

# Creating solutions beyond food.

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2019 IMPACT REPORT

food**o**bank  
OF CENTRAL & EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

## Dear Friends & Partners of the Food Bank

When you work in hunger relief, you often get the question, “Why does hunger exist?” or “What causes hunger?” And if there was an easy answer to that question, the Food Bank would not need to exist. Poverty and food insecurity can be chronic, generational, and extremely difficult to overcome. An illness, job loss, or unexpected expense can cause someone to need urgent help with food in the short term but could also cause folks to fall behind for a longer period. As we see after a hurricane impacts our service area, some folks need help only immediately after the storm. But many more are not able to deal with a small emergency, let alone a natural disaster.

Hunger is complicated and evolves based on many different factors, and the Food Bank must do the same.

When the Food Bank opened its doors in 1980, it had one employee, Executive Director Barbara Oates. She had a card table and a phone and brought in the NC State wrestling team to move things around. The last forty years have brought several hurricanes and significant damage to our area, seen the loss of major industries that had employed thousands, and we’ve endured more than one economic recession.

To nourish more people, the Food Bank now has six locations in our 34-county service area, and employs staff to run programs dedicated to reaching people most in need. Our Community Health & Engagement Department helps build solutions to end hunger long-term, while developing tools to empower our communities today. And most recently, the Food Bank has a new mission and look that represents the scope of the work we do throughout our 34-county service area.

Whether you’ve been supporting the Food Bank for one year or 40, we thank you for the trust you’ve placed in us to serve people facing hunger when they need it the most.

Together, we will continue the work of nourishing people, building solutions to hunger, and empowering communities to ensure that we won’t have to be doing this work 40 years from now.

With great thanks,



Peter Werbicki, President & CEO  
Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina



Earline in 1991 at the Food Bank's Beryl Road warehouse.

## Three Decades of Nourishing People

The Food Bank's history includes many great employees who all made an impact by helping nourish our friends and neighbors.

But only one can say they've dedicated three decades to the Food Bank.

Earline Middleton arrived in Raleigh with her family in 1990 by way of Cincinnati, Ohio. Shortly after, she saw an ad for a position with the Food Bank in the paper and it caught her attention. Soon, Earline was starting a new job helping the organization raise food and funds.

As the Food Bank began to evolve, Earline grew right alongside it — at one point moving into a volunteer management role and finally landing with the Food Bank's Partner Services department. Under Earline's leadership as the Vice President of Partner Services & Public Policy, her team has greatly expanded the capacity of the Food Bank's partner agencies. They launched programs aimed at feeding more of our most vulnerable population — children and seniors, advocate for strong federal and state nutrition programs, and help our partner agencies expand their capacity to nourish more people.

“Earline has been key to the Food Bank's ability to serve,” said Peter Werbicki, President & CEO of the Food Bank. “It is safe to say thousands of people in our service area have had meals on their table as a result of her great work.”

While her leadership role certainly keeps her busy, Earline is always one of the first to jump up and help bring in a food drive or volunteer at a food distribution. She continues to spread the message of the Food Bank to everyone she meets. We are truly lucky that she has dedicated a huge part of her life to our work.



# Creating solutions beyond food to end hunger.

## Healthy Pantries and Health Partnerships

The Food Bank's Community Health & Engagement Department launched in 2016 to focus on access to nutritious food for those in food-insecure situations through education, a structured nutrition policy, and targeted partnerships that help those we serve become less reliant on our network of emergency food providers.

The Healthy Pantry Program addresses the first two by training and certifying agencies on creating an environment that provides easy nutrition education to their clients. This includes pantry signage and additional tools specific for agencies who take on this holistic model. The three main goals are to provide more nutritious food to the community, create an environment that is supportive of healthy choices, and help clients feel confident in preparing and consuming healthier foods. Currently, 40 of our partner food pantries are participating in the program.

Community Health & Engagement is also building strategic partnerships with healthcare providers across our service area. Patients who visit one of these hospitals or clinics will be screened for food insecurity and will receive a box from an on-site pantry. These will be especially helpful for patients who are struggling with things like diabetes or high blood pressure. Our current health partnerships include UNC Rex Hospital, UNC's adult and pediatric Cystic Fibrosis Care Centers, Root Causes Clinic (Durham), Vidant Medical Center (Greenville), and New Hanover Regional Medical Center (Wilmington).

The Food Bank will continue to look for and develop partnerships that build solutions to end hunger and empower our communities to move beyond food insecurity.



## College Student Grateful for On-Campus Pantry

Madison is a 25-year-old single mother who attends James Sprunt Community College (JSCC) part-time. She also works two jobs and is careful to use her limited resources in the best way possible. Spartan's Table is a food pantry operated on campus at JSCC by Food Bank partner Duplin Christian Outreach Ministries. They offer not only non-perishables to the students and families of those who attend JSCC, but also fresh fruits and vegetables.

