



**For Immediate Release**

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## PTI Run on the Runway to Benefit Area Hunger Relief Agencies

VF joins as presenting sponsor, runners are being asked to donate food items

**Piedmont Triad, NC** – The Piedmont Triad Airport Authority will hold its seventh annual Run on the Runway 8 a.m. Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. The event includes a 5K run, a 10K run, a mile run/walk and a kids' dash, with the proceeds going to fight hunger in the Triad.

"This will be the seventh year we have invited the community to come out to take part in our Run on the Runway," said Airport Authority Chairman Steve Showfety. "This year, we are proud to have VF Corporation join us as a presenting sponsor in our efforts to raise awareness regarding hunger in the Triad."

Proceeds from the run will go to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC, Greensboro Urban Ministry and Open Door Ministries of High Point. These organizations provide food assistance to help meet the immediate and urgent needs of Triad residents, while pursuing an end to hunger through outreach, education and advocacy.

"Hunger is a big issue in our community," said Airport Authority member and Treasurer Paul Mengert, who is serving along with his wife, May Gayle, as this year's Co-Chairs for the event. "We like this event because it creates stronger ties between the airport and the local community by getting people out to the airport to support a good cause."

More than 1 in 4 children living in Northwest North Carolina lives with uncertainty over whether they will have enough to eat. Runners are being asked to donate two non-perishable food items when they pick up their run packets and sponsors are asked to contribute directly to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

"Second Harvest Food Bank and our network of partner agencies is committed to providing food and hope to the many who, unfortunately, have far too little of both," says Clyde Fitzgerald, executive director of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC. "We are grateful that the Piedmont Triad Airport Authority has asked us and two long term members of our network to partner with them on this event to help raise awareness of hunger in the Triad. This event will help us nourish kids in need through the summer so they can flourish this fall."

The Airport Authority would like to thank our many community sponsors from throughout the Triad – particularly our named sponsor VF Corporation. We encourage additional sponsors to support the run. Teams of runners can sign up for the "Team Challenge" at [www.ptirun.com](http://www.ptirun.com). Those wishing to sponsor the event should call Stephanie Freeman, title at 336.665.5644.

Individuals interested in participating in the 5K/10K may register online by visiting [www.ptirun.com](http://www.ptirun.com). For more information call Stephanie Freeman at 336.665.5644.

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