



## **Food Bank and Triangle Companies Team Up for Sort-A-Rama Event on May 26 to Feed Thousands of Local Families**

**RALEIGH, N.C., May 16, 2016** – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (FBCENC) will collaborate with Triangle companies for the fifth annual Sort-A-Rama event. On this day, up to 1,000 corporate volunteers will unite to sort and package more than 175,000 meals for local families living with food insecurity.

The event will take place on Thursday, May 26 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Jim Graham Building on the North Carolina State Fairgrounds, located at 1025 Blue Ridge Road.

Sort-A-Rama is FBCENC's signature volunteer event that began in 2012. Since then, Sort-A-Rama volunteers have sorted more than 455,000 meals which were distributed to individuals, families, and seniors in need through FBCENC's partner agencies in their 34-county service area.

The presenting partners for the 2016 Sort-A-Rama are BASF, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC), Cisco and Food Lion.

Additional sponsors include Allscripts, Dude Solutions, NetApp, RTI International, Bank of America, Coastal Federal Credit Union, Coca-Cola, Crown Lift Trucks, Delta Air Lines, Duke Energy, IBM, Nationwide, Panera Bread, PPD, Research Triangle Park Foundation and UNC Rex Healthcare.

For more information about the 2016 Sort-A-Rama, please visit [foodbankcenc.org/sortarama](http://foodbankcenc.org/sortarama).

### **QUOTES:**

"We are so grateful to the Triangle companies who come together to support Sort-A-Rama," said Peter Werbicki, Food Bank President & CEO. "The partners who contribute to this event make it possible for the Food Bank to feed thousands more of our hungry neighbors each year."

"BASF is an innovator in providing technologies to help farmers in the production of food, so helping provide adequate food to our North Carolina neighbors is central to our mission," said Paul Rea, Senior Vice President, BASF Crop Protection, North America. "With over 650,000 people in eastern and central North Carolina who are food insecure, our employee volunteers are eager to be part of Sort-a-Rama to help in this important work to prepare food for those in need across the state."

"Sort-A-Rama is about bringing people together to support our neighbors in North Carolina who don't have enough nutritious food to eat," said Kathy Higgins, Vice President of Corporate Affairs at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina. "Feeding our state's hungry families makes this a better place to live for all of us. We're proud to volunteer alongside others in the community to provide meals for people in need and work toward the day when no one has to wonder where their next meal will come from."

"There has never been a better time to be part of the solution to end food insecurity. Cisco is securely connecting everything to make anything possible, including connecting the Food Bank to the communities they serve. Cisco and our employees continue to proudly support the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. – Ed Paradise, VP Engineering and RTP Site Executive

"At Food Lion, we believe that no one should have to choose between dinner and rent or gasoline and buying groceries," said Troy Leshko, Vice President of Food Lion's Mid-Atlantic Division. "That's why we're so passionate about working with partners like the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina to end hunger in our local communities through Food Lion Feeds. Events like Sort-A-Rama provide a meaningful way for our associates to directly engage in helping to feed those in our community who need a helping hand, especially during the summer months when childhood hunger rises given schools are closed. Whether it's in a Food Lion store, at Sort-a-Rama or anywhere in our community, we want Raleigh to know: you can count on your local Food Lion team."

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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 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 2014-2015, the Food Bank distributed more than 57 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, nearly 650,000 people struggle to access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for an active and healthy life. [www.foodbankcenc.org](http://www.foodbankcenc.org).

### **About BASF**

BASF Corporation, headquartered in Florham Park, New Jersey, is the North American affiliate of BASF SE, Ludwigshafen, Germany. BASF has nearly 17,500 employees in North America, and had sales of \$17.4 billion in 2015. For more information about BASF's North American operations, visit [www.basf.us](http://www.basf.us).

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 112,000 employees in the BASF Group work on contributing to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio is organized into five segments: Chemicals, Performance Products, Functional Materials & Solutions, Agricultural Solutions and Oil & Gas. BASF generated sales of more than €70 billion in 2015. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information at [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com).

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### **About Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina improves the health and well-being of our customers and communities by providing innovative health care products, services and information to more than 3.89 million members, including approximately 1 million served on behalf of other Blue Plans. Since 1933, we have worked to make North Carolina a better place to live through our support of community organizations, programs and events that promote good health. We have been recognized as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere Institute every year since 2012. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Visit Blue Cross online at [bcbsnc.com](http://bcbsnc.com). All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

### **About Cisco**

Cisco (NASDAQ: CSCO) is the worldwide leader in IT that helps companies seize the opportunities of tomorrow by proving that amazing things can happen when you connect the previously unconnected. For ongoing news, please go to <http://thenetwork.cisco.com>.

### **About Food Lion**

Food Lion, based in Salisbury, N.C., since 1957, has more than 1,100 stores in 10 Southeastern and Mid-Atlantic states and employs more than 65,000 associates. By leveraging its longstanding heritage of low prices and convenient locations, Food Lion is working to own the easiest full shop grocery experience in the Southeast, anchored by a strong commitment to affordability, freshness and the communities it serves. Through Food Lion Feeds, the company has committed to provide 500 million meals to individuals and families in need by the end of 2020. Food Lion is a company of Delhaize America, the U.S. division of Brussels-based Delhaize Group (NYSE: DEG). For more information, visit [www.foodlion.com](http://www.foodlion.com).

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