



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GREENVILLE FOOD BANK REACHES MAJOR MILESTONE

50 Million Pounds Distributed Since 1999

GREENVILLE –When the Greene County Interfaith Food Pantry arrived at the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina at Greenville on Thursday, January 8th to shop for food items for their pantry, they had no idea that they would be part of history. As Food Bank staff person Christal Andrews loaded a case of Kellogg’s Pop Tarts onto the scale around 10 a.m., the Greenville branch of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina, in operation since 1999, hit its 50 million pounds distribution milestone. This is equivalent to more than 42 million meals. The warehouse is located on 497 W 9th Street and distributes food to rescue missions, soup kitchens, food pantries, after school programs, and elderly nutrition programs in ten counties: Carteret, Craven, Edgecombe, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt and Wilson counties.

“The Greenville branch has provided more than 42 million meals to children, families, the elderly and those who are simply having a rough time considering the fact that we have served this community less than ten years”, said Larry Motteler, Greenville Branch Operations Manager. “It is humbling and just another indicator that there is a great need in our community and shows how your donations go right back out the door to those who need it.”

Balloons were dropped while the Greene County Interfaith food pantry received a certificate and a trophy to immortalize their place in Food Bank history.

“We serve about 160 families each month. We see mostly senior citizens whose income is less than \$1,000 per month. If we can help stretch their food budget, we are happy,” Cliff Harvell, Food Pantry Coordinator for Greene County Interfaith in Snow Hill. “We are so thankful for what the Food Bank does. We can’t feed these people without them.”

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In 1999, much of eastern North Carolina was devastated by Hurricane Floyd. The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina distributed more than 5 million pounds of food and non-food essentials from its Raleigh warehouse to victims of this powerful storm.

The opening of the warehouse in Greenville in 1999 was expedited due to this storm.

Go to <http://greenville.foodbankcenc.org> to learn how you can donate money, time or food to help those at risk of hunger in the Greenville service area.

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**.

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

Attached Photos:

- **50 million PopTarts** – Cases of Kellogg's Pop Tarts on scale.
- **50 million Motteler Harrison Harvell**: Larry Motteler, Greenville Branch Operations Manager; Ann Harrison, Greenville Advisory Council Member; Cliff Harvell, Greene County Interfaith Pantry Coordinator.

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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 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 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.