



TABLE and The Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC Partner to Help Feed Local Children

Donation Enables TABLE to Supplement Food for 100 More Children Every Week In Chapel Hill and Carrboro

Carrboro, NC, October 16, 2017 – TABLE and The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (the Food Bank) today announced a new partnership through which the Food Bank is donating \$20,000 worth of food to support TABLE’s Weekend Meal Backpack Program. With the help of the Food Bank’s donation, TABLE will now be able to deliver healthy non-perishables and fresh produce every week to more than 600 children this year.

Nearly 1 in every 3 preschool, elementary, and middle school kids in Chapel Hill and Carrboro participate in the National School Lunch Program. These children are not only at risk for hunger on weekends but also other times of the year when school meals are not available including Holidays and Summer. TABLE’s Weekend Meal Backpack Program not only helps alleviate this risk but also the risk for low academic performance, inappropriate behavior, low self-esteem, and future health problems.

“We are incredibly thankful to the Food Bank for their donation to support TABLE’s Weekend Meal Backpack program,” said Ashton Tippins, Executive Director, TABLE. “It’s through partnerships like this, we are able to more efficiently and effectively reach the children in our community who need access to healthy, nutritious food. TABLE has been a partner of the Food Bank for several years and we look forward to continuing to grow our relationship in the future to better serve the children of our community.”

Since 2008, TABLE has been placing healthy food directly into the hands of hungry kids every week at their school, after school center or home. By receiving this food, children are able to return to school ready to learn, play and make friends. In addition, through TABLE’s nutrition education programs, kids are able to learn healthy eating habits, how to make healthy snacks, where their food comes from and why eating healthy is important.

“We know that healthy, nutritious meals are a huge part of what helps children be successful and prepared to learn,” said Dana Ellis, the Food Bank’s Senior Manager, Child Nutrition and Federal Food Program. “We’re very thankful for the partnership with TABLE as one of our Weekend Power Pack agencies, working to make sure that more children in Orange County receive healthy food and produce when they are out of school on the weekends.”

TABLE and the Food Bank came together at TABLE’s 5th Annual Empty Bowls fundraiser in Carrboro on October 15th to present about their new partnership (photo attached). Among more than 400 attendees, executives from each organization shared their continued dedication to fighting childhood hunger in North Carolina.

About TABLE

TABLE's mission is to provide healthy, emergency food aid every week to hungry preschool, elementary, and middle school children living in Chapel Hill and Carrboro, NC. To learn more about how we are eliminating childhood hunger in our community, please visit our [website](#).

About The Food Bank of Central and 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 35 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 2016-2017, the Food Bank distributed 70 million pounds of food (over half 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.

Media Contacts

TABLE

Suzanne Tormollen
stormollen@tablenc.org
919-260-6813

The Food Bank

Jessica Slider Whichard
jwhichard@foodbankcenc.org
919-865-3050