



Jewish Congregation, Forgotten Harvest and Local Businesses to Deliver 5,000 Meals to the Hungry on Christmas in Metro Detroit

Oak Park, Mich.--December 21, 2011--Area human service agencies, businesses, a Jewish congregation and community organizations are coming together to feed the hungry on Christmas Day 2011. 5,000 free meals will be delivered to agencies in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties and to homebound individuals served by those agencies.

The meals are being prepared at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center kitchen by Executive Chef Franz Josef Zimmer, his kitchen team and volunteers from Shaarey Zedek Congregation and the Jewish Federation. The food for the meals has been collected and provided by Forgotten Harvest and its partners, including Kroger, Absopure Water, Sam's Club and Pic Safety. More than 4,275 pounds of chicken, 1,500 pounds of potatoes, 250 pounds of bread and 1,300 pounds of baby carrots will go into the meals.

Shaarey Zedek Congregation is providing 90 volunteers to pack the meals and deliver them to sixteen agencies in Metro Detroit, including Landmark Church, Hazel Crest Place, Carriage Circle, Woodland Heights, Clawson Manor, Oxford Park Towers, Danish Village, Macomb-Oakland Regional Center, Liberty Family Outreach, Center Line Park Towers, Elizabeth Lee Doles Manor, Lakeside Towers and Villas, St. George Towers, Good Shepherd Coalition and New Baltimore Place.

Along with a special dessert and water bottle in the gift bag accompanying the holiday meal will be a Wish Card created by middle school students who have illustrated their hopes and dreams for the future under the guidance of artist Sandy Bonus (www.sandybonus.com). This multi-cultural and multi-generational collaboration is a reprisal of a similar celebration, initiated almost two decades ago by the Shaarey Zedek Men's Club, Shaarey Zadeek congregant member, and community leader, Stephen Korn and former Salvation Army executive Clarence Harvey.

About Forgotten Harvest

Forgotten Harvest was formed in 1990 to fight two problems: hunger and waste. Forgotten Harvest "rescued" more than 23 million pounds of food last year by collecting surplus prepared and perishable food from 455 sources, including grocery stores, fruit and vegetable markets, restaurants, caterers, dairies, farmers, wholesale food distributors and other Health Department-approved sources. This donated food, which would otherwise go to waste, is delivered free-of-charge to more than 200 emergency food providers in the Metro Detroit area.

Learn more about Forgotten Harvest and how to help drive hunger from our community at www.forgottenharvest.org.

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