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**AERIE Engineering launches year-round food drive, enlists area businesses to benefit community centers**

*The holidays are over, but "Pendleton Project" has just begun*

**GREENVILLE, S.C., Jan. 27, 2009** – Greenville-based AERIE Engineering has launched "Pendleton Project," a year-round food drive that benefits local community centers. By enlisting the assistance of its West End neighbors – including Imaging Technologies, Pete's Original Restaurant, Premier Auto Wash, Seamons Whiteside, Oj's Diner and West End Chiropractic – there are now several drop-off locations to make it convenient for those who donate canned items.

Beginning this month, individuals can donate canned goods at any participating business with a window decal located on Pendleton Street – from Pete's Original Restaurant to the intersection of Academy Street. AERIE Engineering employees will coordinate collections and then deliver to United Ministries and Southernside Community Center.

"The theme and mission of the Southernside Center is to be a beacon of hope for those in need," said Councilwoman and Mayor Pro Tem Lillian Brock-Flemming, who is also Chair of the Boards of Directors of the Southernside Community Center, founded in 1980 by Lila Mae Brock, a retired school lunchroom operator. "The need is even greater now due to lay-offs, plant closings, and more people coming to Greenville for help."

"For the past five years, we have enjoyed working in the West End," said Lori Morton, president of AERIE Engineering, a flexible, full service-engineering firm that recently celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. "We can't think of a better way to thank our community than to give back and provide continual support to our neighbors in need, during the holidays and throughout the rest of the year."

To receive additional information on drop off locations – or for more information on how individuals and area companies can participate – contact AERIE Engineering at 864-527-5500.

***About AERIE Engineering Services:***

*AERIE Engineering is a technical services provider. Founded in 1998, AERIE Engineering is dedicated to providing responsive, customized and flexible services to its clients across a variety of industries, including the manufacturing, educational, healthcare, and utilities sectors. Services include machine and manufacturing equipment design, drafting, document management, software development, project management and process analysis, technical writing, technical staffing, and knowledge capture. In addition to being a South Carolina Certified Woman-Owned Business and South Carolina DOT WBE Certified, AERIE Engineering was named the 2008 November Small Business of the Month by the Greenville Chamber of Commerce and also was selected for the 2008 Best of Greenville Award in the Engineers category by the U.S. Local Business Association. For more information, contact AERIE Engineering at 864-527-5500 or visit [www.aerie-corp.com](http://www.aerie-corp.com).*

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