



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Six Top Chefs to Serve Up One Special Dinner to Support Food For Children

Watsonville—Six top local chefs will come together on Thursday, September 14 to donate their culinary skills to prepare one special dinner to raise funds for Second Harvest Food Bank’s award-winning Food For Children program.

The gathering, at Holy Cross Church Annex in Santa Cruz, will bring together six expert chefs from restaurants like Café Cruz, Assembly, and Carried Away. Each one will create their own fabulous course for event attendees, paired with a wine donated by local vintners.

The event will also mark the 20th anniversary of Second Harvest’s Food For Children program, which pairs healthy food with nutrition education to feed children and families in need and improve their health outcomes. The program feeds 5,000 children each month at nearly 50 sites across Santa Cruz County.

Chef Steve Wilson, who started the event in 2001, notes, “As chefs, we frequently serve people who can afford to go out for a nice meal on a regular basis. We are personally affected, though, by the knowledge that there are many in our community who cannot even afford the most basic necessities.”

The evening will feature a champagne reception, six-course dinner, and auction hosted by the *Santa Cruz Sentinel’s* Steve Bennett.

Second Harvest CEO Willy Elliott-McCrea remarked, “We’re looking forward to bringing the community together again to enjoy the work of these skilled chefs and to help fund this powerful program. We’re especially excited this year to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Food For Children and to share the success stories of some of the people whom the program helped out of difficult times.”

All proceeds from ticket sales and silent auction will support Food For Children and are being matched by a generous donation from an anonymous family.

Chef Wilson reflected, "We feed people for a living, so this is our way of giving back."

The six chefs are:

Kendra L. Baker, Assembly
Anthony Kresge, Sotola Bar and Grill
Steve Wilson, Cafe Cruz
Tom McNary, Carried Away
Ashley Peixoto, California Grill
Scott Cater, Paradise Beach Grille

Photos of the chefs and the event may be obtained afterwards by contacting chris@thefoodbank.org. Photos of past dinners to illustrate stories are also available.

You can read more about Food For Children at <http://www.thefoodbank.org/our-impact/>.

About Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County

Founded in 1972, Second Harvest Food Bank was the first food bank in California and the second in the nation. Its mission is to end hunger and malnutrition by educating and involving the community. Its network of 200 local agencies and programs feeds 55,000 people in Santa Cruz County every month. For every dollar donated, it provides four healthy meals. "Together we fight hunger all year long."
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