Daycare costs and diapers alone use up a lot of Madison's budget, so being able to utilize Spartan's Table is a huge help to Madison and her daughter. Madison also has a history of Type 2 diabetes in her family, so she is careful with her diet in order to prevent health complications in the future. The fresh food and recipes she receives at the pantry allow her to make healthier decisions in her weekly meal planning.

The Food Bank partners with six college pantries across our service area with the hopes that students can continue their studies without worrying about where their next meal will come from.

## Garden Corps Empowers Teens to Grow, Harvest, and Cook Food

For 12 weeks in spring/summer 2019, the Food Bank partnered with Raleigh Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department on the Garden Corps project. Local teens learned about gardening from NCSU Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners in our BASF & Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Demonstration Garden, then tested out new recipes and skills in our Allscripts Teaching Kitchen. The Food Bank's Nutrition Education staff worked with the kids in the kitchen.

On the first kitchen day, the students were quiet and unsure of what they would be doing. As time went on, it was evident that there was not lack of interest but a lack of confidence. One student had never used a knife, and another had never seen a grater.

Through review of the crop rotation plan and discussions with the Master Gardeners, our nutrition staff were able to pair the food the students were growing in the garden to the recipes they made in the kitchen. For many, it was the first time trying some of the vegetables. Each week before they headed out to the garden, students worked on how to safely use kitchen tools and learned frequent cooking terms, food safety, meal planning, and how to read a recipe. By increasing their food literacy skills, the kids' confidence grew leaps and bounds in the kitchen. Students who began the program with little experience in the kitchen later helped prepare food and proudly showed how they cubed melon or grated sweet potatoes.

After 12 weeks, the students had a graduation ceremony, including a harvest meal they prepared from food they grew in the garden. During the meal, the students recalled their favorite part of the program. We heard from one student, "My favorite part of the kitchen was... everything. I was scared to help my mom with dinner and now I think I am going to ask what I can do to help." That encompasses the goal of Garden Corps. It is safe to say a little bit of magic happened during our time with the Garden Corps students. Not only did the kids learn to grow, harvest, and prepare food, but they built great relationships with the gardeners and staff, and grew their confidence and willingness to try new things, especially new fruits and vegetables! A second class of Garden Corps began in March 2020.



# Your support ensured the Food Bank's ability to nourish people, build solutions, and empower communities in 2019.

**82,360,235** lbs. of food distributed

**68,633,529** meals provided

**29,227,013** lbs. of produce distributed

**249,355** volunteer hours

**982** partner agencies

**1,537,753** meals provided through our Kids Programs

**\$1,416,315** FNS benefits generated

**\$2,181,124** in economic activity generated by benefits outreach



# Community Leaders Taking Action



## Bailey's Fine Jewelry

*"At Bailey's, we are in the love business. Our vision is to help spread the message of love and kindness via our family business and one important way that we do this is by helping those in our community that are hungry and less fortunate. The Food Bank provides to our friends and neighbors in need and I can't think of a better charitable organization to have on our giving list." — Trey Bailey, Director of Operations*

Over the past 10 years, Bailey's Fine Jewelry has shown its commitment to ending hunger in the Triangle. Through cause marketing campaigns, special events, and even in times of disaster, the Food Bank has always been able to rely on Bailey's to support its mission.

## Duke Energy

*"When Duke Energy and the AARP of North Carolina wanted to get hurricane preparedness kits — including food and supplies — into the hands of eastern North Carolina seniors, we knew the Food Bank had the nutritional expertise and delivery network to make it happen. They are a trusted partner in our communities and a leader in disaster response." — Stephen De May, NC President*

Duke Energy supports the Food Bank by seeing the need and helping address the issue. Whether it is nourishing children, building capacity, disaster relief, or programs for seniors, they have supported the Food Bank since 2013 and provided almost one million meals to those facing food insecurity in our area.

## Genworth Mortgage Insurance

*"Genworth Mortgage Insurance believes in the value of connection — and bringing community members together through service is an integral part of our identity. When we volunteer, we build a deeper understanding of the challenges facing our community. We are proud to partner with the Food Bank and are grateful for the opportunity to play a role in the fight against food insecurity." — Rohit Gupta, CEO*

Since 2006, Genworth has been a loyal supporter of the Food Bank and its vision that no one goes hungry. Consistently ranked one of the top corporate volunteer groups and donating annually to support events and program funding through grants, Genworth has made it possible to provide more than 2 billion meals to the Food Bank since the partnership began.

