FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grant from Pikes Peak United Way's Community Impact Fund to provide more than 3,000 Meals for Restaurant Workers in Need

Dec. 18, 2020 — A grant from Pikes Peak United Way has been awarded to fund an initiative to help feed restaurant workers and support local restaurants in the Pikes Peak region. The initiative, called Rally for Restaurants, will pay local restaurants to feed displaced restaurant workers and their immediate family members for free. Individuals or organizations wishing to donate to the cause can go to ppunitedway.org and click the "donate" button.

This year, restaurant and hospitality workers have faced adversity because of restaurant restrictions due to Covid-19. Restaurants are struggling to stay open, and many restaurant and hospitality workers have been laid off. Those who are still working are making a fraction of what they are used to. This grant will allow select restaurants to provide 300 meals per week to restaurant workers in need for 11 weeks.

The initiative will support the hospitality industry through meals and camaraderie. Twice a week, two restaurants will serve 75 meals each, for a total of 300 meals per week. Each restaurant will be paid for the meals they serve at a rate of \$15 per meal, which will help the restaurants make extra money while feeding displaced restaurant workers and their immediate family members.

The first day of meals will be Dec. 23 with Beasts and Brews and Luchal's Gourmet Catering in COATI.

Restaurants can apply to supply a meal for restaurant workers at https://forms.gle/qTThBhmBXMa2pxpCA. Locally-owned restaurants will be given priority in participation.

Restaurant workers — both employed and unemployed — may register for their meal using the Eventbrite link posted each week at <u>springsnative.com/rally-for-restaurants</u>. Workers may claim up to four meals per day in order to feed themselves and their households.

Laura Neumann, chair of Pikes Peak United Way's Board of Directors, will be available for interviews with the media.

Rally for Restaurants is organized by Springs Native, with the endorsement and support of the Pikes Peak Chapter of the Colorado Restaurant Association and the Colorado Springs Bartenders Guild. Donations are being accepted to support the cause. For more information, please visit springsnative.com/rally-for-restaurants.

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Pikes Peak United Way Mission: To enhance youth success and family stability in the Pikes Peak region by leading and lifting the most vulnerable in our community with mentorship, life resources and real job opportunities. Our signature programs and partner agencies intently focus on connecting youth and their families to resources at the front end of their life journey to ensure access to fundamental needs of food, shelter and learning resources for all. #StrongerTogether

Springs Native is a local blog who supports the Colorado Springs restaurant industry through promotion, social media, and events. Founded by Colorado Springs local Meagan Thomas, the blog is resource for thousands in the Colorado Springs area.







