

April 30, 2019

FDIC

Atlanta Regional Office  
10 10th Street, Suite 800  
Atlanta, GA 30309-3849

Dear Sir/Madam:


On behalf of the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore (FBSEVA), I am pleased to offer this letter of support for the potential merger between SunTrust and BB&T. As the region's largest hunger-relief organization offering food assistance programs that serve over 165,000 food insecure individuals each year, our organization can attest to the vital role of corporations such as SunTrust in helping to sustain critical human service programs throughout our community.

Last year, the FBSEVA distributed nearly 15 million meals to seniors, children, veterans and low-income working families. Since our founding in 1981, we have distributed close to 300 million meals. These accomplishments were made possible through our robust network of feeding partners and program sites, as well as from corporate support from businesses, including SunTrust.

During fiscal year 2020, SunTrust contributed a \$20,000 grant that enabled FBSEVA to offer our Healthy Mobile Pantry Program (HMPP) in communities throughout our service area, which covers 11 cities and counties across 4,745 square miles. The HMPP distributes fruits and vegetables, lean protein, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products to food insecure individuals with limited access to other feeding programs and support services. Financial literacy is delivered in conjunction with food distribution at HMPP sites in a combination of one-on-one or group sessions. With the grant from SunTrust, FBSEVA served 1,499 households with approximately 29 meals per household, which represented a total of 43,471 meals. We helped these households understand, as well, how to stretch their limited budgets to ensure consistent access to healthy, nutritious food.

For more than 10 years, SunTrust has been a valuable corporate partner for FBSEVA providing funds, food and volunteer hours that support our vision for "*a hunger-free community.*" The proposed merger between SunTrust and BB&T has the potential to increase the bank's capacity for supporting organizations like ours that serve the most vulnerable citizens in Southeastern Virginia and on the Eastern Shore. It is with this belief that we offer our full support for the proposed merger.

Sincerely,



Ruth Jones Nichols, PhD  
Chief Executive Officer