



NEWS RELEASE

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Expansion Necessary for Greenville Food Bank

Increased need catalyts for additional warehouse space search in New Bern/Havelock area

GREENVILLE – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Greenville is seeking additional warehouse space in its efforts to better serve the partner agencies in their 10-county service area and meet the increased need for services in the Coastal areas. In an effort to strengthen services and offer more accessibility of food and other product to partners such as food pantries, rescue missions, and soup kitchens, the organization plans to initiate a satellite office east of the Greenville Branch. By having a satellite office in the New Bern or Havelock area, partner agencies in Craven, Carteret, Onslow, Pamlico, and Jones Counties would have local access to shelf-stable food products without incurring the costs of driving to the Greenville warehouse during these tough economic times.

“We want to do all that we can to ensure that the food gets to those who need it most as quickly and efficiently as possible. Ideally the warehouse we are seeking would be between 5,000 to 10,000 square feet and have dock door height access for receiving product. We are hoping that there may be some local business in the New Bern or Havelock community that may have space available that can be donated temporarily,” said Charlie Hale, Vice President of IT & Operations for the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina.

In 1999, when Hurricane Floyd devastated eastern North Carolina, the Food Bank responded with the largest distribution in its history by supplying more than 18.8 million pounds of food that fiscal year. Since that time, the Greenville Branch of the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina has been serving agencies in Carteret, Craven, Edgecombe, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt, and Wilson Counties. This branch started as a satellite site as a result of Hurricane Floyd

During the past year alone, agencies supported by the Food Bank in these counties have experienced a 30 to 60 percent increase in individuals coming through their doors seeking emergency food assistance. The growth in need has a direct relationship to the amount of food that must be acquired, stored and distributed.

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Greenville serves Carteret, Craven, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt, Duplin, Edgecombe and Wilson counties.

Go to greenville.foodbankcenc.org , call (252) 752-4996 or visit the local branch at 497 West 9th Street in Greenville to fight hunger in your community.

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 more than 800 partner agencies such as soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and programs for children and adults. In fiscal year 2008-2009, the Food Bank distributed nearly 37 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 486,000 struggle each day to provide enough food for their families. www.foodbankcenc.org.

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