



## NEWS RELEASE

### **Triangle Community Raises \$10 Million for The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina**

*New facilities and programs will help fight hunger in 34 counties*

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 6, 2017**

**RALEIGH, NC** – Thanks to the generous support of the North Carolina community, the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (the Food Bank) today announced it has wrapped up its [So All May Eat](#) capital campaign. With a goal of \$10 million raised, the Food Bank has purchased a new distribution center- renovating, up-fitting, and enhancing the technological and operational efficiencies of distributing more than 64 million pounds of food to those in need. Continued investments are being made in expanded partnerships, programs, and trainings to break the cycle of hunger in central and eastern North Carolina.

“Today is exciting because it’s the culmination of nearly two years of efforts of so many people, both inside the Food Bank and our partners in the community—those who have given generously with their financial support and their time,” said Ed Story, Chair of the Food Bank’s So All May Eat Campaign. “But, wrapping up the campaign is not an end in and of itself, it’s a step in the journey of the Food Bank delivering better services to the community.”

In October, 2016, the Food Bank announced the launch of its new [Community Health & Engagement department](#), which is focused on nutrition, education, and outreach, while analyzing and improving food systems throughout the Food Bank’s 34-county service area. The goal of the new department is to help members of the community to move permanently out of the state of food insecurity.

On November 10, 2016, the Food Bank [dedicated its new Hunger Solutions Center](#), which allows for expanded services to fight hunger in the Triangle and across central and eastern North Carolina.

#### **The Impact of \$10 Million**

- \$4.7 Million to purchase the new Raleigh Hunger Solutions Center
- \$3.3 Million to renovate, up-fit, and enhance technological and operational efficiencies at the new facility
- \$1 Million to expand partnerships and programs to break the cycle of hunger
- \$1 Million to establish an endowment fund, which ensures sustainable programs and operations for years to come

### **Facts and Figures**

- The new distribution center is more than double the size of the previous Food Bank facility on Tarheel Drive – 85,000 square feet vs. the previous 36,400 square feet.
- The Food Bank will be able to provide even more fresh food and produce, with 15,000 square feet of freezer and cooler space available. This is nearly three times the size of the previous distribution center.
- The new facility has 8,000 square feet dedicated to volunteers and the work they do to support the Food Bank.

### **Generous Support**

- The new facilities and expanded operations would not be possible without the support of generous community partners.
- Lead gifts were presented by Cisco Systems, Food Lion Feeds, and the William R. Kenan, Jr. Trust.
- Cornerstone Partners include Wake County, City of Raleigh, Allscripts, BASF, and Martin Marietta.
- The Hunger Solutions Center represents a vibrant community of donors, volunteers, and those who dedicate their lives to hunger relief.

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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 2015-2016, the Food Bank distributed more than 64.4 million pounds of food (60% of which was perishable) and non-food essentials through these agencies. Sadly, hunger remains a serious problem in central and eastern North Carolina. In these counties, more than 600,000 people struggle to access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for an active and healthy life. [foodbankcenc.org](http://foodbankcenc.org).

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