



Immediate Release

Foodbank of Santa Barbara County

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CITY'S HOTTEST CHEFS COOK TO END CHILDHOOD HUNGER IN SANTA BARBARA AND ACROSS AMERICA

Santa Barbara, CA— With flavorful food and a passion for helping hungry children, Santa Barbara's hottest chefs and restaurants will gather for Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation, presented by American Express. Taste of the Nation Santa Barbara will raise the critical funds needed to support the national organization's efforts to end childhood hunger in Santa Barbara and across America. This year's event will take place on April 27 at The Santa Barbara Historical Museum, 136 East De la Guerra Street, from 1pm to 4pm with a VIP reception beginning at 12 pm.

The area charities that will benefit from this year's event include The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County and Community Action Commission of Santa Barbara County. Since its inception 20 years ago, Taste of the Nation has raised more than \$70 million for organizations in the United States, Canada and abroad, including more than \$100,000 in Santa Barbara alone.

More than 20 of the city's finest restaurants and wineries will participate in the culinary event. Participating restaurants will include The Four Seasons Biltmore Santa Barbara, The Hungry Cat, Santa Barbara, Duo Events, Village Modern Foods, Sesto Senso, Square One, Epiphany, Stateside, Elements, Chocolats du Calibressan and many more. Guests will enjoy the city's finest foods paired with wines provided by local Santa Barbara wineries as well as a beer garden, dessert display and other offerings from.

"We're honored to be part of this nationwide movement to end childhood hunger in America," said Amy Rose, Committee Chair of Taste of the Nation Santa Barbara "Taste of the Nation brings together the finest of Santa Barbara's culinary world to help the children in our community who suffer from hunger every day."

Generous support from presenting sponsor American Express, national sponsors SYSCO Corporation and Food Network, and local sponsors Wahoo's Fish Taco, Classic Party Rentals, Bella Vista Designs Inc. and Santa Barbara Historical Museum ensures that 100 percent of ticket proceeds go to Share Our Strength's efforts to end childhood hunger in America.

When: Sunday, April 27, 2008

Where: Santa Barbara Historical Museum
136 East De la Guerra Street

How Much: VIP Start: 12:00pm \$100.00-- at the door \$125.00

VIP ticket holders receive:

Valet parking, goody bag, access to the luxury lounge featuring premium food, wine and service, while enjoying live music from Chris Fosseck and Italian and French vocalist Carol Anne Manzi.

General Admission Start time: 1:00 pm

General Admission: \$75.00--at the door \$100.00

The Foodbank provides a vital link between the multi-faceted food industry and people in need of food. With warehouses in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria the Foodbank serves over 200 social service organizations and churches. 43% of those served by the Foodbank are youths under the age of 18. In 2007, the Foodbank distributed more than 6.5 million pounds of food to the 100,000 people in need throughout Santa Barbara County.

About Share Our Strength®

Share Our Strength is a national organization working to make sure no kid in America grows up hungry. We weave together a net of community groups, activists and food programs to catch children at risk of hunger, and surround them with nutritious food where they live, learn and play. We work with the culinary industry to create engaging, pioneering programs like Taste of the Nation, Share Our Strength's Great American Bake Sale®, Share Our Strength's Operation Frontline® and Share Our Strength's A Tasteful Pursuit®. For more information, please visit www.strength.org.

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