



Committed to the future of rural communities.

North Carolina—Rural Housing Service

# Local & Regional Food Systems

## Grant Funded Refrigerated Truck for MANNA Food Bank

### Outline Of Need:

The increased food volume for distribution necessitated the need for an additional distribution truck.. A reliable vehicle was needed for easier access and storage of produce from local farmers and suppliers for long trips across the mountains, a service region covering more than 6,600 square miles and 16 counties.

### How Rural Development Helped:

USDA Rural Development was able to provide funding assistance to MANNA Food Bank through our Community Facilities Grant Program.

### The Results:

MANNA Food Bank's mission is to involve, educate and unite people in the work of ending hunger in western North Carolina. During 2010, 9.1 million pounds of food was distributed to over 100,000 people through 310 partner agencies.



*MANNA Food Bank Refrigerated Truck used for food distribution to non-profits throughout 16 counties in western North Carolina.*

The new distribution truck enabled them to distribute 8,000 — 12,000 pounds more per week. Operations efficiency has increased with store level and retail pick-ups as well as the MANNA Packs for Kids Program.

MANNA Packs for Kids distributes as many as 4000 5-pound bags of food to at risk elementary school students at 133 different school across the 16 county service region in Western North Carolina.

MANNA works closely with school counselors and administrators who become our eyes and ears to recognize when students and their family members may be in need of healthy food over the weekend. For more information about MANNA, see their website at [www.mannafoodbank.org](http://www.mannafoodbank.org).

## Fast Facts

**Program:** Community Facilities

**Investment:** \$22,900 Grant

**Partners:** 310 partner agencies

### Demographics

Rural Population—

### Impact:

- 9.1 million pounds of food distributed
- 106,600 people in western NC (1 in 6) fed by MANNA Food Bank partner agencies

*April 2011*