



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 15, 2011

### ***Operation Homefront of North Carolina to be Hosted by Food Bank at New Bern*** *“Thanks for Giving” to provide meals to military families in need*

**New Bern, NC** – The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina at New Bern will host Operation Homefront of North Carolina at their warehouse, located at 205 S. Glenburnie Road, on Thursday, November 17 from 10am-2pm. The “Thanks for Giving” event, sponsored by the Hatfield Family Fund and Food Lion, will provide food to 800 pre-registered military families in need. Volunteers from Operation Homefront of North Carolina will pack boxes of food for 400 families in New Bern. An additional 400 families will receive assistance through a similar event in Fayetteville held at the Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast North Carolina.

Local military families pre-registered for the program and will come to the Food Bank at assigned times to receive the food assistance.

Operation Homefront secured \$20,000 in funding for “Thanks for Giving” through the Hatfield Family Fund. Food Lion matched this donation in order to assist more families. “We are truly grateful to all our partners for coming together to help our military families at a time when some are returning home from Iraq and others are still deploying to Afghanistan,” says Jane Weaver-Sobel, President of Operation Homefront of NC.

The mission of Operation Homefront of North Carolina is to provide emergency financial and other assistance to the families of our service members and wounded warriors, including helping the families to prevent homelessness, car repossession, hunger, utility shut-off, and more. The focus of Operation Homefront of North Carolina’s assistance is to serve the lowest ranks (E1-E6), lowest paid, and first on the frontline military. The average age of those deployed is 20 years old, leaving young wives and children behind. In the last few years, thousands of North Carolina troops have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. These include Marines, Navy and Navy Seals from Camp Lejeune, Cherry Point, and New River; Army Airborne and Army Special Forces from Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base; Airmen from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base; and over one-half of the State’s National Guard and Reserves from cities and counties throughout North Carolina.

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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 42.75 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).

For more news & information about the Food Bank, view our social networks:

- Food Bank on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/FoodBankCENC>
- Food Bank on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/FoodBankCENC>
- Food Bank on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/foodbankcenc>
- Food Bank on Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/foodbankcenc>

**Operation Homefront of North Carolina (OHNC)**

Operation Homefront provides emergency and other assistance to the families of our service members and wounded warriors. OHNC is helping families from going homeless, saving them from having their cars repossessed; repairing cars, ensuring that there's food on the table and more. For more information, please visit [www.operationhomefront.net/nc](http://www.operationhomefront.net/nc).

**About Food Lion**

Food Lion, based in Salisbury, N.C., is a subsidiary of Delhaize America, the U.S. division of Brussels-based Delhaize Group (NYSE: DEG) and operates more than 1,100 supermarkets. The company employs approximately 57,000 associates delivering quality products, low prices and service to customers in 11 Southeast and Mid-Atlantic states. For more information, visit [www.foodlion.com](http://www.foodlion.com).

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