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Food Bank CENC Receives Donation from the Walmart Foundation to Purchase Vital Equipment; Expand FNS Program

RALEIGH, NC – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina received a \$60,000 grant through the Walmart Foundation’s State Giving Program for the purchase of transportation and operations equipment including a truck motor for the Greenville Branch and electric pallet jacks for Durham and Raleigh. The new equipment will increase the Food Bank’s efficiency when delivering donated food to the branch areas and to our partner agencies across the service area.

A portion of the funding from the Walmart Foundation will also support the Three Squares for CENC program, which aids people at risk of hunger in the community, including low income seniors, veterans, and working families with children, by providing FNS/SNAP program information and application assistance. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, also known as Food and Nutrition Services or FNS in North Carolina) is a reliable source of food support for people facing hard times. Three Squares dedicated outreach coordinators connect eligible families with food benefits in times of need to free up limited household income for other necessities, such as rent, utilities, and medicine—keeping people in their homes and the entire community stable.

“We’re so grateful to the Walmart Foundation for their continued support,” said Peter Werbicki, President/CEO Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. “The funds provided have allowed the Food Bank to strengthen our infrastructure which ultimately allows us to distribute more food to those in need.”

“Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are delighted to support the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina and their Three Squares for CENC program,” said Brooke Mueller, Director of Government Relations and Public Affairs, Walmart. “This grant will assist in the purchase of new operation and transportation equipment allowing the Food Bank to better serve the community and help local seniors, veterans and families receive donated food and information for nutrition assistance programs.”

In the Food Bank’s 34-county service area, nearly 650,000 people live in food insecure households. Food insecurity is the state of being unable to consistently access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for an active and healthy life. The households we serve experience limited or uncertain access to food, at times unsure of where they will find their next meal. For more information about the Food Bank, visit foodbankcenc.org.

Attachment: WalmartPresentation121415.jpg - Walmart’s Raleigh Market Manager Brad Barrit and Store Manager Jason Effinger present a check to Food Bank staff Bridget McMinn, Carter Crain, and Caitlin Cohn. (From L-R Brad Barrit, Bridget McMinn, Jason Effinger, Carter Crain, Caitlin Cohn)



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. foodbankcenc.org.

About Philanthropy at Walmart

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are committed to helping people live better through philanthropic efforts. By operating globally and giving back locally, Walmart is uniquely positioned to address the needs of the communities it serves and make a significant social impact within its core areas of giving: Hunger Relief & Healthy Eating, Sustainability, Career Opportunity and Women's Economic Empowerment. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are leading the fight against hunger in the United States with a \$2 billion commitment through 2015. We have donated more than 1 billion meals to those in need across the country. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit www.foundation.walmart.com.

