



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 23, 2008

Durham Area Transit Authority and Chapel Hill Transit Sponsor “Stuff the Bus” Food Drive to benefit local Food Bank in Durham

Highlights National Hunger Action Month and Try Transit Week

DURHAM – The Durham Area Transit Authority (DATA) and Chapel Hill Transit get involved locally to fight hunger in their communities during National Hunger Action Month. On Wednesday, September 24th, DATA and Chapel Hill Transit sponsor a “Stuff the Bus” food drive in conjunction with Chick-fil-A during the regional Try Transit week celebration (September 22 through September 26). The “Stuff the Bus Food Drive” in Durham and Chapel Hill will benefit the Durham branch of Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina located at 708 Gilbert Street.

The Durham Branch serves Chatham, Durham, Granville, Orange, Person and Vance counties. On Wednesday, transit systems in Durham and Chapel Hill, along with participating Chick-fil-A restaurants, will partner to fight hunger by encouraging citizens to fill a bus with non-perishable food items. Everyone who donates at least three non-perishable food items will receive a free Chick-fil-A chicken sandwich.

In Durham

6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Bring donations to the DATA vehicle that will be parked onsite at the Chick-fil-A location on Roxboro Road in Durham. Also present will be 620AM, The Bull Sports Radio, broadcasting live from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

In Chapel Hill

6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Bring donations to NC-54 East Park and Ride (located off Friday Center Drive and NC 54)

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Chick-fil-A at University Mall

Raleigh and Cary are also hosting Stuff the Bus Food Drives benefiting the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina organization.

“We are honored that area transit systems support our mission with the Stuff the Bus Food Drive in light of rising food costs,” said Peter Werbicki, President and CEO of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. “What the Food Bank and the transit authorities in the Triangle do is more important than ever in the face of today’s poor economy where more people have concerns about the source of their next meal and how far they can stretch their resources when fuel costs have sky rocked.”

Most Needed Items

Canned Meals (Stews, soups, Ravioli, etc.)

Peanut Butter

Cereal

Canned Fruits and Vegetables

Rice

Paper Products

Hygiene Items (Toothpaste, Feminine products, soap, etc.)

Infant Products (Diapers, Wipes, Formula, Infant Cereal – no loose glass or plastic jars)

Elderly Nutrition Drinks (Ensure, Boost, etc.)

Attends

-MORE-

For **every dollar** donated, the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is able to distribute generally **8 dollars (\$8) worth of food or provide four meals.**

There are nearly 82,000 individuals at risk of hunger in the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Durham's six-county service area. The Durham branch distributed more than four million pounds of food to those at risk in the six counties served during fiscal year 2007-2008. The branch recently hit the 30 million pound mark in distribution after nearly ten years in operation. It currently serves nearly 170 food pantries, after-school programs, group homes, shelters soup kitchens and elderly nutrition programs.

The main office and warehouse is located at 3808 Tarheel Drive in Raleigh. Branch warehouses are located in Durham, Greenville, Southern Pines, and Wilmington.

For more information about the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, go to www.foodbankcenc.org for details.

CONTACTS:

Christy L. Simmons
Manager of Public Relations
Food Bank of CENC
(919) 865-3050 (office)
(919) 906-4798 (mobile)

Ieshia Gray Robertson
Public Affairs Specialist
Durham Area Transit Authority
(919) 560-1535, Ext. 207 (office)
(919) 452-2939 (mobile)

Brian M. Litchfield
Assistant Director
Transit Department
Town of Chapel Hill
919.969.4908 (office)
919.260.0932 (mobile)

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.

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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