



NEWS RELEASE

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FOOD BANK TO HOLD FOOD DRIVE DURING ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Hopes to collect 2500 pounds

RALEIGH — We all love a good parade. We also love helping those who may need a helping hand right now. The Food Bank of Eastern and Central North Carolina knows this because of the historic community support exhibited during the holidays. Since the food collected and donated during the holidays has long been distributed to those who need it most, the Food Bank has come up with another fun and easy way to donate. Look for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina truck in this year's Raleigh St. Patrick's Day parade procession on Saturday, March 21 as we collect non-perishable food donations from parade-goers along the route.

The goal is to collect 2500 pounds of food which will feed more than 2100 individuals at risk of hunger.

Most needed items list (no glass):

- Canned meals: stews, soups, tuna, ravioli, etc. (Pop-top cans are a plus)
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Rice
- Cereal
- Paper products: toilet paper, paper towels, etc.
- Hygiene items: toothpaste, shaving items, soap, etc.
- Diapers
- Infant formula (No loose glass and plastic jars of baby food as they will have to be discarded because of health regulations)

Go to www.foodbankcenc.org for more information.

About the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern 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 nearly 900 partner agencies such as soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and programs for children and adults. In fiscal year 2007-2008, the Food Bank distributed nearly 32 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 450,000 individuals struggle each day to provide enough food for their families. www.foodbankcenc.org.

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About Feeding America (Formerly America's Second Harvest – The Nation's Food Bank Network)

Feeding America provides individuals and families facing hunger with the fuel to survive and even thrive. As the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief charity, our network members supply food to more than 25 million Americans each year, including 9 million children and 3 million seniors. Serving the entire United States, more than 200 member food banks operate 63,000 agencies that address hunger through emergency food assistance programs. For more information on how you can fight hunger in your community and across the country, visit www.feedingamerica.org

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