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For Immediate Release

Harvest Comes Home to Benefit Second Helpings

Fun food and wine event to fight hunger and empower people

INDIANAPOLIS, June 29, 2009 – Indianapolis's most anticipated food and wine event, Harvest, returns Saturday, August 29th to connect Hoosiers with the city's top chefs, hundreds of wines and culinary delights. The 6th annual event, benefiting Second Helpings, takes a twist this year and invites Indianapolis into the Second Helpings kitchen, to celebrate Harvest at Home.

While chefs and winemakers are still being selected for Harvest at Home, early participants include R Bistro, The Best Chocolate in Town, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, El Sol de Tala, Pearl Bistro, BARcelona Tapas and the Ivy Tech Culinary Arts Program. The final list will be released in late July, but chefs are already gearing up for an evening of fun and creative culinary bites.

“Moving the event down to Second Helpings will bring people to where the work is being done. That's important,” says Chef Regina Mehallick, owner of R Bistro. “When Harvest time rolls around, we'll see what seasonal vegetables are available and see how creative we can be with the bites of food we'll make for the event.”

In light of an economic downturn and an increasing demand from the community, Second Helpings CEO Cindy Hubert sought out a more direct way to connect Harvest-goers with Second Helpings and decided to "bring Harvest home". Not only will this event let more people experience the work of Second Helpings first hand, it will also insure that nearly every dollar raised goes directly to their mission of eliminating hunger and empowering people.

“This is a real opportunity to remove the barrier that often exists between gala events and the organizations who benefit from the events,” Hubert says. “We want to show Harvest-goers how Second Helpings sends out approximately 2900 meals a day, while helping unemployed and underemployed people work for a new shot at life. Bringing Harvest home gives our guests a real chance to experience our work first hand, and become a part of making a real difference in our community.”

Ultimately, Harvest at Home is about good times, delicious food, and a worthy nonprofit. In 2008, more than 600 people attended Harvest. Tickets will be \$40 in advance or \$50 on the day of the event. Tickets available at the Best Chocolate in Town, at www.secondhelpings.org or 317-632-2664 ext 12.

Since 1998, Second Helpings has collected more than 11.5 million pounds of food and provided over 4 million meals to non-profit agencies. More than 350 adults have graduated from its Culinary Job Training program. More information about how Second Helpings works to eliminate hunger and empower people at www.secondhelpings.org

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