



NEWS RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

May 11, 2007

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Photo Opportunities

- Most active postal branch
 - Monkey Junction (main)
- Loaded postal trucks come in approx. 2:00pm to post offices
- Loaded trucks start to arrive at Wilmington FB approximately 5:00pm

15th Annual Letter Carriers Food Drive Set for Saturday

“Stamp Out Hunger” in Coastal Carolina

WHO: Local letter carriers and the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), in conjunction with the United States Postal Service

WHAT: **15th Annual Letter Carriers Food Drive** to benefit the *Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Wilmington*

Restocking the Food Bank shelves is a critical and continuous process. On **Saturday, May 12, 2007**, local letter carriers and the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), in conjunction with the United States Postal Service, will be collecting non-perishable food donations in an effort to fight hunger during the **15th Annual Letter Carriers Food Drive** called “**Stamp Out Hunger**”. All local donations will go to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina branch **in your neighborhood at 1314 Marstellar Street in Wilmington.**

WHEN: Saturday, May 12th

WHERE: Place non-perishable **food donations in a bag by your mailbox on Saturday, May 12 before your letter carrier arrives.** The food will be taken to the post office and then delivered to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina for distribution to those at risk of hunger. **-more-**

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)*

WHY: THE NEED - Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Wilmington

There are 4 counties represented in the Wilmington Branch’s service area: **Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover, and Pender.**

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at **Wilmington** serves **90 partner agencies** in the Wilmington service area. Wilmington Branch partner agencies **operate 49 food pantries, 11 after school programs, 7 group homes, 6 shelters, 5 sheltered workshops, 4 soup kitchens, and 3 day cares.**

In 2005-06, the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Wilmington distributed **3,461,097 pounds** of food to those at risk in its service area.

During the four-year period from 2000-01 and 2005-06, the Food Bank experienced a food distribution growth of **99.5 percent** in the Wilmington Branch’s service area.

Go to www.foodbankcenc.org for more information about the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. For more information about Stamp Out Hunger, go to www.HelpStampOutHunger.com.

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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 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 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 to 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