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We believe that everyone deserves to live a life free from violence.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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49 Portland Restaurants Stand Against Domestic Violence via Citywide Dine-out Fundraiser

On Wednesday, May 17th more than 45 restaurants will donate a portion of their day's proceeds to support Raphael House of Portland, Multnomah County's largest domestic violence shelter.

This year's eighth annual event is setting a new record for support from Portland's culinary community, with more involved eateries than ever before. Restaurants in Portland, Lake Oswego, and Beaverton have pledged 10-25% of their profits to aid the agency's life-saving domestic violence shelter and prevention programs.

Many beloved restaurants are involved, including Mother's Bistro & Bar, Ruby Jewel, Pip's Original Doughnuts & Chai, Quaintrelle, The Country Cat, Radar Restaurant, Acadia Bistro, Farm Spirit, Altabira City Tavern, Hale Pele, Nel Centro, Fifty Licks, Pacific Pie, Ya Hala, and more.

A full list of restaurants and a map of their locations can be found at www.raphaelhouse.com.

For community members, "Restaurants for Raphael House" offers a simple and delicious way to support local businesses and help fund vital services for families seeking safety. Getting involved is as easy as dining at any participating eatery.

For participating restaurants, this is an opportunity to show their commitment to Raphael House's mission of someday ending domestic violence. As Michelle Glass of Nel Centro shared, "fighting domestic violence takes all of us working together to support organizations like Raphael House."

The choice to be involved is a personal one for GiGi's Café owner Charlene Wesler. "As a survivor myself, I feel it is important to give back to services that support domestic violence

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survivors. I am blessed to be in a much better place in my life, now able to help others get beyond the domestic violence they may be experiencing. I am so happy to be a part of the Raphael House event."

Mother's Bistro owner and award-winning chef Lisa Schroeder, who's been a committed donor since the event's inaugural year, also relates to the experience of those served by Raphael House. She's been inspired to give generously because "I too, am a survivor. I wish I had a place like the Raphael House to turn to."

This is a critical fundraiser for the agency, since every \$100 raised will provide 24 hours of safe shelter for an adult or child escaping intimate partner violence. With this in mind, diners are encouraged to order generously, enjoy meals at as many involved eateries as possible on May 17th, and share about their delicious support on social media using #R4RH.

Last year Raphael House's dine-out event raised enough to provide a survivor with 6 months of safety in their emergency domestic violence shelter. That support included not only safe respite, but also round-the-clock case management, food, clothing, transportation, assistance with finding permanent housing, support groups, and other essential services. This year the agency foresees even greater success, with more restaurants participating than ever before.

"Domestic violence is real," says Mary Karter, a Raphael House volunteer who's been involved with the agency for more than 20 years. "It is often ignored or covered up. No one should have to live in fear. Raphael House helps people get their safe lives back. I can't say enough good things about the staff and the difficult work they do."

Raphael House of Portland has been providing life-saving domestic violence services to families for more than 40 years. They offer emergency shelter, phone support on a 24-hour shelter access line, ongoing advocacy, and permanent housing assistance to hundreds of adults and children annually. Raphael House also works tirelessly to break the cycle of violence via community outreach and prevention education.

To learn more, visit www.raphaelhouse.com or contact Raphael House Development Manager Amanda Ives at aives@raphaelhouse.com or (503) 243-5116.

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