



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUPER MEAT DONATION TO FILL MANY BOWLS

Food Bank receives 40,000 lb. donation from Smithfield Foods

MEDIA EVENT: SPECIAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION FOR FOOD BANK PARTNERS MONDAY, JANUARY 26 AT 1 PM

RALEIGH — With Super Bowl XLIII on the horizon, a recent donation to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina makes all involved part of a game that is a win-win.

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina has received from Smithfield Foods two tractor trailers filled with sandwich meat — totaling more than 40,000 pounds. The donation is part of Smithfield Foods' "Helping Hungry Homes" initiative, established to help ensure that American families in need do not go hungry. According to Smithfield Foods, the donation will provide up to 160,000 servings of meat.

"We are always grateful for the longtime support of Smithfield Foods. At a time when our agencies are seeing a 30 to 50 percent increase in individuals who need food assistance, donations such as this enable the agencies to stretch their resources a little further," said Peter Werbicki, President and CEO of the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina.

As a result of this timely donation during tough economic times and following the recent snow storm, the Food Bank is holding a SPECIAL MEAT DISTRIBUTION on MONDAY, JANUARY 26 for food pantries, soup kitchens and after school programs who partner with the Food Bank. The event will be held from 1pm to 3pm at its Raleigh warehouse at 3808 Tarheel Drive. Dennis Pittman, director of corporate communications and public affairs for Smithfield Foods, will join Food Bank staff to assist with the distribution.

"Smithfield Foods is committed to helping feed hungry families. That is especially important during tight economic times when those who have the least suffer the most. It is gratifying to know that this donation will help feed thousands of people in need across North Carolina," said Joe Luter IV, executive vice president of Smithfield Foods.

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Smithfield Foods and its independent operating companies have a long history of stocking food banks, supporting after-school nutrition programs and providing food relief in the wake of natural disasters. Last year, Smithfield distributed 250,000 pounds of meat products with an estimated retail value of more than \$1 million dollars through the “Helping Hungry Homes” program.

About the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina

The Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina is a nonprofit organization that provides food for people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina. The Food Bank serves a network of nearly 900 partner agencies such as soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, and programs for children and adults. In fiscal year 2007-2008, the Food Bank distributed nearly 32 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 450,000 individuals struggle each day to provide enough food for their families. www.foodbankcenc.org.

About Feeding America (Formerly America’s Second Harvest – The Nation’s Food Bank Network)

Feeding America provides individuals and families facing hunger with the fuel to survive and even thrive. As the nation’s largest domestic hunger-relief charity, our network members supply food to more than 25 million Americans each year, including 9 million children and 3 million seniors. Serving the entire United States, more than 200 member food banks operate 63,000 agencies that address hunger through emergency food assistance programs. For more information on how you can fight hunger in your community and across the country, visit www.feedingamerica.org

About Smithfield Foods

Smithfield Foods is a global food company with operations in 13 countries through wholly owned subsidiaries and joint ventures. Headquartered in Smithfield, Va., the company produces more than 50 brands of pork, beef and turkey products and more than 200 gourmet foods. Employing more than 57,000 people across the globe, Smithfield Foods is the world’s largest producer and processor of pork and a leader in turkey processing, cattle feeding and beef processing.

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