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### Two Durham groups team up to take bite out of hunger

On the same weekend (March 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>) that Durham will hold its 36<sup>th</sup> Annual CROP Hunger Walk, the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) will launch a food drive that they hope will set a world record for the most food collected in a single day at a single location by a non-charitable organization. Guinness Book of World Records will rule on the outcome. The food drive will take place on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at the NCSSM campus.

Durham's Walk is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest such walk in the United States out of some 1,900 CROP Hunger Walks, and is the oldest walk-a-thon in North Carolina. In their 35 years of hiking for the hungry, Durham walkers have raised more than \$3 million dollars for the hungry here and around the world. This year's walk will be held on Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Students, faculty, alumni and friends of NCSSM are hoping that their effort will catapult them ahead of the current record-setting food drive which last year collected 509,000+ lbs of food in a single day, at a single site in Calgary, Canada. The food collected on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at the NC School of Science and Math's campus in Durham will be donated to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, a recipient of funds from area CROP Hunger Walks as well.

"Planning for the food drive has allowed all of us at NCSSM to realize the great need across our state," said NCSSM Food Drive coordinator Sue Anne Lewis, "especially among children."

"Although beating the Guinness World Record would certainly be exciting, the record merely set the goal for us in our attempt to help the nearly 500,000 people at-risk of hunger in central and eastern North Carolina. With 35 percent of those being children, the food drive is a great way for our students to help other students across the state, but it's going to take the entire community to make it happen," Lewis said.

Ms. Jenny Shafer, executive coordinator of Durham's very successful CROP Hunger Walk here commented: "These two hunger-fighting events are truly remarkable! This combined weekend effort to focus on the hungry and most vulnerable in our world says volumes about our community and its big heart. This is Durham at its finest!"

For more information on how to contribute to the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics large food drive, or to sign up a team to walk in the CROP Hunger Walk contact the persons below:

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Or visit the website: [www.ncssm.edu/fooddrive](http://www.ncssm.edu/fooddrive)



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