



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **FOOD BANK'S RESPONSE TO TORNADES IN CENTRAL & EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA**

**SOUTHERN PINES** - The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina has a long history of responding to natural disasters. For 15 years, we have responded to disasters around the state and in other parts of the country. The tornadoes on Saturday, April 16 once again placed the organization in the dual role of continuing our day to day hunger relief operations to 34 counties **and** assisting agencies affected by the natural disaster. The organization has been sending additional resources to the agencies and making special deliveries directly to agencies affected.

In the past few weeks, great community support and donations from other areas of the country have allowed us to provide relief to hard-hit agencies in Craven, Greene, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Onslow, Sampson, Wake and Wilson counties.

We have provided 486,407 pounds of disaster relief to our neighbors in central and eastern North Carolina. Of that amount, 181,573 pounds of disaster relief was distributed to partner agencies in Lee County.

The Food Bank expects to see a continued need for emergency food over the coming weeks as displaced families seek precious resources and disaster relief transitions to recovery. Food donations to the Food Bank 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. Donate by going to [www.foodbankcenc.org](http://www.foodbankcenc.org) or text "40meals" to 50555.

### **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](http://www.foodbankcenc.org).

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