

## Morgan Stanley Provides \$50,000 Grant to The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina To Expand Fresh Produce Program

Award Will Increase Access to Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Families in Need

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**RALEIGH,** NC – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina today announced a new grant from the Morgan Stanley Foundation to support the food bank's fresh produce program. The funds will be used to increase the food bank's ability to access, transport, and store fresh produce to provide fruits and vegetables for local residents.

"We are proud to continue our commitment of providing fresh produce to children and their families. This grant will make healthy foods available to those who might otherwise not have access to them," said Complex Manager Robin Hogan.

"By providing the people we serve with increased access to fresh fruits and vegetables, we give them the building blocks for a healthy life," said Peter Werbicki, President & CEO of Food Bank CENC. "We are excited to work with Morgan Stanley to help improve the health of the people in our community."

Food insecurity continues to be an issue facing millions of Americans. According to data from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) released in September 2016, 42 million people in the United States are living in food-insecure households, 13 million of whom are children. Feeding America's Hunger in America 2014 study found that 89 percent of Feeding America's client households with at least one child lack reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.

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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 has provided food for people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina for more than 30 years. 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 through warehouses in Durham, Greenville, New Bern, Raleigh, the Sandhills (Southern Pines), and Wilmington. In fiscal year 2015-2016, the Food Bank distributed more than 64.4 million pounds of food (60% of which was perishable) and non-food essentials through these agencies. Sadly, hunger remains a serious problem in central and eastern North Carolina. In these counties, more than 600,000 people struggle to access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for an active and healthy life. foodbankcenc.org.







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## **About Feeding America**

Feeding America is the nationwide network of 200 food banks that leads the fight against hunger in the United States. Together, we provide food to more than 46 million people through 60,000 food pantries and meal programs in communities across America. Feeding America also supports programs that improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit www.feedingamerica.org, find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.