



NEWS RELEASE

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TROSA TO THE RESCUE

Group to lend helping hand during STAMP OUT HUNGER

DURHAM- On Saturday May 9, letter carriers in the Triangle will perform double duty on their routes – deliver the mail and collect food items to benefit the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina during the 17th Annual STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE. It is a time when the community answers a call to action and responds. So, when the Food Bank needed a truck to park at the Shannon Road Post Office in Durham for the STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE, their friends at TROSA (Triangle Residential Options for Substance Abusers) did what they do best – provided a helping hand.

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina and TROSA have worked together in the community for many years. From borrowing tractor trailers to providing a bus for a staff event, these two organizations know the meaning of neighbor helping neighbor.

“TROSA has not only been a partner agency of our organization since 1994 receiving product from our warehouse, but they have been a wonderful partner to the Food Bank, said Christy Simmons, Manager of Public Relations, Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. “They transform lives everyday. And a food drive like STAMP OUT HUNGER is about doing your part to help out and transform lives by providing a basic need.”

With more than 200 volunteers scheduled to be on site at postal branches throughout the day on Saturday, May 9, to unload the Letter Carrier trucks, tractor trailers and other large trucks are usually on hand to then transport the food back to the Food Bank warehouses.

When the group that usually provides a tractor trailer each year for the Shannon Road post office in Durham was unable to do so, TROSA stepped up to the plate.

“We are glad to help the Food Bank,” said Kevin McDonald, Founder, President and CEO of TROSA. “They do good work in the community.”

TROSA is long-term, residential substance abuse recovery program located in the city of Durham. It is now the largest state licensed residential therapeutic community in North Carolina.

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Last year, more than 240,000 pounds of non-perishable food items were collected along postal routes.

On May 9, simply place bags filled with nonperishable food items like canned meats and fish, canned soup, juice, pasta, vegetables, cereal and rice next to your mailbox and your letter carrier will do the rest!

Reports from emergency food providers (pantries, soup kitchens, rescue missions) served by the Food Bank indicate that they have seen the need increase from 25% to 40% and even 60% in some cases during the past 12 months.

List of Items Most Needed (*Please no glass*)

- Canned Meals: Stews, Soups, Tuna, Ravioli, etc.: *Pop-top cans a plus!*
- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Rice
- Cereal
- Paper Products: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, etc.
- Hygiene Items: Toothpaste, Shaving Items, Soap, etc.
- Diapers and “Attends”
- Elderly Nutrition Drinks: “Ensure”
- Infant Formula (*No loose glass and plastic jars of baby food as they will have to be discarded due to health regulations*)

Go to www.HelpStampOutHunger.com or 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 who are hungry in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina. The Food Bank serves a network of more than 900 partner agencies offering 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 to these agencies. Sadly, hunger remains a serious problem in central and eastern North Carolina. In these counties, more than 450,000 struggle each day to provide enough food for their families. www.foodbankcenc.org

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