



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MORE THAN 200,000 POUNDS COLLECTED ON HUNGER RELIEF DAY AT THE N.C. STATE FAIR

RALEIGH – After a couple of rainy days early this week, a bright, clear, Fall day coupled with the promise of free admission brought out **more than 100,000** fair goers on **Hunger Relief Day at the Fair**, Thursday, October 19. Fair attendees ended up feeding more than their senses by bringing in **over 217,000 pounds** of canned goods. **The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina** and the **N.C. State Fair** partnered to bring the event to Raleigh for the **14th year**. **Food Lion** sponsored Hunger Relief Day for the third year.

“It was a fantastic turnout and we are proud to be a part of this food raising effort every year,” said Mike Pleasant, State Fair assistant manager. “Thanks to Food Lion and all the volunteers for supporting this event.”

Food Lion donated almost **5,000 pounds** of Food Lion canned products to kick off one of the **largest single-day canned food drives in N.C.** Attendance and donations **were up this year**. About **92,000** fairgoers came out on Hunger Relief Day **last year** and collected **185,000** pounds.

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina had close to **400 volunteers and staff** members on site throughout the day to collect the canned goods at all gates in exchange for admission tickets. The Food Bank will distribute the cans of food collected to families in need in its 34 county service area and other food banks across the state.

To be a part of daily hunger relief in the 34 counties served by the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, go to www.foodbankcenc.org or call (919) 875-0707.

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About the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina

The Food Bank of Eastern & Central North Carolina is a nonprofit organization that provides food for people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina. The Food Bank serves a network of more than 890 partner agencies offering soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and programs for children and adults. In fiscal year 2005-2006, the Food Bank distributed more than 31.4 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 400,000 struggle each day to provide enough food for their families. www.foodbankcenc.org .