



NEWS RELEASE

Food Bank Serving More People Thanks to Generous Partnership with Darden Restaurants Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 2020

RALEIGH, NC – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (the Food Bank) today announced its thanks for the generous support of Darden Restaurants Foundation in the 2019 calendar year. The foundation supports the Food Bank's work across the 34-county service area through funds that allowed for stronger nutrition programs, increased amounts of fresh foods being distributed, and resources to ensure rural communities are being reached. Through their generous donations, the Food Bank is able to expand programs such as community gardens, which reach all ages of people with education and nutritious food.

Donations come from Darden Restaurants throughout the Food Bank's service area - Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Longhorn, Yard House, The Capital Grille, Seasons 52, and Bahama Breeze.

"We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our partners like the Darden Restaurants Foundation," said Peter Werbicki, President and CEO of the Food Bank. "With their support, the Food Bank can feed people and build solutions to hunger in our 34-county service area."

For more information, please visit foodbank.com/give.

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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 35 years. The Food Bank serves a network of more than 900 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 2018-2019, the Food Bank distributed over 80 million pounds of food (over half 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, nearly 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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