



PRESS RELEASE

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Good News Rescue Mission and Darden Restaurants Partner to Advance Nutrition to Those in Need

Grant is one of more than 850 awarded through Darden's 2nd annual Restaurant Community Grants program

Redding, CA – The Good News Rescue Mission announces receipt of a \$2,000 grant as part of the Restaurant Community Grants program from the [Darden Foundation](#), the charitable arm of Darden Restaurants Inc. The grants program, now in its second year, empowers each restaurant in the Darden family of brands to help award a \$1,000 grant to support local community programs. The donation will enable the Mission's to provide basic food to meet essential health requirements for sustenance of very low income residents of the north state.

Darden's Red Lobster, Olive Garden, LongHorn Steakhouse, Bahama Breeze, Seasons 52, The Capital Grille and Eddie V's brands participated in the program. Many restaurants and brands worked together to award one nonprofit organization with a larger grant and make a greater impact in their community. The restaurants will award more than \$1.9 million to more than 850 exceptional nonprofit organizations in the U.S. and Canada. Nonprofits receiving grants support one of Darden's three key focus areas: access to postsecondary education, preservation of natural resources and hunger.

"Our goal is to keep needy people as healthy as possible and to provide hope and encouragement through caring provision of the most basic of all needs – food" states Cesar Partida, Executive Director of the Good News Rescue Mission.

"Our employees are incredibly passionate about the communities where they live, and our restaurant teams are in a position to understand and help address the needs of their communities," said Drew Madsen, Darden Restaurants' president and chief operating officer. "We're all proud to build on that passion through the grants program and bring real, local citizenship to life by enabling each restaurant to make a difference in their backyard."

For more information about the Darden Foundation, please visit www.dardenfoundation.com.
For additional information on Good News Rescue Mission please visit www.gnrm.org.

About Good News Rescue Mission

The Good News Rescue Mission was founded in Redding in 1964 by a group of concerned Christians in our community. For thousands of men, women and children, the Mission has provided food, shelter, clothing, and spiritual hope through the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Since 1995, the Mission has expanded services to include the New Life Drug and Alcohol Recovery programs for men and women, transitional housing for graduates of that program, work search, free dental services, our Second Chance Ranch near Shingletown, California, as well as the Job Training and Academic Center.

By the Grace of God and through your generosity the Mission provided the following in 2012:

- 71,604 Safe Nights of Shelter
- 168,016 Total Meals Provided
- 54,666 Clothing, Furniture & other Household Items
- 5,444 Academic Center Hours

About Darden Restaurants

Darden Restaurants, Inc., (NYSE: DRI), the world's largest full-service restaurant company, owns and operates more than 2,000 restaurants that generate over \$8.0 billion in annual sales. Headquartered in Orlando, Fla., and employing more than 190,000 people, Darden is recognized for a culture that rewards caring for and responding to people. In 2013, Darden was named to the FORTUNE "100 Best Companies to Work For" list for the third year in a row and is the only full-service restaurant company to ever appear on the list. Our restaurant brands – Red Lobster, Olive Garden, LongHorn Steakhouse, Bahama Breeze, Seasons 52, The Capital Grille, Eddie V's and Yard House – reflect the rich diversity of those who dine with us. Our brands are built on deep insights into what our guests want. For more information, please visit, www.darden.com.

The Darden Foundation

The Darden Restaurants, Inc. Foundation is the charitable arm of Darden Restaurants, Inc. The Foundation's mission is to maintain a spirit of volunteerism and philanthropy as defining characteristics of Darden Restaurants. Since 1995, the Darden Foundation has awarded more than \$60 million in grants, with \$7.2 million given in fiscal year 2012. The Darden Foundation carries out its mission by focusing philanthropic efforts and resources on the following program areas: Access to Postsecondary Education, Preservation of Natural Resources and Good Neighbor Grants. For more information, please visit, www.dardenfoundation.com.

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