SOUTHERN PINES, NC – The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (the Food Bank) today announced its thanks for the generous support of corporate and foundation donors across the 4-county service area of the Sandhills Branch during the 2019 calendar year.

CSX Transportation has partnered with the Food Bank to provide more nourishing food to veterans in the Sandhills. The collaboration with local veterans’ service providers, such as the VFW and local VA clinics, will identify veterans struggling with food insecurity and provide them with boxes filled with nutritious food (about 17 meals per box) and information on additional services and programs providing assistance in the community.

Moore Women, A Giving Circle of the North Carolina Community Foundation, have provided a first-time gift to the BackPack Pals Program. Through this program, the Food Bank provides weekend food for children who attend Moore County Schools.

“We are so thankful to our partners, who support our most vulnerable friends and neighbors,” said Michael Cotten, Sandhills Branch Director for the Food Bank, “Together we can ensure our friends and neighbors are nourished and don’t need to worry where their next meal will come from.”
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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