## Credit Suisse Americas Foundation

*"We are proud to have partnered with the Food Bank for over 14 years. During this time, dedicated employees have complemented the Foundation's financial contributions through nearly 14,000 hours of volunteerism as well as service on the organization's board. This holistic partnership embodies our belief that by working together we can make a greater difference in society." — Eric Eckholdt, Executive Director*

Generous, long-time funding from Credit Suisse Americas Foundation provides critical support for our core mission work of nourishing families in need with healthy meals, education, and outreach activities. The work of Credit Suisse employee volunteers helps provide over 100,000 meals each year.

## BASF

*"BASF works on long-term, sustainable solutions in agriculture to ensure that our growing population has an adequate food supply. That's why we invest and partner with the Food Bank, to make sure that our neighbors have enough food on the table to feed their families each day. We know that it takes strong communities to close the gap on hunger and are dedicated to the Food Bank's mission. BASF is honored to have employees serve on the Board of Directors and roundtable council and as volunteers." — Carrie Gray, Community Relations Manager*

The Food Bank is proud to have BASF as a partner in nourishing those facing food insecurity. Together through funds, food drives, and volunteerism, they have been part of the solution to end hunger for over 25 years.

## Slomo and Cindy Silvian Foundation

*"After Hurricane Florence hit North Carolina, the board searched for an organization that would use the foundation's financial help to make sure that needed food and water were delivered to hungry and thirsty children and their families in a responsible, efficient but respectful and compassionate way. The expertise and skill of their management team and staff is cutting edge. Their dedication is unmatched. They have been a terrific steward of our grants. We are honored to partner with them to help ease the often unseen pain suffered by hungry children and their families." — Daniel S. Komansky, President*

The Slomo and Cindy Silvian Foundation generously supported the Food Bank's disaster relief work post-Hurricane Florence then expanded their commitment to hunger relief with an investment in our core mission work that provided an additional 137,500 meals.

## Vidant Health

*Vidant Health's mission is to improve the health and well-being of eastern North Carolina, and supporting the Food Bank is one of the ways we are able to live our mission. We know that food scarcity impacts the overall wellness of our neighbors and hunger results in an inability to concentrate in school and at work and to manage chronic disease and mental health issues, so we applaud and will continue to champion the Food Bank's initiatives on behalf of the food insecure in our communities. — Julie Oehlert, Chief Experience Officer*

For almost 20 years, Vidant Health has been a key partner in fighting hunger in eastern North Carolina. Through their support, our Greenville Branch has provided millions of nourishing meals to those in Pitt County experiencing food insecurity. Vidant has supported our Mobile Food Pantries which enables the Food Bank to increase the amount of fresh produce, meats, and other healthy foods we distribute. They also partner to host a food pantry onsite for patients – the first of six hospital-based food programs in our service area.

# 2019 Financials

## 2019 REVENUE

Food Donated	\$ 144,609,932
Contributions	\$ 14,569,979
Campaign Pledges	\$ 194,395
Governmental Awards	\$ 2,721,904
Agency Contributions	\$ 1,876,301
Miscellaneous	\$ 46,822
Goods, Services, and Facilities Contributed In-kind	\$ 200,498
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 164,219,831</b>

## 2019 EXPENSES

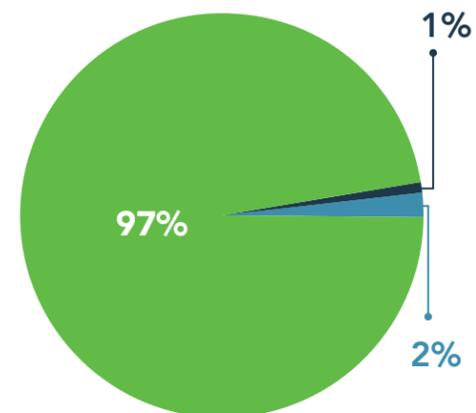
Program Services	\$ 156,656,228
Management & General	\$ 1,730,526
Fundraising	\$ 3,003,375
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 161,390,129</b>

## 2019 NET ASSETS

Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 5,327,236
Increase in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$ 537,343
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 5,864,579
Net Assets at the Beginning of the Year	\$ 20,052,678
Net Assets at the End of the Year	\$ 25,917,257

