



For Immediate Release

Epicurean Group Creates Food Scholarship for Students Impacted by Fires; Pledges Holiday Event Funds

Los Altos, CA (November 27, 2017) – When October wildfires swept through Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino Counties more than 3,500 people lost their homes. The state’s deadliest fires displaced 70,000 students in Sonoma County, including 621 students at Cardinal Newman High School.

Epicurean Group, a food-service management company that contracts with the high school to provide lunches and after-school snacks for students, has responded to the need by setting up a fund for Cardinal Newman students who have lost their homes.

“To make the season a bit brighter, we’ve pledged the funds that we would normally use for our own Epicurean Group holiday party to establish a Food Scholarship Fund for Cardinal Newman students,” said Mary Clark Bartlett, founder and CEO of Epicurean Group. “Our initial contribution will be used to support meals for the students identified by the school who have been most severely impacted by the fires.”

Principal Graham Rutherford said that about half of the building on campus had burned, including the administration building, library and classrooms. “And we have 110 students whose family homes burned,” Rutherford said. “The care and concern that people have shown to our Cardinal Newman community has been very encouraging. Funds like this that directly aid students, are tremendously helpful.”

“We are filled with gratitude for the support offered by Epicurean Group,” said Terri Derr, Director of Advancement at Cardinal Newman. “To forego their own holiday party so that they can make a donation to support our school families most severely impacted by these fires, is truly a selfless act and so very much appreciated. We are humbled by their kindness and generosity.”

On the morning of October 9, Epicurean Group received an urgent request from Marin County administrators to provide meals to first responders and evacuees from Napa and Sonoma Counties. “We worked with the Red Cross and county administrators to quickly respond to the crisis,” said Clark Bartlett. “Thanks to our many vendors, clients and community members who contributed food, funds and in-kind services, and to our own service staff and resources, we served more than 7,000 hot meals over nine days at two shelters.”

Clark Bartlett says that the company invites public contributions to the Food Scholarship fund. To make a donation, [click on the link](#) shown on the homepage of the Epicurean Group [website](#), which will take you to the Cardinal Newman donation page. Be sure to identify in the box marked “Notes” that your donation is for the “Epicurean Group Food Scholarship Fund.”

Epicurean Group is an independent food-service management company that provides restaurant and catering services to corporations, educational campuses, and fine arts facilities throughout Northern California. Founded in 2003, Epicurean Group is committed to socially responsible and environmentally sustainable business practices.

Epicurean Group is ... Fresh. Honest. Local.



Left:
Phil Wright, Epicurean Group vice-president and corporate executive chef who organized fire relief efforts for the company stands together with Marin County Sheriff's Office first responders at the Marin Center evacuation site.

Below:
Epicurean Group chefs and staff prepare healthy hot meals for victims of the North Bay fires.

