



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 24, 2012

Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC Releases Final STAMP OUT HUNGER Totals for 34-county service area

RALEIGH, NC - On Saturday May 12, Letter Carriers across the country, performed double duty on their routes – delivered the mail and collected food items during their **20th Annual STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE**. The generosity of the community showed in the final Stamp Out Hunger totals for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina’s (FBCENC) 34-county service area which equal nearly 500,000 pounds, with some Food Bank branch areas doubling the donations over last year. AARP donated paper bags to post offices throughout the Food Bank’s service area as part of the Letter Carriers National Food Drive.

The 2012 Stamp Out Hunger totals in the Food Bank’s service area are highlighted in yellow below along with the conversion to the equivalent in meals:

FINAL TOTALS by FBCENC branch:

	2011	2012	= # meals
FBCENC (Raleigh)	126,525	206,754	174,109
FBCENC at Durham	62,013	59,654	50,235
FBCENC at Wilmington	41,343	121,367	102,204
FBCENC at Greenville	14,876	29,805	25,099
FBCENC at Sandhills	39,771	63,432	53,416
Total pounds	284,528	481,012	405,063

Last year, Triangle Letter Carriers issued a challenge to see which city, Raleigh or Durham, would have the greatest percentage increase over the previous year. Durham Letter Carriers increased the percentage of donations last year by more than 34% and won the challenge. Raleigh Letter Carriers have won the challenge for 2012 since donations decreased slightly in Durham while Raleigh donations increased.

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina has more than 545,000 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.

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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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