



SEPTEMBER IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Food Bank to hold events for community to take action

RALEIGH, NC (Sept. 3, 2013) – Hunger advocates for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina will be wearing orange on Sept. 5 in an effort to raise awareness of the more than 560,000 individuals in their 34-county service area who struggle with hunger. It's just one of the many awareness events taking place throughout the month of September in recognition of Feeding America's ***Hunger Action Month*** - a month-long campaign to help end hunger in our country.

Throughout the month, Feeding America's nationwide network of more than 200 food banks, including the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is working to engage citizens to take action and help spread the word about how pervasive hunger is in every community. In the Food Bank's 34-county service area, about 50% percent of those who struggle with hunger are children and seniors.

The Food Bank has been in action for more than 30 years and distributed nearly 52 million pounds (43.5 million meals) of food during fiscal year 2012-2013 through the 800 partner agencies such as rescue missions, soup kitchens, food pantries, senior and child nutrition programs. This is equivalent to 1 million pounds of food per week.

The organization increased distribution of fresh produce from 11.7 million pounds to nearly 18 million this past year. Volunteers logged more than 170,000 hours last fiscal year which is equivalent to 80 full-time employees. Our Kids Summer Meals Program (also known as Summer Food Service Program) served nearly 140,000 meals to children at 65 Food Bank sponsored sites during summer 2013. Each of the six Food Bank branches broke distribution records. Yet thousands are still in need. September is another opportunity for the community to take action.

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The community can support the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC in many ways including:

- Go Orange – Wear orange on September 5; change your Facebook and Twitter profile photos to orange and keep them orange all month
- Donate – to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC
- Take Action in Your Community – Attend the many Food Bank events throughout the month of September
 - September 5 – Go Orange!
 - September 11 – Sort-a-rama Day of Service (Raleigh)
 - September 13-14: 24 Hour Warehouse Telethon – Attend at our Raleigh warehouse OR watch LIVE online at foodbank24.org.
 - September 15 – Dugan’s Golf Tournament (Sandhills)
 - September 15 – Cape Fear Corvette Club Car Show (Wilmington)
 - September 28 – Kitchen Tours of New Bern
(foodbankcenc.org/kitchentour)

To learn more about Hunger Action Month, please visit www.foodbankcenc.org/HAM.

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 warehouses in Durham, Greenville, New Bern, Raleigh, the Sandhills (Southern Pines), and Wilmington. In fiscal year 2012-2013, the Food Bank distributed nearly 52 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 560,000 struggle each day to provide enough food for their families. www.foodbankcenc.org.