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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Food Bank Seeking Vendors and Meal Sites to Feed More Area Children this Summer

What: The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (the Food Bank) is

seeking new vendors and meal sites for the upcoming Kids Summer Meals program session. Kids Summer Meals, also known as the Summer Food Service Program, is a USDA federally-funded resource which offers free nutritious meals to children 18 and under during summer months. Vendors could include restaurants or catering companies interested in providing healthy, prepared meals for the program. Sites would be those interested in serving meals to children in their community during summer 2021. We are seeking interested vendors and sites throughout our 34-county service area. The Food Bank will host two learning opportunities for potential sites and vendors during the month of January. Both learning opportunities will be held virtually and include details about Kids Summer Meals, address how the Food Bank works with sites and vendors, and highlight overall benefits of participation. For more information or to sign up for either session, visit foodbankcenc.org/event/kids-summer-meals-

info-sessions or email kidsprograms@foodbankcenc.org.

Who: The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina

When: MEAL SITES info session Thursday, January 14, 2021, 11 a.m.

VENDORS info session Thursday, January 21, 2021, 3:30 p.m.

Where: Via Microsoft Teams call, sign up here.

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 40 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. Website available in Spanish and English: foodbankcenc.org.

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