**BACKGROUNDER**

**FOOD BANK**
OF CENTRAL
& EASTERN
NORTH CAROLINA

The Food Bank of Central and Eastern

North Carolina

**Contact Information**

(919) 875-0707

Foodbankcenc.org

**Mission**

 By effectively utilizing and distributing resources, the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina aims to end hunger in the areas it serves.

**History**

 To address homelessness and hunger in the Raleigh area, the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina provided funding to start the Food Bank in 1980. Originally called the Community Food Bank, it was the first food bank in North Carolina. In 1984, the Food Bank became an affiliate of Feeding America, a national network of organizations dedicated to eliminating hunger.

**Services**

 For 30 years, the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina has functioned as a non-profit organization providing food and other essentials to individuals at risk of hunger. After receiving food from stores, manufacturers, and other donors, the Food Bank distributes the food to its partner agencies that then distribute it to individuals. With five warehouses located throughout central and eastern North Carolina, the Food Bank currently serves 34 counties and distributes 141,000 pounds of food daily.

 Through routine press releases, special events, and programs, the Food Bank advocates ways to end hunger. The Food Bank also enables individuals to actively assist their communities in the fight against hunger by providing volunteers with resources such as boxes, fliers, and brochures to organize their own food drives.

**Programs**

*Backpack Program:* The Backpack Program provides nutritious food for children during non-school hours. Children in the program are given a backpack of non-perishable food once a week. Over 850 children are currently served.

*Mobile Food Pantry:* Two trucks operating out of the Greenville branch warehouse regularly deliver food to rural communities with limited resources. Once the food is delivered to partner agencies within these communities, volunteers distribute the food to pre-screened individuals seeking assistance.

**Distribution Facts**

* Currently serves 480,000 individuals in 34 counties
	+ 34% of those served are children
	+ 11% of those served are elderly
* 236 million pounds of food distributed in 30 years
* 20 trucks used to deliver food
* Services an area of 19,000 square miles
* Supplies food to 800 partner agencies
* 5 warehouses (Raleigh, Greenville, Durham, Southern Pines, and Wilmington)