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PRESS RELEASEPHOTO RELEASE***

Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association Partners with Louisiana Restaurant Association Greater New Orleans Chapter to Expand its Feed the Need NOLA Program Collaboration will help provide more meals to those in need each week

New Orleans, LA (*May 15, 2018*) — Today, the <u>Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association (GNOHLA)</u> and <u>Louisiana Restaurant Association Greater New Orleans Chapter (LRA GNO)</u> launched a partnership to expand GNOHLA's three-year-old initiative, *Feed the Need NOLA*. Katie's Restaurant prepared and served meals to more than 100 homeless and those in need, marking the partnership's official kickoff. The new collaboration will allow GNOHLA and LRA GNO to provide meals to those in need every Tuesday at both St. Jude Community Center and the New Orleans Mission. Formerly, GNOHLA had alternated between the sites each Tuesday.

"We are so grateful for this partnership with the Louisiana Restaurant Association's Greater New Orleans Chapter as we look to expand *Feed the Need NOLA* and continue to help local shelters meet the needs of those who might otherwise go hungry," said Mavis Early, Executive Director of the Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association.

Feed the Need NOLA was created by GNOHLA to help eliminate some of the financial burden that shelters are facing in today's economic environment. Each week a different hotel or restaurant in the Greater New Orleans area will prepare, deliver and serve meals to those in our community who are most vulnerable. In Louisiana, one in six households is at risk of hunger every day. Many families are faced with decreased or lost employment, which strains an already-stretched pocketbook to pay for simple daily needs.

"The goal is to serve approximately 200 meals per week at the New Orleans Mission and St. Jude Community Center," said Louisiana Restaurant Association Greater New Orleans Chapter President Steve Trotter. "We welcome other restaurants and lodging partners to make a difference in their community by participating in the program."

For more information about Feed the Need NOLA or to become a partner, call GNOHLA at 504.525.2264.

Editor's Note: High res images from today's lunch service can be obtained by emailing rachel@gambelpr.com.

About the Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association:

The Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association is a membership-based professional trade association representing the hotel and lodging industry in the Greater New Orleans area. GNOHLA is devoted to representing the rights and interests of the New Orleans hospitality industry through education, political action, communication, and marketing; for providing member benefits that improve the financial position and public awareness of its members; and for supporting strategic alliances to promote the value of New Orleans tourism and travel. For more information, visit www.gnohla.com.

About the Louisiana Restaurant Association:

The Louisiana Restaurant Association is one of the largest business organizations in the state, representing restaurant operations and related businesses. The restaurant industry in Louisiana is the state's largest private employer, providing jobs to 207,700 residents. Restaurants in Louisiana are expected to generate sales of \$9 billion in 2018. Get up-to-date news about the LRA and the restaurant industry from www.lra.org.

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