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## **HIGH POINT PUBLIC LIBRARY'S FOOD FOR FINES COLLECTS RECORD AMOUNT OF DONATIONS**



*(l-r) Greater High Point Food Alliance Executive Director Carl Vierling and Library employees Shelly Witcher and Horace Sessoms load up food collected from Food for Fines for delivery to local agencies*

**HIGH POINT, NC (February 27, 2017)** – Library customers donated a total of 1,988 food items during the two-week Food for Fines Amnesty event that concluded February 23. During the amnesty period, library customers could have one dollar in overdue fines waived for each item of human or pet food donated. Human food donations totaled 1,907 and 81 pet food donations were received. The library has held similar events over the past few years, but this year's collection exceeded all previous records.

Lending Manager Shelly Witcher indicated that this year the library received sizeable donations from customers who did not owe fines but wanted to participate. "A number of customers without fines brought in food and asked that it be used to help waive fines for customers who had fines, but did not have the money or food



available to participate,” said Witcher. “Our customers are always generous, but this year the response was especially great. We collected over 450 items on the last day of the event, which is amazing.”

The library staff worked with Executive Director of the Greater High Point Food Alliance Carl Vierling on the distribution of the donations. The human food donations were divided between the Triad Health Project and the Burns Hill community food pantry. All pet food will go to the Guilford County Animal Shelter.

*The High Point Public Library is committed to nurturing the joy of reading, sharing the power of knowledge, strengthening the sense of community and enhancing cultural and economic vitality. The library, a department of the City of High Point, is located at 901 N. Main Street.*

*The City of High Point aims to serve as the catalyst for bringing together the community’s human, economic and civic resources for the purpose of creating the single most livable, safe and prosperous community in America. For more information on the City, visit [www.highpointnc.gov](http://www.highpointnc.gov).*

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