

For Immediate Release – OCT 1, 2009

TOP COLORADO, NEW YORK CHEFS COOK UP A SPECIAL DISH TO HELP “FILL THE CUP”

Proceeds of October Fundraising Campaign to Support School Meals Programs in Developing Countries

WASHINGTON, DC – Chefs in Colorado and New York have joined Friends of the World Food Program (Friends of WFP) to help raise funds for hungry schoolchildren in developing countries. Throughout October, participating chefs will feature a new grains dish to be offered on the menu of 4 restaurants – Inside Park at St. Bart's, Dos Caminos, Convivio in New York City and TAG Restaurant in Denver, Colorado.

Twenty-five percent of the proceeds from each sale will help support the “Fill the Cup” campaign and fund the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) school meals programs in Africa, Asia and Latin America. To “Fill the Cup” with food, it costs just 25 cents to feed a child in school for one day.

Matthew Weingarten of Inside Park at St Bart's, Michael White of Convivio, Scott Linquist/Ivy Stark of Dos Caminos and Troy Guard of TAG Restaurant serve-up their culinary talents by creating new recipes aimed at highlighting awareness of this important issue.

The “Fill the Cup” campaign raises funds and support for WFP school meals program. This program ensures that children in developing countries receive a nutritious meal when they attend school. Food is used as a powerful, effective incentive that encourages parents to enroll their children in school. Children can learn better on a full stomach, and they are more likely to stay in school.

“Friends of WFP applauds these chefs for their creative talents and generosity that will help WFP school meals programs reach more children,” said Karen Sendelback, President and CEO, Friends of WFP. “Now that the world's hungry has surpassed 1 billion, support of these programs and other WFP food assistance activities is critical.”

Many developing countries face two ongoing challenges: children not finishing school and excessive child undernutrition. Both of these destructive trends prevent children from gaining their full academic and physical potential.

WFP's school meals programs reach an average of 20 million schoolchildren every year.

To learn more about how Colorado and New York chefs are working to fill the cup and view their recipes, visit: <http://www.friendsofwfp.org/chefs>.

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Friends of the World Food Program (Friends of WFP) is a U.S.-based nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that focuses on building support in the United States for the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) and other hunger relief operations. Friends of WFP unites organizations and individuals committed to solving world hunger. Our education, advocacy, and fundraising efforts in the United States support WFP's life-saving global food assistance and development programs. To learn more visit www.friendsofwfp.org.

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