



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Two North Carolina Food Banks Receive Allstate Disaster Relief Award**

**Raleigh, NC (January 23, 2015)** - Feeding America, with funding provided by Allstate, has chosen a NC Regional Disaster Services Team to participate in their 3RNI pilot. Team members include Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (Coordinating Org.) and Food Bank of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City. The purpose of the grant is to assess the disaster risk locally and regionally. The grant will also determine the disaster capacity of each food bank and the agencies they support.

The grant involves required, regular meetings between the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC and the Food Bank of the Albemarle, and required national meetings. The grant will also provide funds to hire a consultant to assess the current disaster plans and make recommendations for improving efficiency and effectiveness for the Food Banks and for “First Line” partner agencies working in disaster relief.

The initial grant of \$64,000 was received in October 2014 for assessment. Upon successful completion of this phase, the NC Regional Disaster Services Teams are eligible for the remaining \$14,000 in June/July 2015.

### **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 30 years. The Food Bank serves a network of more than 800 partner agencies such as soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and programs for children and adults through distribution centers in Durham, Greenville, New Bern, Raleigh, the Sandhills (Southern Pines), and Wilmington. In fiscal year 2013-2014, the Food Bank distributed more than 53 million pounds of food and non-food essentials through these agencies. Sadly, hunger remains a serious problem in central and eastern North Carolina. In these counties, more than 651,000 people struggle to access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for an active and healthy life. [www.foodbankcenc.org](http://www.foodbankcenc.org).

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