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BARTOLOTTA RESTAURANTS ANNOUNCES “HEARTS FOR HAITI” PROGRAM

Care-a-Lottas, the Bartolotta Restaurants' charitable fund, is announcing a significant fundraising effort for the children of Haiti. Led by Jennifer Bartolotta, this initiative was started by long-time Bartolotta employee Natalie Czarkowski.

Natalie recently returned from Haiti where her family, along with a church group, was assisting the Fondation pour les Enfants de Haiti and the orphanages and schools they run. Natalie repaired wheelchairs, built handicap-accessible structures, bathed and fed sick children and provided much-needed emotional support. “Things were desperate there before the earthquake, I can only imagine how terrible it is now,” she states. Since the earthquake, Natalie has heard from the director, Gladys Thomas, who reports that her hospital, school and two orphanages have been heavily damaged. The hospital is extremely crowded with the wounded and many have died.

On Saturday, January 30th, Bartolotta Restaurants will conduct a “Hearts for Haiti Bead-a-Thon” from 9:00am-12:00 noon at Bacchus-A Bartolotta Restaurant, 925 E. Wells, where students and other volunteers will assemble 5,000 bracelets. Five different patterns will be made, utilizing the bright primary colors of the Haitian flag. All of the supplies have been donated by Eclectica of Brookfield.

The “Hearts for Haiti” program kicks off Monday, February 1st and will run for the entire month of February. During this time, Bacchus, Ristorante Bartolotta, Mr. B's-a Bartolotta Steakhouse, and Bartolotta's Lake Park Bistro will each offer a different bracelet, for \$5 each, 100% of the proceeds will be donated. Bartolotta Catering at Boerner Botanical Gardens will also offer the bracelets during Sunday Brunches.



Natalie Czarkowski and a few of the children at Fondation pour les Enfants de Haiti.

All five locations will offer a traditional Haitian dessert, Pen Patat, a sweet potato pudding with caramel rum sauce for \$6 and St. Dominique, a special Haitian rum drink, the St. Dominique, created by the master mixologists at Bacchus for \$8; 100% of the proceeds from each of these offerings will be donated. Care-a-Lottas will write a check each week to the fundraising arm of Thomas's organization-The United States Foundation for the Children of Haiti-a 501c3 charity. Paypal donations are accepted, for those who wish to donate directly. This charity, www.usfch.org, regularly utilizes 95% of all donations for the direct support of the children.

We ask for the support and generosity of the community to assist us in this vital cause.

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