

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PIONEERS OF THE FOOD IS MEDICINE MODEL CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF NEIGHBORS NOURISHING NEIGHBORS

Philadelphia, PA — Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance (MANNA) celebrates improving healthcare outcomes and serving 11 million meals to 15,000 different clients over the past 25 years in the community. The organization has evolved from serving the HIV/AIDS population to nourishing people impacted by 60+ different illnesses. Chefs and volunteers at MANNA work together to prepare and package 3,150 medically appropriate meals each day. 9 different counties in the Philadelphia Region (PA – Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks, and Philadelphia. NJ – Camden, Gloucester, Salem, and Burlington) benefit from MANNA's meal program and nutrition counsel. The nonprofit organization has reached the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the support of the community and a large volunteer base of 3,000 persons.

A one-time exclusive event on October 9, 2015 at the historic First Troop City Cavalry's Armory will commemorate this major milestone. The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration event honors MANNA's past and provides a glimpse into the future of the organization. The night includes a special auction, drinks, dinner and dancing. Tickets are available for purchase at manna25th.org.

The 25th Anniversary Celebration, led by Honorary Chairs Governor Tom Wolf, Mayor Michael Nutter, Governor Ed Rendell and Wayne Newton, will honor Steven Korman, Founder of Korman Communities, for his commitment to MANNA. The unveiling of MANNA's new home will be a key highlight of the event, as well as the premiere of a short film providing a deeper look at MANNA by Nancy Glass Productions. Special performers include: Eddie Bruce Orchestra, Dancers of Pennsylvania Ballet and Brian Sanders JUNK. ChefAID alums Chef Robert Bennett, Chef Eric Gantz, Chef Jose Garces, Chef Michael Schulson and other famed Philadelphia chefs will prepare culinary treats for guests. The celebration will bring together Philadelphia's philanthropic and healthcare leaders for a night of entertainment in support of the nonprofit organization.

For more additional information, contact Emily Gallagher at <a href="mailto:egallagher@mannapa.org">egallagher@mannapa.org</a> or 215-496-2662 x127. Visit <a href="mailto:www.manna25th.org">www.manna25th.org</a>, like us on Facebook and follow us via Twitter.

## **ABOUT MANNA**

Especially for people at acute nutritional risk due to life-threatening illnesses, <u>MANNA</u> prepares and delivers delicious nourishing meals and counsel, empowering individuals to battle illness and improve their quality of life. A small professional staff and 3,000 dedicated volunteers bring more than 65,000 nutritious, home-delivered meals each month to individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. MANNA dietitians promote wellness through nutrition education and counseling. Through these services, MANNA provides opportunities for caring people to extend loving support to families, friends, and neighbors. MANNA is spelled in all capital letters.