



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTOR KEEPS CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY STRONG DURING TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES

The Grainger Foundation presents Local Food Bank with \$10,000 check

Wilmington, NC – Local branch manager of Grainger, a local business-to-business distributor of facilities maintenance supplies, visited the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Wilmington on Tuesday, June 9 to support the region's largest food bank with distribution efforts at a time of increased need. The Grainger Foundation, based upon the recommendation of Keith Lobbestael, local branch manager of Grainger's Wilmington facility donated \$10,000 to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Wilmington during a check presentation ceremony held at the branch warehouse on 1314 Marstellar Avenue in Wilmington.

Many of the rescue missions, food pantries, soup kitchens supported by the Food Bank have seen increases of 20 to 60 percent in the last twelve months.

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina at Wilmington distributes food to rescue missions, soup kitchens, food pantries, after school programs, and elderly nutrition programs in four counties: Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover and Pender counties.

"It is through the efforts of corporate groups like the Grainger Foundation and the many food drives and donations from our generous community that we are able to provide resources for those at risk of hunger," said Peter Werbicki, President and CEO of the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina. "We are honored that our work is recognized by their organization."

"We are proud to offer support to the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina during these unprecedented economic times," said Keith Lobbestael, branch manager of Grainger's Wilmington facility. "Every dollar and every volunteer hour is critical to help those in need. I am very proud to represent our employees and work for a company that is doing its part to make a difference."

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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 with additional branch warehouses located in Durham, Greenville and Southern Pines.

Go to <http://wilmington.foodbankcenc.org> to learn how you can donate money, time or food in Wilmington and the surrounding areas.

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

About W.W. Grainger, Inc.

W.W. Grainger, Inc. (NYSE: GWW), with 2008 sales of \$6.9 billion, is the leading broad line supplier of facilities maintenance products serving businesses and institutions in the United States, Canada, Mexico, China and Panama. Through a highly integrated network including more than 600 branches, 18 distribution centers and multiple Web sites, Grainger's employees help customers get the job done.

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