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Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center Partners with Forgotten Harvest for the '3rd Annual Forgotten Harvest Holiday Dinner'

Executive Chef Franz Josef Zimmer preparing food for more than 1,000 homeless people from local Forgotten Harvest partner organizations

DETROIT -- December 16, 2010 – On Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at 5 p.m., more than one thousand people, including nearly 700 children, served by emergency food providers across the City of Detroit will have a meal to remember as Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center and Forgotten Harvest present **The 3rd Annual Forgotten Harvest Holiday Dinner Exclusively Presented by the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center.**

More than 100 volunteers from the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center and the General Motors Foundation will serve the meal in the Renaissance Ballroom, joined by ESPN sports analyst and former University of Michigan "Fab Five" and NBA basketball player Jalen Rose; WWJ-AM/CBS Radio reporter Vickie Thomas and Vivian Pickard, president of the General Motors Foundation and director, Corporate Relations for General Motors. Volunteers will also help create a festive holiday atmosphere through family-friendly gifts and activities, including a special visit from Santa and his elves.

Forgotten Harvest partner agencies participating in the Good Neighbor Feast include Ravendale Community Center, the Salvation Army, Matrix Human Services, New Breed Church, Central Detroit Christian Community, Ruth Ellis Center and Wayside Missionary Baptist Church. The General Motors Foundation and Henry Ford Health System are supporters of the event.

"800,000 people in Southeastern Michigan faced hunger in their homes this year, including one in four children in the region and almost half of the children in the City of Detroit," said Susan Goodell, president and CEO of Forgotten Harvest. "However, we also know the holidays are a time for hope and generosity, and the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, the General Motors Foundation and Henry Ford Health System are proving that our community is rich in those qualities."

Detroit Marriott's noted Executive Chef Franz Josef Zimmer – having held positions in Cairo, Egypt; Athens, Greece; and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia – will oversee the preparations for the meal, which will consist of Rotini pasta salad, cranberry sauce, turkey, ham, stuffing, cranberry sauce, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes and gravy, dinner rolls, chicken fingers, macaroni and

cheese and assorted desserts. Marriott chefs and volunteers will prepare for three days for the event.

Much of the food for the Holiday Dinner is contributed specially by local supporters of Forgotten Harvest. This year's contributions include 600 pounds of turkey presented by individuals within the community, 500 pounds of ham contributed by Honeybaked Ham, pies from Big Boy, cakes and pastries from Morning Glory Pastries, 1,500 breadsticks from Breads by Bosco and potatoes, green beans, cranberry and stuffing from U.S. Foods.

"We are pleased to partner with Forgotten Harvest again this year to provide such a festive hot meal for those in the community who need it," said Bob Farmery, Area General Manager for the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center. "Our associates and the celebrity volunteers were so impacted by the gratitude and joy of all those who enjoyed their holiday feast with us last year."

About the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center:

The Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center is located on the riverfront in the heart of downtown Detroit. The property has 1,298 guest rooms and 100,000 square feet of flexible meeting space. Marriott has a long-standing commitment to the community. The hotel chains' social responsibility commitment blends corporate financial contributions with in-kind giving and the volunteer service of our employees around the world, serving its communities through the signature issues: Shelter and food; Environment; Readiness for hotel careers; Vitality of children; and Embracing global diversity & inclusion. For more information or to make a reservation, call 1-800-352-0831 or visit DetroitMarriott.com

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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