

## Food Banks Receive Funds to Help Fill Gap

Increase in Emergency Food Assistance Requests Expected in November

October 15, 2013 – (Raleigh, NC) On Monday, October 14, 2013, the seven members of the North Carolina Association of Feeding America Food Banks received funds from both Governor Pat McCrory and Attorney General Roy Cooper's offices to quickly get items on food bank shelves around the state to help families put food on their tables. The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina serves 34 of North Carolina's 100 counties and is preparing for increased requests from partner agencies like the 800 rescue missions, soup kitchens and food pantries which they support.

Governor Pat McCrory released \$750,000 in state funds to the food banks. The funds will be divided equally among the North Carolina Association of Feeding America members. The governor's funds are part of a \$3 million appropriation for food banks that was included in the state budget.

Attorney General Roy Cooper will give a total of \$2 million in grants to the food banks statewide. The funds come from food and pharmaceutical consumer settlements achieved by the Attorney General's office. The AG's office is working through the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina to distribute the funds to the other food banks in the state. Fifty percent (50%) of the grant will be distributed within the next 15 days. The balance will be issued in three quarterly allocations. The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina will receive 30% of the appropriated funds.

The rescue missions, food pantries and soup kitchens supported by the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina saw a 12% increase from July –Aug 2013 over the same period last year in individuals seeking assistance.

To make a monetary or food donation, go to www.foodbankcenc.org.

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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 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.

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