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## **NATTC donates four tons of food to feed needy**

PENSACOLA, Fla. – The staff and students at Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) Pensacola were honored Aug. 15 for the donation of 8,144 pounds of food to area food banks through the sixth annual Feds Feed Families (FFF) program.

Sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture and Chief Human Capital Officers Council, FFF is voluntary program where employees across the federal government donate non-perishable food items to food banks and food pantries in their local communities.

MANNA Food Pantries of Pensacola was the local recipient of the food items NATTC donated through this year's FFF program. JoAnn Howansky, the outreach manager for MANNA, visited NATTC to convey her organization's gratitude for the donation.

Howansky told NATTC staff and students about the challenges her organization has experienced after torrential rainfall flooded downtown Pensacola earlier this year, and that NATTC's donations were going to go a long way in making up for all of the food they lost due to the flooding. She

said the donations will provide for the needs of the homeless, veterans, those on fixed incomes, orphaned teenagers, and for many others in the Pensacola community who have fallen on hard times.

“Thanks for making a difference in this community,” she said. “We appreciate your continuing tradition of support for MANNA, the community and your country.”

Boatswain’s Mate 1st Class Martha Mendoza, an instructor in NATTC’s Aviation Machinist’s Mate school, was NATTC’s coordinator for this year’s FFF food drive and voiced her appreciation as well.

“Thank you for answering the call to help our neighbors and making a difference in the community,” Mendoza said. “Each of your donations has made a difference, and you have personally fed a child, a veteran, or someone else in need.”

Since its commissioning in 1942, NATTC has been committed to delivering training and increasing readiness within the Naval Aviation Enterprise. NATTC graduates approximately 15,000 Navy and Marine students annually. The majority of the student population is made up of enlisted personnel attending "A" schools, where they are learning the skills and knowledge required to perform as apprentice-level technicians in the fleet. The center also provides airman apprenticeship training, personal financial management, and shipboard aircraft firefighting training. Advanced schools provide higher-level technical knowledge for senior petty officers and technical training for officers in aviation fuels, carrier air traffic control center operations, amphibious air traffic control center operations, aircraft launch and recovery equipment, and shipboard aircraft fire fighting.

Additionally, NATTC supports the fleet by providing team training to ships personnel during their pre-deployment work-ups, to ensure that shipboard personnel have the proficiency required to take their ship on deployment, after a prolonged period in port.

For more information about Naval Air Technical Training Center, visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/cnatt/nattc/Default.aspx>

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Story by Lt. Jonathan Bacon, Naval Air Technical Training Center Public  
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