

**Food Bank of Central & Eastern
North Carolina**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 6, 2004

PRESS RELEASE

Sandhills Branch Starts Egg Recovery Program

Sandhills- The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina* at Sandhills recently launched their own egg recovery program to better respond to the demand for eggs from their partner agencies. The Sandhills Branch has begun grading, packing and distributing nearly 1200 eggs daily.

“Eggs are an item that our partner agencies are asking for all the time and we are really excited to be able to provide more nutritious foods“, says Warehouse Manager, Jim Pedersen. “Now instead of waiting to receive shipments from Raleigh, we can process eggs right here in our warehouse.”

The Cole Foundation based out of Richmond County paid for a new 12 by 14 refrigeration system to enable the Sandhills branch to start the egg recovery program. Several staff members underwent a grading and egg processing training program. Also, the Sandhills Branch passed a vigorous USDA inspection. The inspection included making sure the branch had an adequate egg sorting and processing area, the right equipment, and properly trained staff.

Many agencies are donating their time and effort to help grade and process eggs, like Avery’s Chapel from Hoke County who in the last two weeks has volunteered five times to help assist the Sandhills Branch with the egg recovery program.

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is a private, not-for-profit organization, which serves more than 863 partner agencies throughout central and eastern North Carolina. Out of every dollar donated to the Food Bank, 96 cents is used to support its programs. One of six America's Second Harvest member food banks in North Carolina, the Food Bank solicits, collects, stores, and distributes food to nonprofit agencies assisting people at risk from hunger and has branches in Wilmington, Raleigh, Durham, Greenville, and the Sandhills. The Food Bank distributed more than 24 million pounds of food to those in need in fiscal year 2002-03.

For more information on the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, or for an interview, please contact:

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*** Effective July 1, we have changed our name to the *Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina* to better depict the 34 counties which we serve and to distinguish us from the other five food banks in North Carolina.**

Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina/ 3808 Tarheel Drive/ Raleigh, NC 27609

"Fighting hunger in 34 counties."

www.foodbanknc.org