

Contact:

Angela Showell

856-380-6816

ashowell@ahint.com

Foodservice Professionals Walk to Fight Hunger

The Society for Foodservice Management Annual Hunger Walk Takes Place October 5, 2011

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J. – September 22, 2011 – The Society for Foodservice Management (SFM), a national association dedicated to cultivating and educating executives in the on-site foodservice industry, will be addressing the growing issue of hunger at its annual conference in October.

SFM members will participate in a hunger walk during their national conference, *Evolving the Industry; Pursuing Excellence in On-Site Hospitality*. Walkers will traverse the landmarks of historic Philadelphia, including the Liberty Bell, Betsy Ross House and more. Proceeds will benefit Philabundance.

“SFM is committed to this very important cause,” said president-elect Barbara Kane. “We think it’s a great way for our organization to give back to our host city.”

According to a recent Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) report, Pennsylvania’s First Congressional District (which includes many parts of Philadelphia), half of all households with children are struggling to put food on the table. This makes it the second hungriest district in the United States.

“The statistics are troubling, not only in Philadelphia, but across the nation,” continued Kane. “Many SFM members including ARAMARK, headquartered right here in Philadelphia, have lent their support to this cause.”

Over the past two years, SFM Hunger Walks have raised over \$8,000 in the fight against hunger. This translates to about 16 thousand meals.

“This is always a difficult time of the year for hungry families in the Delaware Valley,” said Philabundance Program Director Shira Rosenwald. “As winter approaches and people begin planning for the holidays, the funds from SFM and our community partners go a long way.”

In addition to the walk, the conference (scheduled for October 3-6 at the Loews Hotel) will gather industry professionals to discuss trends, reconnect with colleagues, network and attend educational sessions. Celebrity chef, Jose Garces and Dunkin’ Brands Chairman, Jon Luther, will serve as keynote speakers.

About The Society of Foodservice Management

The Society for Foodservice Management (SFM) is the pre-eminent national association serving the needs and interests of executives in the onsite foodservice industry. Its principal role is to enhance the ability of our members to achieve career and business objectives in an ethical, responsible and professional climate. The Society represents major corporate liaison personnel and independent operators as well as national and regional foodservice contract management companies. For more information, visit www.sfm-online.org, join SFM on Facebook and follow @FoodserviceMgmt on Twitter.

About Philabundance

Philabundance reduces hunger and food insecurity in the Delaware Valley by providing food access to people in need in partnership with organizations and individuals. Philabundance provides a full plate of services to close to 500 member agencies in 9 counties, who serve approximately 65,000 people per week at an aggregate cost of 50 cents per meal. There are more than 900,000 people in the Delaware Valley who are at risk for chronic hunger and malnutrition. In 2010, Philabundance distributed 21 million pounds of food. For more information about Philabundance, visit www.philabundance.org or call 215-339-0900.

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