

LEE COUNTY PROFILE: 2008-09

Population Statistics

Total Projected 2009 Population.....58,709¹
 Population Growth, 2000 to 2007.....16.9%¹ Percentage Municipal Population.....50%²

What is the impact of poverty in the 34 counties served by the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina? A higher infant mortality rate, children who can't learn in school because they are hungry, adults who die before their time because they eat cheaper, high fat foods instead of healthier, often more costly options, and frail elders who make do with a can of beans because they can't afford their medication and food, too.

Federal poverty guidelines do not cover today's cost of living; they simply provide a baseline means of existence with a very real risk of hunger. A single person with an income of \$10,000 or less or a family of four with an income of \$21,000 or less annually meet the criteria for poverty. On these incomes, hunger becomes more than a risk...it often becomes a reality. The Food Bank helps these folks, who are at risk of hunger every day.

THE NEED:

POVERTY

No. People Living at/Below Poverty Level: **7,515³**

Percentage of Population Living in Poverty: **12.8%⁴**

Individuals >65 Living in Poverty: **924⁵**

Individuals 18 to 64 Living in Poverty: **4,103⁵**

Children 0 to 17 Living in Poverty: **2,488⁵**

Percentage of Children Living in Poverty: **33.1**

HUNGER⁶

No. Children Receiving Free/Reduced Lunches: **5,578**

Percentage of Children Receiving Reduced/Free Lunches: **59%**

UNEMPLOYMENT⁷

Percentage Aug. 2008 Unemployment: **7.7%**

Percentage Aug. 2009 Unemployment: **14.2%**

FOOD STAMP PARTICIPATION⁸

Number Served Jan. 2008: **5,394**

Number Served Sept. 2009: **8,424**

Percent of Eligible Served Sept. 2009: **95.9%**

ADDRESSING NEEDS:

Total Pounds Of Food Distributed Annually in our 34 Counties: **36.8 mil. Lbs.**

Total Pounds Of Food Distributed in Lee County: **484,595 lbs.**

Value of Food Distributed: **\$141,442**

Pounds Per Person Distributed: **64.5 lbs.**

Per-Pound Cost of Distributing Food: **20¢**

Lee Households Served: **52,907⁹**
Lee Individuals Served: **136,315**

For Every Dollar Donated, How Much is Spent on Food Distribution: **97¢**

Our Partner Agencies: See back page.

Major Local Food Donors: wholesalers, retailers, and grocery chains such as Food Lion, Harris-Teeter, Lowe's Foods, Kroger Stores, Wal-Mart

¹Projected 2009 NC population by County, NC Office of State Budget & Management; ²2008 County Municipal Totals, NC Office of State Management & Budget; ³Total Projected 2009 Population x Percentage of Population Living in Poverty; ⁴US Census 2006 American Community Survey (SF -1, SF-3); ⁵Total of Individuals >65, Individuals 18-64 & Children 0-17 Living in Poverty, 2004, 2006 American Community Survey; ⁶Free & reduced Lunch Application Data by Site, Child Nutrition Services, NC Department of Public Instruction; ⁷2008, 2009 Civilian Labor Force Estimates for NC Counties, NC Employment Security Commission; ⁸NC Food & Nutrition Services Participation Report, DSS Performance Management Reporting & Evaluation Management, NC Department of Health & Human Services; ⁹Households/individuals served 1 or more times as reported by partner agencies

Lee Community Partner Agencies

Body of Christ Ministry
Boys & Girls Club of Sanford/Lee County (Kids Cafe)
Bread Basket/Sanford Soup Kitchen
Bread of Life Ministries of Sanford
Christian Faith Ministries
Christian Youth Fellowship Council, Inc.
Christians United Outreach Center of Lee County
Church of God of Prophecy/Sanford
DBR Ministries/Lighthouse
Faith Hope Deliverance Christian Center
GET SMART, INC.
HAVEN in Lee County, Inc.
Hillview Christian Assembly
Mental Health Association - Brookhaven Church
Ministerio Bethel, Inc
New Birth Non-Denominational
New Life Praise Church
Precious Blessings Outreach Ministries
Program Resource Institute/Scoggins Center
Provisions Academy
Salvation Army of Lee County
Voice of the Community