENC at Durham	71,142	30,042
FBCENC at Wilmington	116,598	63,629
FBCENC at Greenville	12,930	10,234
FBCENC at Sandhills	43,506	13,052
Total pounds in 34 counties	426,140	272,892

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina has more than 651,000 individuals in their 34-county service area who struggle to put and keep meals on the table. The Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive comes at a critical time when holiday food drive donations are long gone. The Food Bank is also preparing for the increase partners, such as food pantries, see when thousands of children who are on the free and reduced-cost meal program will no longer have access to the school cafeteria during summer break.

-more-

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 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 distribution centers in Durham, Greenville, New Bern, Raleigh, the Sandhills (Southern Pines), and Wilmington. In fiscal year 2013-2014, the Food Bank distributed more than 53 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 651,000 people struggle to access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for an active and healthy life.

www.foodbankcenc.org.

Media Contacts:

Jennifer Caslin

Coordinator of Marketing, Public & Branch Relations

(919) 865-3063

(910) 508-0547

icaslin@foodbankcenc.org

Twitter: @FoodBankJenC

-end-