

October 24, 2016

PRESS RELEASE: Please place the **2 events** in your community calendar announcements and feature in your local news items. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Betsy Crites: 919-381-5969; bcrites@sonic.net Thank you for your help in this grassroots effort.

DURHAM COALITION OF FOOD PANTRIES LAUNCHES HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE DOUBLE HITTER (2 EVENTS)

This fall, the *Durham Farm and Food Network's End Hunger Durham Initiative* invited community and church food pantry coordinators to a meeting with the objective of organizing and collaborating to better serve Durham's food insecure families. Utmost in food pantry operators' concerns was the crucial need at this time of year for more food donations with the onset of winter's higher household costs, the approaching holidays and the possible impact of Hurricane Matthew on food relief distribution and higher grocery store prices. In response to these concerns, *the Durham Coalition of Food Pantries* quickly mobilized to make a double hitter appeal to Durham citizens to help provide a bountiful Thanksgiving Holiday for everyone. The food collected will be distributed to the 15 participating community pantries serving 1,545 families.

Many thanks to *Durham Army National Guard* for use of their facility to collect, organize and distribute non-perishable food and *Bull City Cool Food Hub* and *Reinvestment Partners* for freezer space to store holiday poultry.

FIRST EVENT: HOLIDAY COLLECTION OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 8am-6pm, Durham Army National Guard Armory, 801 Stadium Drive, 27704. Fixings for Thanksgiving meal especially appreciated. *Sponsored by the Durham Coalition of Food Pantries.*

SECOND EVENT: HOLIDAY POULTRY DRIVE, NOVEMBER 16 & 17, THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 8am-6pm. Please bring FROZEN turkey or chicken donations to: Bull City Cool Food Hub, 902 N. Mangum St., 27701. *Sponsored by the Durham Coalition of Food Pantries.*