



NEWS RELEASE

Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC Named Feeding America's Food Bank of the Year

National Honor for Dedication to Community Collaboration and Innovative Solutions in Ending Hunger.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Raleigh, NC – The [Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina](#) (the Food Bank), which serves 34 counties and has been in operation fighting hunger since 1980, announces it has been named **Food Bank of the Year** for 2020, by Feeding America, a national association of more than 200 food banks. The Member of the Year award is one of the highest honors awarded to network leaders for their local community-building and contributions to the Feeding America network.

“The Food Bank is an incredible organization making tremendous impact for people facing hunger in and outside of Raleigh,” said Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America. “We congratulate President & CEO Peter Werbicki and the entire food bank staff for their dedication to addressing the needs of the community and working to end hunger. From their focus on engaging with key partners and empowering neighbors with resources to make nutritious choices to supporting member food banks across the network in times of disaster or emergency, the Food Bank demonstrates just how much of a difference a food bank can make in the community.”

The Food Bank, headquartered in Raleigh with branches in [Durham](#), [Greenville](#), [New Bern](#), the [Sandhills](#), and [Wilmington](#), was recognized as Member of the Year for their commitment to collaboration in building strong relationships with community partners and the national network to best serve neighbors in need. The Food Bank was also highlighted for its commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) and beginning the work of educating

employees on how to use an EDI lens to inform core strategy and decision-making to best serve neighbors in need.

“This is a tremendous honor, and we’re extremely grateful to be recognized among our peers and by Feeding America nationally for the work we’re doing in central and eastern North Carolina to ensure no one goes hungry,” said Peter Werbicki, President & CEO of the Food Bank. “Ending hunger doesn’t happen in a vacuum; we could not do this work every day without our dedicated and committed partner agencies, volunteers, and donors. This year marks the Food Bank’s 40th anniversary of hunger relief work in our communities. Through partnerships and programming, we’re working every day to build solutions to ending hunger that mean we won’t have to be operational 40 years from now.”

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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 2019-2020, the Food Bank distributed nearly 92 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 760,000 people struggle to access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for an active and healthy life. foodbankcenc.org.

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