

34th Annual Gourmet Festival & Auction Raises \$238k to Help Families in Greater Nashua

NASHUA, NH, (May 25, 2022) – The Front Door Agency's largest fundraiser of the year returned inperson to the Nashua Country Club on Sunday, May 15. More than 300 supporters gathered to enjoy food from 18 local restaurants and chefs while bidding on hundreds of exciting auction items. The event and subsequent online auction raised more than \$238,000 in net proceeds to support the Front Door Agency's mission, making it the most successful fundraiser in the Agency's 35-year history.

This year's theme, "Better Together," appropriately described the Agency's first in-person fundraiser in two years. "This is the Agency's 35th Anniversary, so it was particularly meaningful to celebrate together again," said CEO Maryse Wirbal. "We are grateful to everyone who contributed to the event's success, especially the local chefs who, after being hit hard by the pandemic, were still willing to donate their time and resources to support our mission."

Participating restaurants and vendors included: Bertucci's, The Bistro at the Event Center at the Courtyard by Marriott, Celebrations Catering, Cupcakez 101, Djinn Spirits, D'Lites & Bites, MT's Local Kitchen/Surf/Buckley's Great Steaks, Nashua Community College, Nashua Country Club, Odd Fellows Brewing Co., Pine State Beverage, Soel Sistas, SoHo Asian Restaurant & Bar, Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits of NE, Stella Blu, Stones Social, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, and The Utopian.

Proceeds from the event will allow the Agency to serve 1,000 people in Greater Nashua this year through its four programs, which include a Transformational Housing Program for single mothers working to become self-sufficient. Tasha is one of these mothers, and she was awarded a \$10,000 Dr. Ronald Kraus Memorial Scholarship at the event to pursue her degree in Safety Management. The scholarship was awarded in honor of long-time board member and education advocate Ronald Kraus during the 10th anniversary of his passing.

The Gourmet Festival & Auction was made possible through the support of the Front Door Agency's Corporate Partners: Summit Title Services, BAE Systems, Bellwether Community Credit Union, Lowell Five, Service Credit Union, Southern NH Health and Stanley Elevator. Media partners include The Nashua Telegraph, Frank FM, The Union Leader, and WMUR-TV.

Major Gourmet Event Sponsors include: RBC Wealth Management (Presenting Sponsor); Earl S. Prolman, CLU, ChFC (Auctioneer Sponsor); White Claw Hard Seltzer (Gourmet Partner); St. Joseph Hospital, Eastern Bank, and Nash Foundation (Caring Sponsors); Eaton & Berube Insurance Agency (Golden Brick Sponsor); Enterprise Bank and Global Plastics (Champion Sponsors); Blood Team Realty, Broad Street Planning, CGI Business Solutions, Clark Insurance, Denron Hall Plumbing & HVAC, Devine Millimet, Edward Jones, Focused Eye Care, Frasca and Frasca, The Harbor Group, Kalil & Kress Family & Cosmetic Dentistry, Monahan Companies, New Hampshire Healthy Families, NorthPoint Construction Management, Odie & Heidi Odierna, and Systems Engineering (Courage Sponsors); Silverstone Living (Item Pick-up Sponsor).

About The Front Door Agency



Last year, the Front Door Agency assisted nearly 1,000 people in Greater Nashua through its core programs including Transformational Housing for single mothers, Financial Literacy, a Holiday Program, and a Housing Stability Program offering assistance with rent, utilities, security deposit loans and permanent affordable housing. To learn more, visit <u>www.frontdooragency.org</u>.

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