Year End = June 30, 2019  
Accounting by Elliott Davis

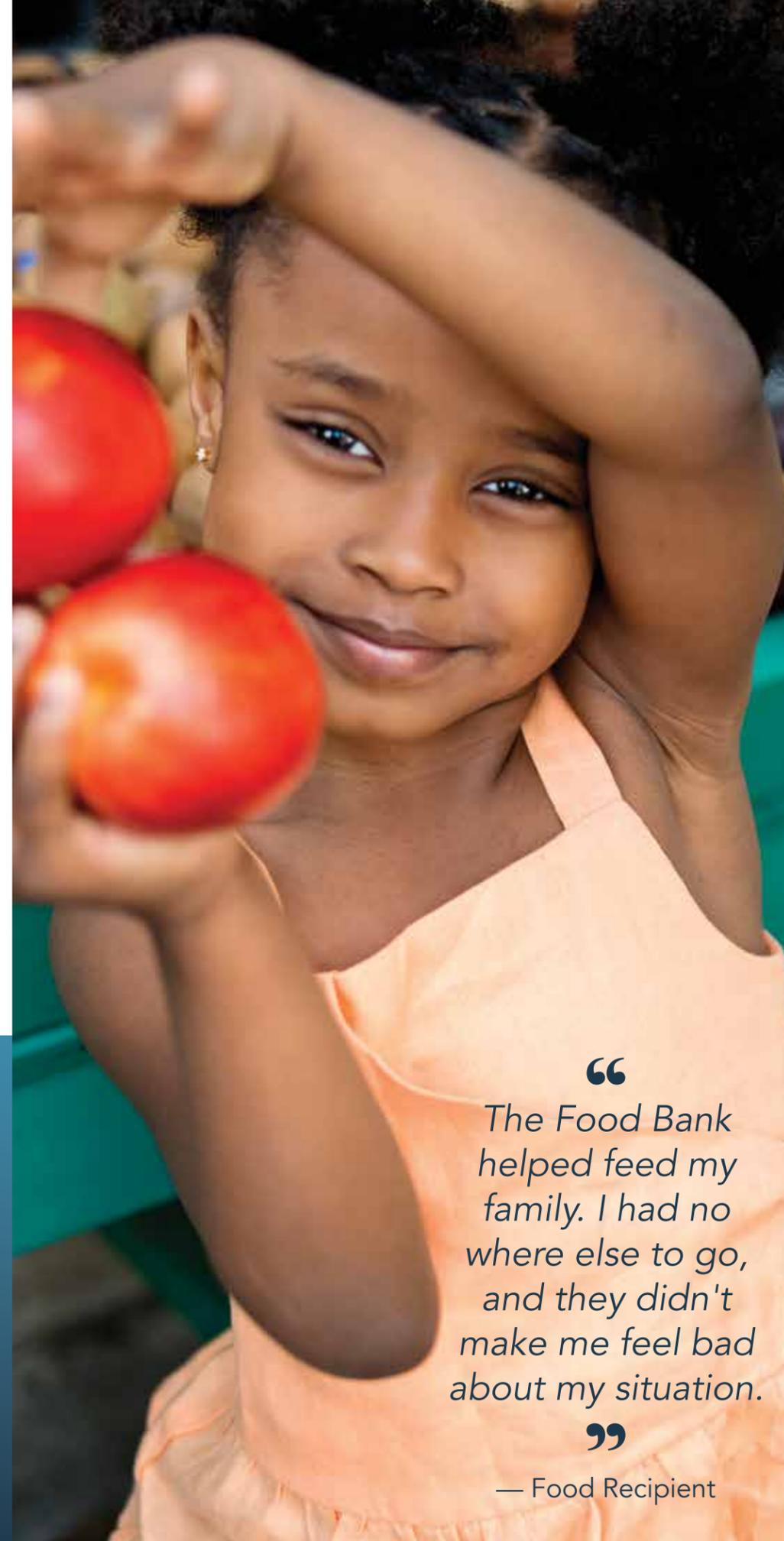
**This means that 97¢ of every \$1 goes directly to programs and services.**



## Thanks to our 2019 Cornerstone Partners

ABC11  
NC Department of Agriculture  
NC Department of Health & Human Services  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina  
William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust  
Walmart  
Food Lion  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Credit Suisse Americas Foundation  
Lowes Foods

Harris Teeter  
Cisco Systems  
Oak Foundation  
Publix Super Markets Charities  
Yardi Systems, Inc.  
Bank of America  
Samsung Electronics America  
New York Life Insurance Co.  
Bayer USA Foundation



“  
*The Food Bank helped feed my family. I had no where else to go, and they didn't make me feel bad about my situation.*  
”  
— Food Recipient

## Board of Directors

- CHAIR**  
Troy Leshko, Peapod Digital Labs
- CHAIR ELECT**  
Octavio Soares, BASF Corporation
- TREASURER**  
Anne Lloyd, Retired, Martin Marietta
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- Ari Lawson Grimsley (ex-officio), Community Volunteer
- Sylvia Hackett, Rex Healthcare
- Charles Inman, Food Lion
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- Christine Mazzone, Plant Health Care
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- Walter Rogers, Smith Anderson
- Timothy Tripp, Duke Energy
- Chris Wozencroft, Credit Suisse
- Susan Yaggy, Retired, NC Foundation for Advanced Health Programs
- George S. York, Jr., York Properties, Inc.

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**GREENVILLE**

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**NEW BERN**

205 South Glenburnie Road  
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**SANDHILLS**

195 Sandy Avenue  
Southern Pines, NC 28387  
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**WILMINGTON**

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