

CNIC nears DoD Feds Feed Families goal

By MC1 (SW/AW) Monique K. Hilley

WASHINGTON -- As Commander, Navy Installations Command entered the final week of its collection efforts in support of the Feds Feed Families Campaign, cumulative donations top 683,000 pounds and near the DoD-wide goal of 733,800 pounds of food distributed to local food banks worldwide, Aug. 24.

"This Feds Feed Families Campaign has been like a summer-long Olympic relay race," said Capt. James Fisher, Chaplain Corps, CNIC Director, Strategic Plans and Programming for Religious Ministries. "Every member of the Navy team has carried the baton of community, compassion and responsibility. In our last week of the race, our goal is in sight, each one of us are sprinting to the finish line, and together we will achieve a great victory for our communities throughout this nation."

Chaplain Fisher encourages Navy personnel to continue to donate goods throughout the week because there will be another collection of boxes at all Navy installations on Aug. 31.

Regions throughout the CNIC Enterprise have been collecting nonperishable goods to include food and basic hygiene supplies in support of the Feds Feed Families Food Drive Campaign, which encourages federal employees to bring nonperishable food items to their offices for distribution to local food banks.

In the midst of the current state of the economy, with many American families facing unemployment and having to put their children to bed hungry, Navy Chaplains urge those who can to donate



Photo by MC2 Flordeliz Valerio

Religious Specialist 2nd Class Joseph Stroney from NAS Meridian Chapel places non-perishable food items on the counter at LOVE's Kitchen in Meridian as volunteer Latoya Hailes logs in how much was donated. Personnel on board the installation donated 865 pounds of non-perishable food items to the food kitchen as part of the Feds Feed Families program. The items were delivered on Aug. 26.

to the Feds Feed Campaign either at a box on base or at the local commissary.

Food banks are most in need of donations during the summer months when donations are traditionally lower and children are out of school and unable to benefit from nutritious school-provided meals. CNIC, in conjunction with the Department of Defense and federal agencies nationwide, are trying to meet that need and help their fellow Americans.

In June, Fisher said that "Chaplains

and religious program specialists, working in conjunction with their command shipmates, are determined to make a difference in meeting the needs of others this summer."

So far, CNIC has contributed nearly 700,000 pounds of food to more than 60 food banks across the nation. As the campaign winds down, let it serve as a reminder to the difference one person, one command, or one Navy can make in the lives of others as they continue to be a global force for good.